Increasing student engagement through technology

Tutorials

WebCT

Lectures

Discussion Boards

Context

Facebook

Podcasts

Increasing student engagement through technology

Some personal reflections

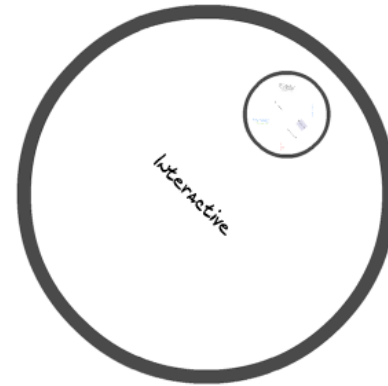Stevie Robertson
June 2012

Context

2Nd Year students

9:00 AM Tuesday

The Riady

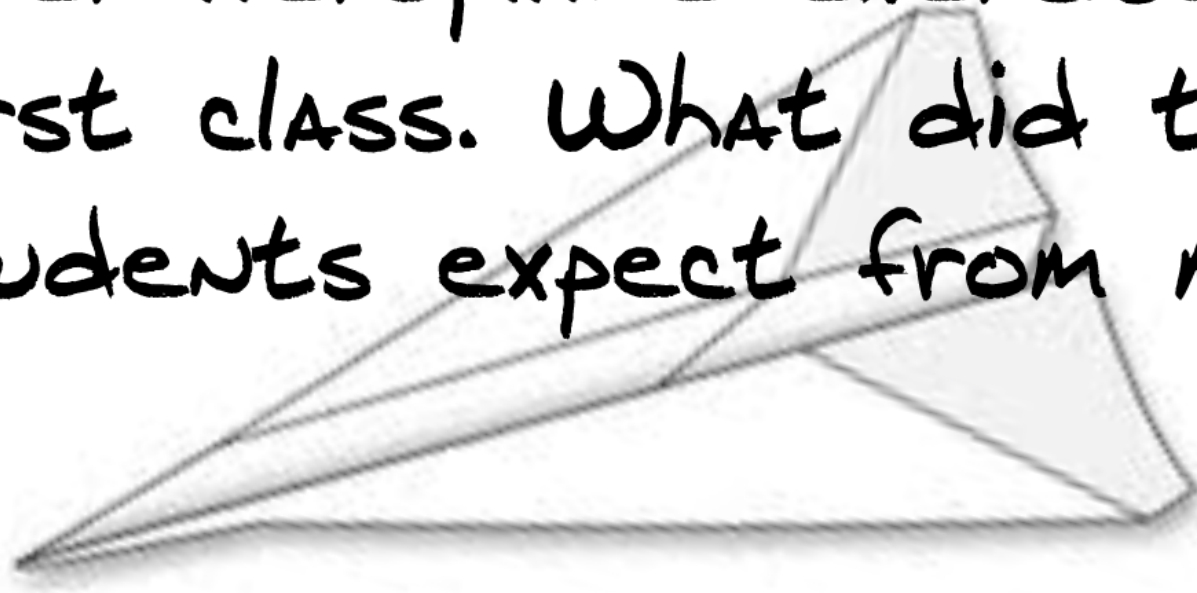Trimester 1: 300 students

Trimester 2: 220 students

Lectures

Interactive

Questions and discussion to encourage critical thinking

Interactive

Questions and discussion to encourage critical thinking

Why? Why? Why? Why? Why Not?

Paper aeroplane exercise in first class. What did the students expect from me?

Use of music in class

The mexican wave

7th Inning Stretch

Class rules enforced

No phones
No laptops
No chatting
No sitting at the back

Interactive self-selecting groups

Tutorials

Interactive self-selecting groups

Ex-UBS trader pleads not guilty to £1.5bn fraud

Kweku Adoboli faces trial for allegedly losing record sum while working for Swiss banking giant in London

Robert Booth
guardian.co.uk, Monday 30 January 2012 16.17 GMT

A larger | smaller
Article history

Tesco boss Philip Clarke to go 'back to the floor' amid customer exodus

Move represents attempt to reinvigorate supermarket chain whose market share has dropped below...

