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Creative Student Engagement

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Creative Student Engagement

The practice and the need it addresses

How to know a quiet student in the classroom is engaged in the course?

Many students do not feel comfortable asking questions in front of the whole class and stay quiet during class.

This may be that they are generally shy, or may need more time to formulate their questions.

I aim to help all my students remain engaged in the course, especially when they may not participate vigorously in class conversations.

Using a free Question & Answer web application called Piazza (www.piazza.com) allows my students to ask questions, answer other students questions, or to listen by reviewing all questions and answers. This type of online engagement allows all students to do their best regardless if it's inside or outside of the classroom.

Evidence this practice benefits UNLV Students

Piazza Reports and Statistics

Piazza gives instructors control as they invite the students to the piazza forum for their class.

Students can post specific questions relating to a homework assignment or a general question relating to the course.

The instructor can answer the post, or another student can post an answer and help the other student. Instructors can then endorse these as "good answers" as well as "good questions".

Piazza allows instructors to poll students to get immediate feedback on how to improve the course.

Piazza provides reports such as:

- Average Instructor Response Time
- Top student question askers
- Top student answerers
- Top student listeners (those that don't post a question or answer, but review the posts)
- Student participation

Active anonymous student participation allows students more willingness to participate in learning (Sankar, P., Gilmartin, J., & Sobel, M. 2015. *ACM SIGCAS Computers and Society*, 45(2), 7-10.)

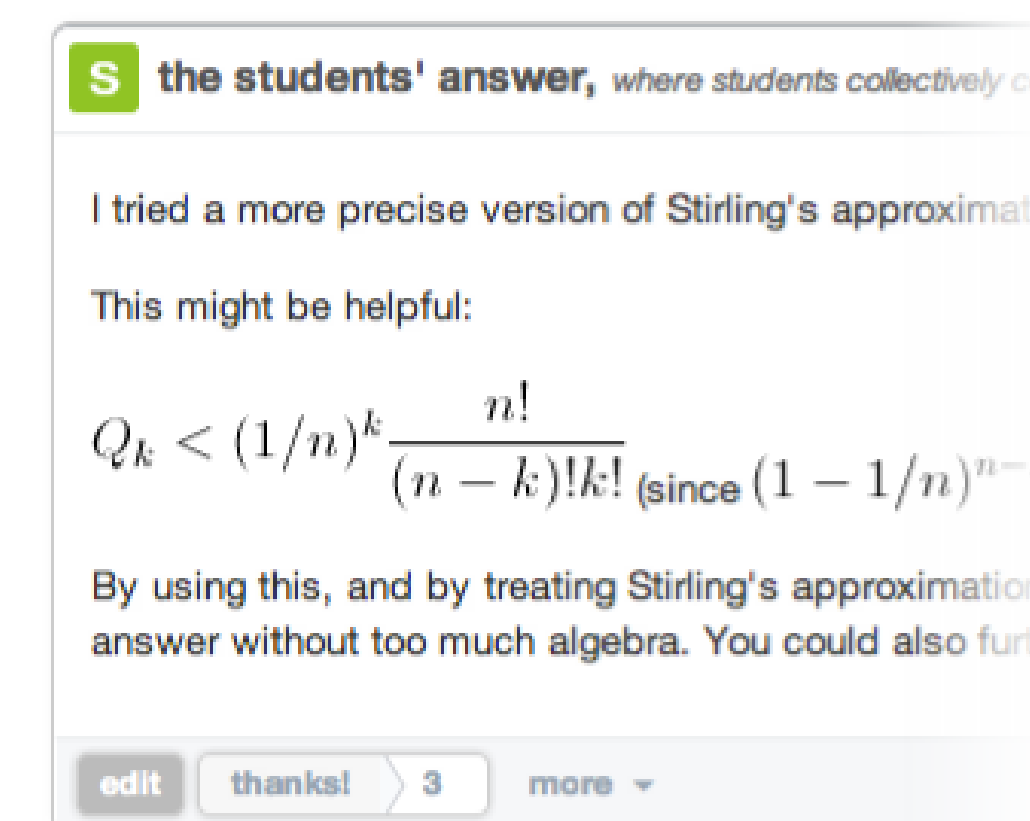
Resources and where to find them

Piazza Class Q&A is Free

Instructors go to www.piazza.com to register.

Piazza can integrate with your phone, tablet and learning management system.

Piazza supports LaTeX for mathematical symbols and formulas



Here's a link to piazza used in courses using formulas and symbols:

Math: <https://piazza.com/subjects/math>

Chemistry: <https://piazza.com/subjects/chemistry>

How other UNLV teachers might adopt this practice

How to easily get started

There are videos and tutorials to help you get started: https://piazza.com/pdfs/piazza_product_introduction.pdf

Other course discipline links where you can see it used in a live course (<https://piazza.com/piazzafacts.html>).

Economics: <https://piazza.com/subjects/economics>

Psychology: <https://piazza.com/subjects/psychology>

Biology: <https://piazza.com/subjects/biology>

Computer Science: https://piazza.com/subjects/computer_science

Engineering: <https://piazza.com/subjects/engineering>

Here's my course in Accounting from Fall 2017:

https://piazza.com/demo_login?nid=j7i41r43ddo2o&auth=8f23e2e