

**6th Annual University of Glasgow Learning and Teaching
conference**

Using social media to support student learning

Shazia Ahmed

Sarah Honeychurch

Jamie Wightwick

Lorna Love

How it all got started

- Retention within 'Information and Mathematical Sciences' and 'Science and Engineering'
- Peer Assisted Learning
- Barriers
- Online discussion space

How it all got started

Moodle forums?

PAL over traditional PAL

versations

field

misunderstandings

ation forced

resit periods

How it all got started

Where we are now ...

- Level 1 Groups

Maths & Stats (375), Physics & Astronomy (133),
Engineering Maths (146), Computing Science (125)

- Level 2 Groups

Maths (188), Computing Science (143)

Getting started with Facebook

- Profile, page or group?
- Privacy settings
- Moderation
- Who to invite
- How to invite

Facebook Options

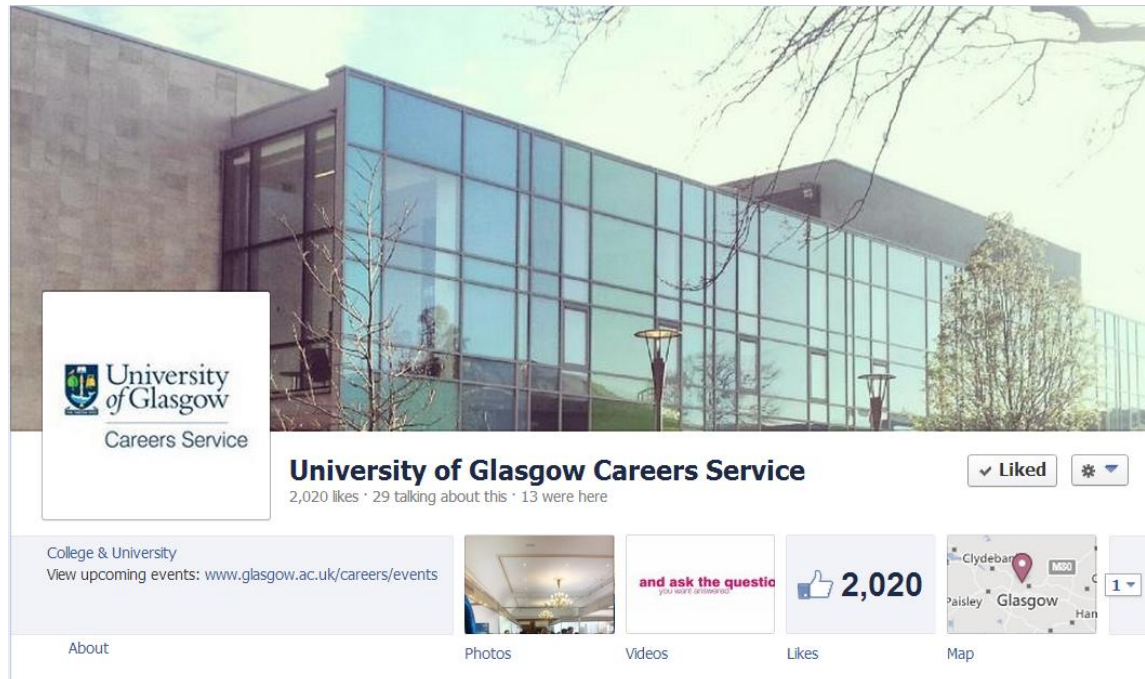
Profile	Page	Group
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual• Only allowed 1 per person• Control of who sees what (privacy settings)• Account details can't be shared• Control over who is/not your friend	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public – visible to all whether logged in or not• Official profile/ presence• Admin can be shared with others (details not public)• Fans “like” a page• Some control of who can post• “Broadcasts” information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can be public or private:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open• Closed• Private• Community groups• Admin can be shared with others (group members can see who admin are)• Members join a group (with/out admin approval)• Discussion