Zoe Wood
guardian.co.uk, Thursday 15 March 2012 20.23 GMT

A larger | smaller
Article history

The Tesco boss, Philip Clarke, has announced that he is going 'back to the floor'. Photograph: Daniel Berehulak/Getty Images

Tesco's boss, Philip Clarke, dramatically announced that he was going "back to the floor" today as the growing customer exodus from its UK supermarkets puts his job on the

MAGAZINE

14 March 2012 Last updated at 01:57

Will you tell Starbucks your name?

COMMENTS (835)

By Vanessa Barford
BBC News Magazine

Coffee chain Starbucks has begun asking its UK customers their names in a bid to appear more friendly. But do people really want to be on first name terms with their barista?

Just ask your head cool pd waiting in line and remembering whether you ordered a grande flavoured latte, a tal...

in/EPA

Mothercare hires LoveFilm chief executive Simon Calver

Chairman Alan Parker removed previous chief executive Ben Gordon two weeks after heavy profits warning last October

Simon Bowers
guardian.co.uk, Wednesday 8 February 2012 12.59 GMT

A larger | smaller
Article history

Mothercare has hired LoveFilm chief executive Simon Calver to steer its recovery programme. Photograph: Rex Features

Mothercare has poached the chief executive of LoveFilm to lead its turnaround effort

Current Affairs

Encourages reading in a range of newspapers and news sources

Builds a bank of examples for the exam

Students encouraged to speak up but no mark for contribution.

Assessed presentations compressed into 2 weeks

Can be challenging

integral to module management

WebCT

Blackboard Academic Suite

Updated weekly with tutorial information

VLE system to track student engagement

Integral to module management

tutorial and work groups

Updated weekly with tutorial information

Electronic textbook

Other reading and articles posted for discussion

How Companies Learn Your Secrets
By CHARLES DUHIGG

Andrew Pole had just started working as a statistician for Target in 2002, when two colleagues from the marketing department stopped by his desk to ask an odd question: "If we wanted to figure out if a customer is pregnant, even if she didn't want us to know, can you do that?"

Little Red (Litigious) Shoes
By JEANNIE SUK

CAN you trademark the color red?

This week a federal appellat question. The issue arises in Christian Louboutin shoes. Laurent shoes infringe its tr soles.
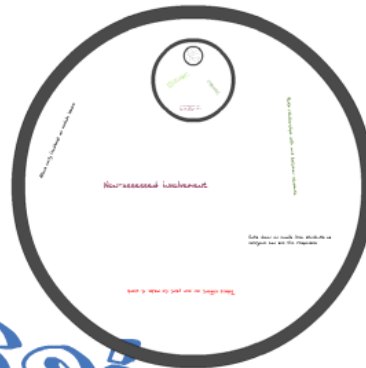
Why I Am Leaving Goldman Sachs
By GREG SMITH

TODAY is my last day at Goldman Sachs. After almost 12 years at the firm — first as a summer intern while at Stanford, then in New York for 10 years, and now in London — I believe I have worked here long enough to understand the trajectory of its culture, its people and its identity. And I can honestly say that the environment now is as toxic and destructive as I have ever seen it.

MIS system to track student engagement

Discussion Boards

Non-assessed involvement

Data does so much that students so pointless and students have now the fingerable

there is little up just use no longer busy

Engagement Levels

Non-assessed involvement

Build relationships with and between students

Allows early feedback on module issues

Cuts down on emails from students as everyone can see the responses

Takes effort on our part to make it work

Coursework questions can be dealt with here rather than in tutorials.

Encourages students to write and express opinions. Allows formative feedback on writing style and argument building as term progresses.

Allows students the opportunity to test their understanding by answering each other's questions although this takes time.

Scheduling is when to do things.

And sequencing is what order things need to be done.

Think of it as getting ready to go out on a night out.

