

## THE EFFECT OF INFORMATION OVERLOAD ON ACCESSING INFORMATION: ISTANBUL UNIVERSITY INFORMATICS DEPARTMENT CASE

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### Abstract

Rapid changes in Information and Communication Technologies provides quick access to information. In spite of that produced, shared, and updated information is unrestrainedly increased and overloaded. The term of Information overload presents the situation to be exposed to much more information over the individuals' capacity of perception. It also expresses conversion in information from usefulness towards obstructiveness. Because of the amount of e-mails, instant messages, rapid status updates in social networks, fluctuation and circulation on online information source and etc., individuals are confronted to cognitive overload, communication overload, and sensory overload. In the next phase, they feel information overload even if they don't realize and exactly describe. That overload becomes fatigues and syndromes. The goal of this study is to analyze the effect of information overload on informatics department' postgraduate students' process of accessing information. According to results information overload negatively effects obtaining information. Individuals' positive feeling, which trigger the learning, such as curiosity and excitement decrease, and their negative feelings, such as despair, instability, and pessimism, which inhibits learning and research wiling, increase.

**Key Words:** Information overload, Information and Communication Technologies, Informatics, Online Resources, Search engines.