Administration

- Moderation policy
 - Who will moderate?
 - Policy
 - Sanctions
- Who to invite?
 - Current students
 - Senior students
 - Alumni
 - Academic staff
 - Support staff
- How to Advertise?
 - Email
 - Moodle
 - Class noticeboards

Facebook Pages

- Best for ‘broadcasters’ – sets expectation of traditional creator / audience relationship
- Facilitates 1:many and 1:1 communication



Facebook Pages

- No control over membership – anyone can see you, anyone can like you!
- Users get no notifications (but posts do appear in their news feed)
- **Therefore** not a good choice if you want conversations and peer exchanges
- Suitable for: Services, Colleges, Schools

Guidelines and Policy

Rule #1:

Don't annoy.



Guidelines and Policy


Rule #2:



Guidelines and Policy

Rule #3:

Stay on target



Expand your audience's knowledge

Promote your services

Respond to your audience

Time-Critical Conversations



Shazia Ahmed
Update:

"In view of the severe weather conditions, with very strong winds expected from 12 noon onwards, the University has decided to close with immediate effect. All staff and students are encouraged to return home as soon as possible."

Drop-ins today are cancelled (sorry...)

Tomorrow morning (Friday 9 December) drop-in will start at the earlier time of 9:15am.

[Like](#) · [Comment](#) · [Follow post](#) · 8 December 2011 at 09:58



Shazia Ahmed I am off home now, but will be checking emails regularly.
8 December 2011 at 09:59 · [Like](#)



Hope you get home safe and avoid the worst of "Hurricane" (as it is being referred to on twitter).
8 December 2011 at 10:34 · [Like](#) · [2](#)



Shazia Ahmed Thanks Jon. Just got back
8 December 2011 at 11:26 · [Like](#)



I am in urgent need of assistance my fellow mathers, i know it was asked before, but where is the OTC drill hall, and how do i get there? Where exactly is the math office and room 321E in the math building? Please explain in as much detail as possible; explain like i were an idiot much appreciated.

[Like](#) · [Comment](#) · [Follow post](#) · 10 December 2011 at 11:09



OTC = B5
http://www.gla.ac.uk/media/media_1887_en.pdf
10 December 2011 at 11:18 · [Like](#)



I thought you kids could all use the internet?!
10 December 2011 at 11:18 · [Like](#) · [1](#)



Officer training Corp I think, it's just at the Botany gate entrance but you have to use the side door next to the Joseph Black building...
Maths office I'm not sure but I'm sure anyone in th building would help you!
10 December 2011 at 11:24 · [Like](#)



is the maths office not just on the ground floor of the maths building? that's where i've had to go for stats/maths things a couple of times, you just turn left when you walk in
10 December 2011 at 11:27 · [Like](#)

Academic 'Chat'



I'm a little (okay, a lot) rusty with trigonometric identities. I'm doing a practice skills test and it's hit me with this bad boy.

Let $f(u) = 2(u^2 - u^4)$. Find $f(\sin^2\theta)$.

So far I've got $2(\sin^2\theta - \sin^4\theta)$ but I don't know where to go from there. A cheeky hint would be appreciated! Thanks.

Like · Comment · Unfollow post · 24 September at 16:06 near Bishopbriggs



Shazia Ahmed Ok, cheeky hint coming up! Take $\sin^2\theta$ out as a common factor

24 September at 16:09 · Like · ↕ 2



There's a common factor in there 😊

24 September at 16:09 via mobile · Like



Now I've got $\sin^2\theta(1 + \cos^2\theta)$. Stuck again. Is that even correct?

24 September at 16:13 · Like



After some more substitution I got

$$\frac{1}{2}\sin^2(2\theta)$$

which is one of the answers! Hope it's right. I really need to memorise the different ways to express $\cos^2\theta$.

24 September at 16:36 · Like



Shazia Ahmed Looking good! I have some formula sheets in my office. Pop round sometime and collect one. They're really good.