I.e. Loading part: How much to do? How much time? So in context, I have to get shower, put make up on, tan on, get dressed, do my hair, get to my friends and have pre-drinks.

Scheduling part: I need to do all these things before 9pm. So I will have to do these things prior to 9pm, How long will it take me to have a shower and do my hair etc.

Sequencing part: I need to have a shower first so I'll do that at 6pm. Then I'll put on the fake tan. Then I'll do my hair. After that I'll do my makeup, then get dressed, then I'll go to my friend's flat for pre-drinks for 9pm. Put them all in order.

Montoring & Control: I had said I was going in a shower at 6pm but the bus back from town where I was shopping was late so I didn't manage to get into the shower until 7pm. Therefore, I have to do everything quicker and the planning starts from loading again.

Does this make sense?

Engagement Levels

Trimester 2 - 2010-11

	2010-11 Trimester 2
Average number of sessions per student	20
Average number of files accessed	45
Proportion of class using web-links	76%
Average number of links	4
Proportion of students reading boards	
Proportion of students posting	
Average number of messages read	
Average number of messages posted	

	2010-11 Trimester 2	2011-12 Trimester 1
Average number of sessions per student	20	41
Average number of files accessed	45	74
Proportion of class using web-links	76%	63%
Average number of links	4	12
Proportion of students reading boards		80%
Proportion of students posting		23%
Average number of messages read		273
Average number of messages posted		4

Trimester 2 - 2011-12

	2010-11 Trimester 2	2011-12 Trimester 1	2011-12 Trimester 2
Average number of sessions per student	20	41	53
Average number of files accessed	45	74	80
Proportion of class using web-links	76%	63%	76%
Average number of links	4	12	8
Proportion of students reading boards		80%	88%
Proportion of students posting		23%	38%
Average number of messages read		273	646
Average number of messages posted		4	11

Student Comments

The discussion board has made me think about how I can make a valid business management point

discussion boards have been very helpful to me got many good answers from it!

Up until this term I had never seen or used the discussion board and found this really helpful if I had any queries about the work or module in general.

constant helpful presence on these discussion boards

I love this discussion board aspect. Its a good source of stress relief over areas I'm not too confident on, and also trying to answer other peoples questions helps to give you a better understanding about subjects yourself

the discussion boards I feel are/were a great method of help and getting people towards their exam

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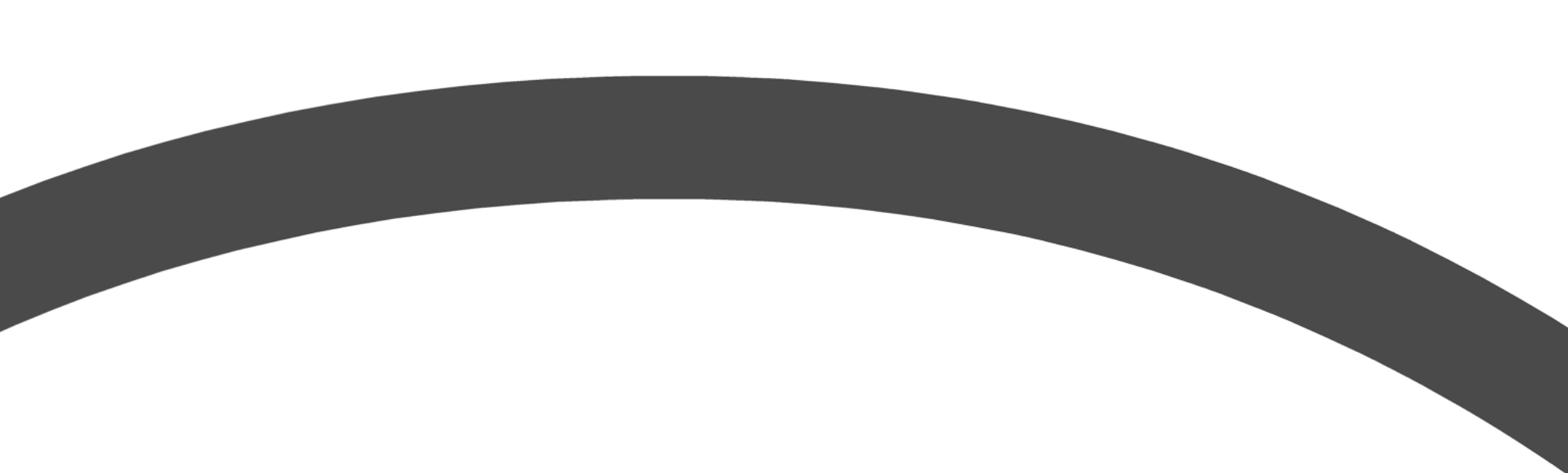
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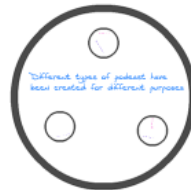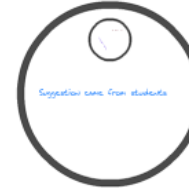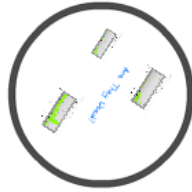discussion boards have been very helpful to me got many good answers from it!

