

Technological communication methods are frequently studied to examine the effects on emerging adults' relationship with family members. However, the effect of technological communication methods on emerging adults' overall relationship quality with close other relationship partners (mother, father, sibling, best friend, and romantic partner) is understudied. The present study examines how the frequencies of various technological communication methods differ by emerging adults' close relationship partner, and how the use of different forms of communication may differentially impact relationship quality with each of these partners over time. The current study examined first-year college students ($n=258$) attending a public university in the Midwest. These participants completed online questionnaires. Frequency of communication with the participants' close other relationship partners were assessed with Technology-Mediated Communication Survey and the Networks of Relationships Inventory that assessed emerging adults' relationship quality with their close others. Asynchronous methods of communication (e.g. emailing and social networking sites) and synchronous methods of communication (e.g. talking on the phone, texting, video chatting, and talking in person) were assessed during the first year (Time 1) and last year of college (Time 2). A series of eight 5(Relationship) X 2(Time) X 2(Gender) mixed model ANOVAs were conducted (one for each type of communication). Findings suggest that while there was little change from year 1 to year 4 of college, there were significant differences in communication between emerging adults' and their relationship partners, but communication with mom, friends, and romantic partners are most frequent. Separate hierarchical regressions were performed to examine the effect of asynchronous and synchronous communication on emerging adults' positive relationship with their close others. It was found that synchronous communication marginally predicted relationship positivity at Time 2 for romantic partners. Both of these findings suggest that

emerging adults primarily use technology-mediated communication with those relationship partners they see more frequently.