24 September at 16:38 · Like



There's a good maths formulae appendix in the back of my physics textbook which I've been using, but I'll definitely come and steal yours haha. Thanks. 😊

24 September at 16:39 · Like



Shazia Ahmed The one I have is more portable than the physics textbook

24 September at 16:40 · Like · ↕ 2



Most things in life are more portable than that bloody textbook...

24 September at 16:41 · Unlike · ↕ 7



You made a mistake... Check the operator inside the brackets!

24 September at 19:31 · Like



The exact result is $\sin^2(2\theta)$

24 September at 19:33 · Like



Actually, the answer I got was correct. It appears that you've made the mistake. ;]

24 September at 19:34 · Like · ↕ 2



We've got $2(\sin^2(2\theta) - \sin^4(2\theta))$. Factor out $\sin^2(2\theta)$ and we've got $2\sin^2(2\theta)(1 - \sin^2(2\theta))$ then we know that $1 - \sin^2(2\theta) = \cos^2(2\theta)$ so, substituting we have $\Rightarrow 2(\sin^2(2\theta))^2 (\cos^2(2\theta))$ so, we conclude with $\sin^2(2\theta)$.

24 September at 19:52 · Like



That just made my eyes water. I can't make sense of it.

I got the same answer as you except with a half at the front and it was correct. *Shrug*

24 September at 20:00 · Like



🙄

24 September at 20:04 · Like



$$2(\sin x)^2(\cos x)^2 = (2\sin x \cos x)(\sin x \cos x) = (\sin(2x))(\sin(2x)/2) = 1/2(\sin(2x))^2$$

24 September at 20:07 · Like · ↕ 1



remember $\sin(2x) = 2\sin x \cos x$

24 September at 20:07 · Like · ↕ 1



I think I know where you've gone wrong.

$$2\sin^2\theta \cos^2\theta \neq \sin^2(2\theta).$$

24 September at 20:07 · Like · ↕ 1



Right! Thank you! 😊

24 September at 20:08 · Like



I did the following:

$$2\sin^2\theta \cos^2\theta = 2\sin\theta \cos\theta(\sin\theta \cos\theta) = \sin(2\theta)(\frac{1}{2}\sin(2\theta)) = \frac{1}{2}\sin^2(2\theta)$$

=]

24 September at 20:12 · Like



Yeah, I underestimated this question... And I did WRONG! lol.

24 September at 20:15 · Like



Teamwork got us there in the end. [User] yeah!

24 September at 20:16 · Like

Interactions between students



Hello all. I'm [redacted] "the dude in the wheelchair". I'm from York and am studying Astronomy and Physics. I came to Glasgow coz I knew that the quality of degree study would be good and also my brother lives here. I really freaked out in the first few weeks last year as my head went into melt down with the level of maths, I haven't been to school for a long time see, was going to change to a degree in drama but I've already passed that course, Ha!

I like music and used to play in a band years ago but my fingers don't work so good now. All the people I've met here are really nice and I look forward to seeing you all.

PS: Shazia, I'm coming to see you sooooo. ;0)

Like · Comment · Unfollow post · 19 September at 18:06

Lorna Love likes this.

 **Lorna Love** watch out Shazia Ahmed!
19 September at 18:07 · Like

 **Shazia Ahmed** OK Martin, see you soon!
19 September at 21:48 · Like

 Write a comment...



Bit quiet on here!! How are you finding first year Physics and/or Astronomy? Do you get Dr. Diver this year? He's one of the best!