the discussion boards I feel are/were a great method of help and getting people towards their exam

In today's lecture Stevie mentioned that it was 'impossible' to lick your own elbow.

The prospect of being branded a freak in front of the whole lecture audience and even worse, being asked to display such unusual skills (not very attractive) has forced me to use this less embarrassing anonymous environment to admit that I can indeed lick my own elbow.

Maybe something to consider- some things that may seem impossible (or are widely said to be impossible), are not always impossible for everyone.

Podcasts

Suggestion came from students

Different types of podcast have been created for different purposes

How the students use them

As a teacher I try

To help algebraic students

Suggestion came from students

As a revision aid

To help dyselxic students

Different types of podcast have been created for different purposes

Minimal effort on my part

Single audio recordings of lectures

Short animations to help with exam revision

Short video clips from class

Simple audio recordings of lectures.
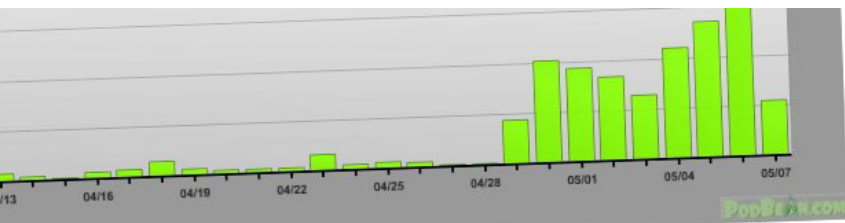
Minimal effort on my part

Short video clips from class

Encourages students to access the site and then return to use other material

Short animations to help with exam revision

Helps students to see how to go about answering questions.

Media
All Files

Episode hits Total
1321

Are They Used?

Episode Hits ℹ Please notice, stats data are updated every 2

Media File: All ▾ Add   **Period:** Last 7

360

300

240

Episode Hits ℹ️ Please notice, stats data are updated every 24 hours.

Media File: All ▼ Add   **Period:** Last 7 Days ▼ Go »

