



Magic with Moodle

Using Choices to poll students about their choice of revision topic case study

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Background

- Mathematics for Engineering Management (HG3MMM UK) (AUT 12-13)
- MELEES module offered by Maths to students in Engineering
- Needed to ask the students to highlight which areas they wanted in the upcoming revision lecture.
- Didn't want to invite mass emails
- Also wanted to target not just those present in the current [i.e. penultimate] lecture.



Poll

- Created a poll using the Moodle Choices activity.
- Select option: restrict answering to the few days before the lecture
- Select option: allow students to see the progress of the poll as soon as they vote



In Thursday's class I'd like to go through specific topics suggested by you. There are a lot of potential areas for discussion so I'd like to try and determine the particular topics that most of you would like me to go through questions from. I plan to pick the most appropriate questions from the Sheets you identify and work through those with you in the class.

- Sheet 1 - Geometric methods
- Sheet 3 - Slacks and Artificials
- Sheet 4 - Formulating LP problems
- Sheet 5 - Parametric Analysis
- Sheet 6 - Duality
- Sheets 7 & 8 - Dynamic Programming
- Sheet 9 - Constrained optimization
- Some question about E and E inverse.

Save my choice

Responses

Sheet 1 - Geometric methods (0) 0.0%	Sheet 3 - Slacks and Artificials (0) 0.0%	Sheet 4 - Formulating LP problems (0) 0.0%	Sheet 5 - Parametric Analysis (0) 0.0%	Sheet 6 - Duality (0) 0.0%	Sheets 7 & 8 - Dynamic Programming (0) 0.0%	Sheet 9 - Constrained optimization (0) 0.0%	Some question about E and E inverse. (0) 0.0%



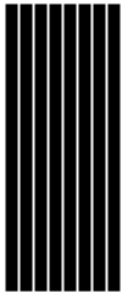
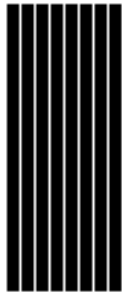


How it worked

- It worked well to give David an idea of what the students wanted
(even though it wasn't used by large numbers of students)

“It was a very informal activity that I felt was preferable to an attempted ‘raise your hands’ exercise.”

Responses

							
Sheet 1 - Geometric methods (0) 0.0%	Sheet 3 - Slacks and Artificials (0) 0.0%	Sheet 4 - Formulating LP problems (0) 0.0%	Sheet 5 - Parametric Analysis (1) 10.0%	Sheet 6 - Duality (1) 10.0%	Sheets 7 & 8 - Dynamic Programming (4) 40.0%	Sheet 9 - Constrained optimization (4) 40.0%	Some question about E and E inverse. (0) 0.0%



Issues and recommendations

- Allowing students to see the progress during the vote was particularly useful
- They could avoid wasting their vote on a topic already clearly marked for discussion
- There are other "polling-style" activities available in Moodle that might suit other scenarios better
 - Tutorial Booking
 - Allocation form
 - Vote



Further information

Moodle Help

- How to create a Choice activity
<https://workspace.nottingham.ac.uk/display/Moodlehelp/How+to+create+a+Choice+activity>

Learning Team Support

learning-team-support@nottingham.ac.uk

Blog: bit.ly/ltnottingham

Moodle Help: bit.ly/uonmoodlehelp

(or search Workspace for “Moodle help”)