Like · Comment · Follow post · 20 September at 16:39 near Glasgow

 Katrina Pugh likes this. Seen by 89

 Legend!
20 September at 17:38 · Like

 Is it just me or the Newtonian mechanics lectures are a bit too much? We go through 3 chapters over the lecture quickly, so all the reading is left for us alone? A lot of work left for self-studying.
20 September at 18:18 · Like · 1

 Is it Chris White? He does go very fast, but his notes are excellent, I didn't read them properly until exam time, but I wish I had done straight away. They look boring but are very good. Things don't really slow down by the way!!
20 September at 18:23 · Like

 Yes it is him. I didn't bought the physics textbook until yesterday and now it is very hard to catch up. How many lectures a week will he do? Not all 4 i hope.
20 September at 18:25 · Like

 No, he just does one part of physics. He is a good lecturer, but he was a bit fast for me too. His notes all make perfect sense once 1R/15 calculus starts to sink in and becomes more natural, early days for you yet
20 September at 18:31 · Like

 The lecturer for optics and waves i think couldn't make it today because of illness therefore Chris White was doing lectures all week.
20 September at 18:44 · Like

 I think the toughest thing with his lectures is that it's all algebraic notation, like just letters and more letters with subscripts and then if you don't follow a step it can be hard to see what happened, when most people are used to getting to do a numerical example for each step. Rereading
20 September at 22:27 via mobile · Like · 1

 Re-reading helps a lot.
20 September at 22:28 via mobile · Like · 1

 yep, last year was I think the first time he taught first years, (don't quote me) I think he usually teaches postgrads, hence he's maybe a bit more advanced. I may be in a minority here, but when I reread his printed notes from Moodle after some 15 in second semester, it all made perfect sense, was a very good feeling! First time I felt like I had a chance!
20 September at 22:29 · Like

 Was it yourself on the panel on Friday Cameron? I

Messages of Support



Anyone else not pass their skills test first time? :(

Like · Comment · Unfollow post · 11 October at 18:06 near Glasgow

2 people like this.

me...got 11 😊 FFFFFFFUUUUUUU, ive passed the practice ones loads of times which makes it even worse
11 October at 18:08 via mobile · Edited · Like · 1

better than me. I got 9.
11 October at 18:10 · Like

think it really depends on the questions you get tbh
11 October at 18:11 via mobile · Like

are they not all the same?
11 October at 18:14 · Like

Nope, they are random.
11 October at 18:15 · Like

na it gives you random questions so you could get 15 hard ones whereas someone else could get 15 easier ones
11 October at 18:15 via mobile · Like

I got 10 and I don't mind too much. Questions were harder than the practice tests(which I generally pass), it's all about luck.
11 October at 23:11 · Like

Yeah don't fret guys just do a practice one every few days and you'll pass no problem. That's what I did and while I struggled at first I got 14 today 😊. You will all get there no problem!
11 October at 23:27 via mobile · Unlike · 3

Shazia Ahmed Completely agree with Stuart
12 October at 08:35 · Like · 1

11..
12 October at 09:08 · Like

Lorna Love Also agree with Stuart Smith
12 October at 09:52 · Like · 1

If the questions are random I got all the really hard ones.... It sucked
12 October at 15:18 via mobile · Like

it was logged out by itself...i didnt have the chance to pass it...whats happening?
12 October at 15:57 · Like

I got 11 as well... hopefully next time!
12 October at 16:30 · Like



Oh my days. I just did horrendously in that practice skills test. :(

Like · Comment · Unfollow post · 22 September at 16:23 near Partick

Cameron Shanks and 5 others like this.

Me too. I've failed 2. =[
22 September at 16:23 · Like · 2

Beware of the answers which are listed, but just in a 'different form' to what you've calculated :-)

I seem to have left any maths ability at home...
22 September at 16:29 · Like · 5

Same.
22 September at 18:14 · Like

It is rather annoying with the "none of the above" answer.
22 September at 18:46 · Like · 1

I remember correctly, "none of the above" is usually the answer for at least 2-3 questions, so if you see that your calculations don't really fit any answers, don't waste your time checking and working through the question again, just choose "none of the above". Don't know about the others, but such approach actually helped me to pass the test last year.
22 September at 19:13 · Like · 1

Thanks Sofija.
22 September at 19:24 · Like

Ah the skills test is awful, but you get there eventually!
P.S I passed with 13/15 about 9 months ago and after hearing you all talking about it I decided to have another go at the practice one this morning; suffice to say I did not pass! But I did better than I did the very first time round, I've just slowed down a lot!
22 September at 21:50 · Like · 1