☐ All Files

05/01	05/02	05/03	05/04	05/05	05/06	05/07

PODBEAN.COM
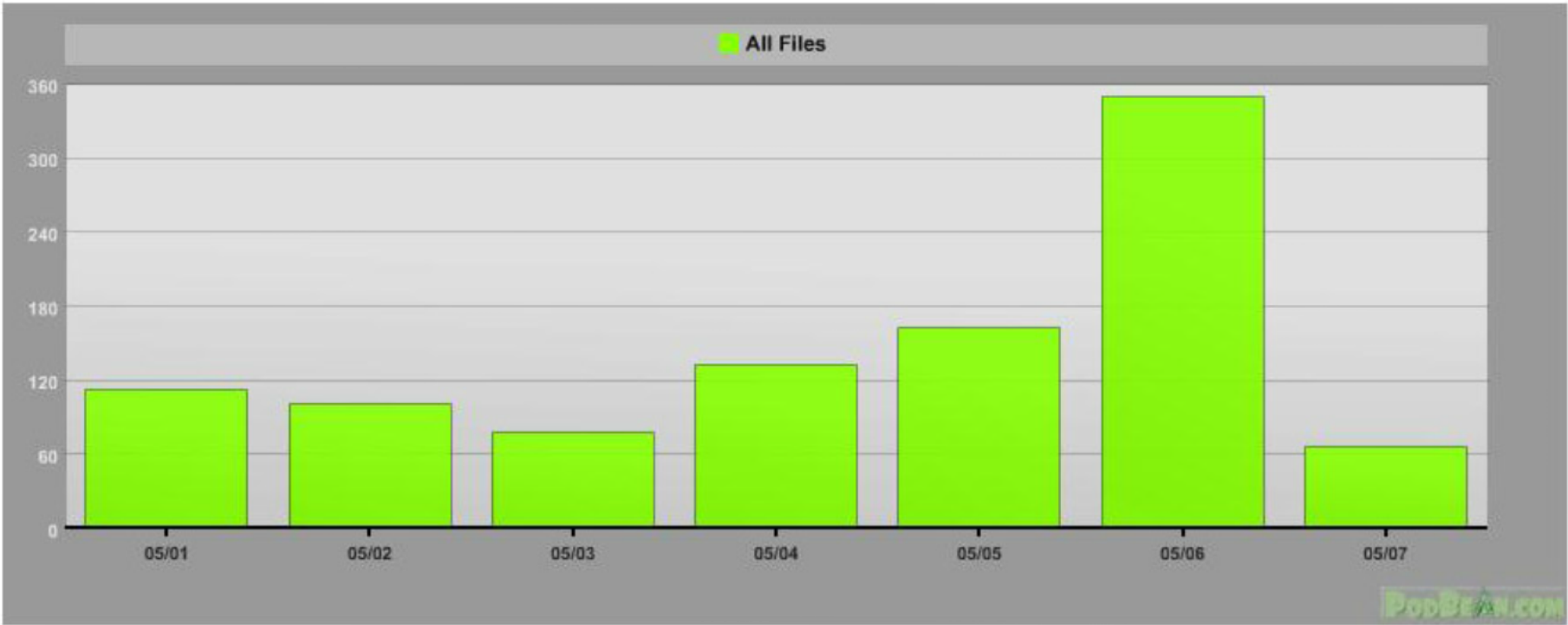
Summary: Last 7 Days

Episode	Media	Episode hits Total
All Episodes	All Files	998

Episode Hits ℹ️ Please notice, stats data are updated every 24 hours.

Media File: All ▼ [Add] **Period:** Last 30 Days ▼ [Go »]
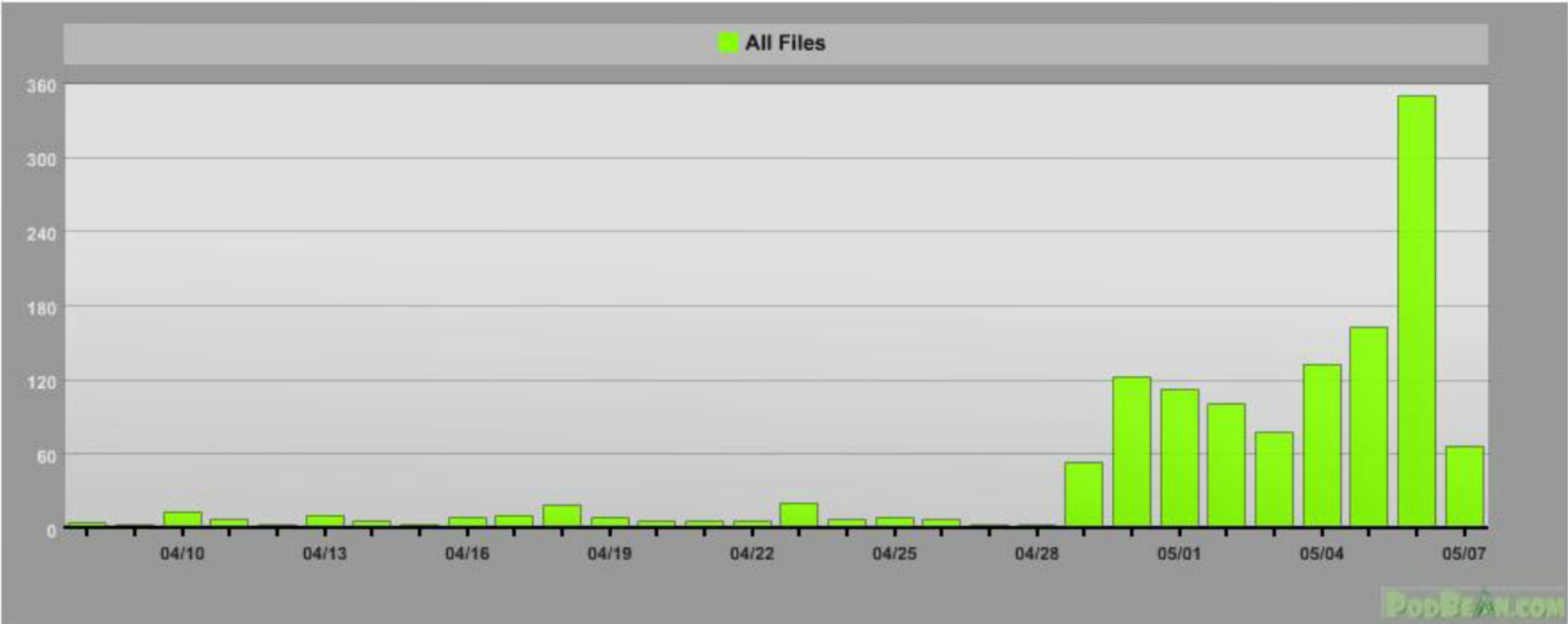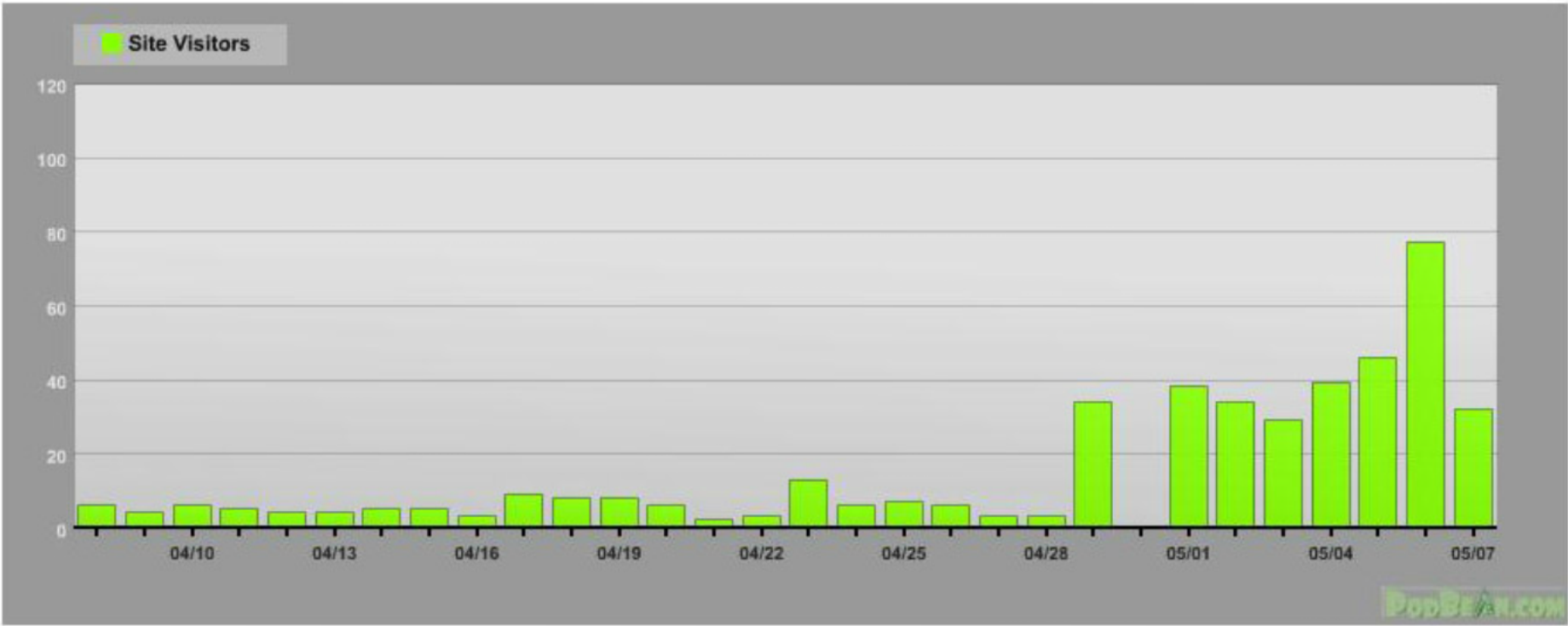