Maths is NOT like riding a bike for me!
22 September at 21:51 · Like · 1

I agree it can be annoying, as in the past whenever you struggle on multiple choice you can try and rule out answers and guess from the remaining. BUT, it sure feels good when you get a none of the above question right 😊
23 September at 00:48 · Like

For me I just need to drill the trig identities into my head and work on the graph identifying. If I get those two down properly it should be smooth sailing.
23 September at 01:34 via mobile · Unlike · 1

Organising meetings/study groups



A screenshot of a Facebook post. The post text reads: "Astronomers, room 4E in the library is booked for Friday from 3pm to 5pm for group study. :)". Below the text are interaction options: "Like · Comment · Follow post · 20 November at 14:17 via Mobile". A comment from "Lorna Love" says "likes this." and is marked "Seen by 101". There are three replies: 1) A user with a smiley face emoji replies "Aaaand im freaking out about positional astronomy. :S" at 15:56. 2) Another user replies "I'm in!" at 23:10.



A screenshot of a Facebook thread. The main post text reads: "I realize im leaving this a little last minute.. But would anyone from group f fancy sharing a taxi up to the observatory today? :)". It has 126 likes and was posted on 25 October 2012 at 08:35 via Mobile. The thread includes several replies: 1) A user replies: "There's already a few of us heading up in a taxi, i think we're meeting at 2 at the kelvin building 😊" at 09:15. 2) Another user replies: "cool 😊 mind if i tag along? 😊" at 09:44. 3) A third user replies: "Of course not 😊 see you later:D" at 10:01. 4) A fourth user replies: "er, me too??" at 12:16. 5) A fifth user replies: "great 😊 whereabouts are we all meeting?" at 12:32. 6) A sixth user replies: "Reception of kelvin building?:)" at 12:41. 7) A seventh user replies: "Brilliant 😊 thanks" at 12:55.

Current Affairs



Lorna Love

heard about this over the weekend and wondering what you guys thought about it? ...



Student Richard O'Dwyer can be extradited over TV website - Telegraph
www.telegraph.co.uk

A British student can be extradited to the United States for running a website that provided links to pirated films and television shows, a court ruled.

Like · Comment · Unfollow post · Share · 16 January at 10:36



"The website did not itself host unlawful downloads or video streams, but acted as a directory of links to others that did." A criminal offense? You'd think they'd go to the source.

17 January at 12:49 · Like · 4



I believe he can be extradited because the website was hosted in america, where this is illegal. You could probably argue that he broke the law here and instead be charged here for it but, I for one welcome our new american overlords.

17 January at 13:23 · Like · 1



he made over \$230,000 thats why they are arresting him if it was non profit site then i guess a warning would have been sufficient...

17 January at 17:06 · Like · 1



Still the profit isn't the crime, it's the illegal activity. The website pretty much served as an advertisement or link for other pirating sites. I think this is a pretty good example of how websites like wikipedia, reddit, etc. could fall under the ever expanding concept of pirate websites. Makes me wonder what kind of information is still free and for how long, considering sopa/pipa.



It would come down to if he responded to take down requests from the US, unless of course if someone pays the judge off.

18 January at 14:31 · Like



Hmm yes, copyright infringement requests. Sort of how youtube censors some videos. Well, it doesn't say. But isn't there a difference between hosting copyrighted information and linking to it?

18 January at 14:36 · Like



technically it is a crime cuz you are making profit from other peoples work with no permission, if it was non profit it would be a site just for sharing stuff => Less punishable

18 January at 14:36 · Like



still breaking the law but in a less degree

18 January at 14:40 · Like

Group Activity

- Purpose of group/page
- Moderation
- Invitation
- Advertising
- What month to start
- What types of post and when

Questions

- What month did you start and why?
- Did you have difficulty agreeing?
- How much time do you think moderation/admin will take?
- What measures of success would you use?
- Are you going to implement a group/page on your course and why (not)?