Summary: Last 30 Days

Episode	Media	Episode hits Total
All Episodes	All Files	1321

Site Visitors ℹ️ Please notice, stats data are updated every 24 hours.

Period: [Last 30 Days ▼] [Go »]

How the students use them

it brought you back to the lecture and you start to remember things and the way the information was explained

I am not that good at making notes in lectures, so I listened to the podcasts and then made new notes.

Definitely the best ...

I am not that good at making notes in
lectures, so I listened to the podcasts
and then made new notes.

I liked the podcast site and particularly answering exam questions. I liked
and found it calming. It explained everything without rushing and made sense,
in steps.

learn via reading. However the
...t the module. I do know from
...asts and facebook encouraged

I didn't use the Podcasts as I prefer to learn via reading. However the discussion board has helped me throughout the module. I do know from listening to other students that the podcasts and facebook encouraged participation.

and made sense)

The podcasts allows students to revise the previous lectures, which for me being dyslexic is extremely important as it is hard to take notes during lecture

Definitely the best part about the podcasts is when it comes down to reviewing, since normally we are used to only having notes and lectures slides, however now we can also have a lecture on demand.

I listened to them when I was at home and taking a break from studying, just had it on in the background and then also when I was trying to understand a topic that maybe wasnt going in so well.

Facebook

A step too far!

What did student's think?

A step too far?

Easier access than WebCT

Simple way to post links to news stories for revision purposes

Names & faces are helpful in a big class

Easy way to send reminders for revision sessions

141 members by exam day

Created a 'new' FB me - keep the line in place

accepted no 'friend' requests - keeps me out of private li[fe]

Accepted no 'friend' requests - keeps me out of private lives.

Created a 'new' FB me - keep the live live in place

Created a BMC group that student's request to join.

Only known student's could join

"Be nice or leave"

What did student's think?

facebook page didn't provide much relevant information or comments.

The high amount of unecessary information via email, WebCT and Facebook

I didn't like the discussion board & facebook group because some of the posts weren't relevant & it appeared to me to be a waste of time & energy

Facebook group was good for not having to log in to WebCT as much by reading announcements from there

proud

group was go
o log in to WebC
eading ANNOUNCEMENTS fr

proud for setting up this fb group it was really helpful :)

the fb group is so useful :)

I liked how Stevie used facebook to interact

And because I like facebook, it being to casual that youmight it

to think we can ask and give feedback in facebook is good

I quite like facebook also for news articles and because I like facebook, it brings a modern feel to the module without being to casual that youmight forget you are learning

the Facebook idea ? Genius !!!!!!!!

Thank you for listening