


# CN Experience Sharing by Physics Professor, Andrew Gavrin

## 1. Instructor Post Examples

- I routinely used CN to post exam results



**Andrew Gavrin**, FA16: MECHANICS: 21148  
@AG160 · 11 days · Shown 753 times

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### Test 5 Scores

We have finished grading test 5, and will return the exams in recitation on Tuesday. The statistics of the scores was, again, quite close to previous tests: average = 34.8, median = 35, standard deviation = 15.8. Also, I think this was about as hard as the last test, so another good job! The image below shows the distribution of scores.

Now that the five tests are done, it is most important to be studying for the final. In terms of points, the final is equivalent to 3.33 of the other tests, so even if your grade is not what you had hoped for so far, there is still a lot of opportunity to improve. Looking at the scores so far, I would think about two things:

- The trend. If your grades have been going up, great! keep doing what you are doing. On the other hand, if the trend is down, don't just assume or hope that the final will be better. These trends usually continue unless you change your study habits.
- Interpreting what you have so far. In the usual format:  
  
over 240: Great job!  
195-239: A solid grade, no worries, but stepping it up a bit could put you into A range.  
150-194: Passing, but need to work harder for a good grade.  
125-149: Real concern. Passing is within reach, but it is now critical to rethink study time and/or strategy.  
below 125: Serious concern. A passing grade is still possible, but it may require a major overhaul of your study plans

As always, I am willing to talk to anyone that has concerns.

[Show Less](#)


										60	
									40	60	
				29					40	60	
			25	29	35	40			54	60	
		20	25	29	35	39	45	50	54	60	
		20	24	29	35	39	44	50	53	60	
			19	24	29	34	39	44	50	53	60
10		19	24	29	34	38	43	49	53	60	
10	14	18	24	29	33	38	42	48	52	58	
8	12	17	23	28	33	37	42	48	52	57	
7	11	17	22	28	32	37	42	48	52	57	
7	11	17	21	28	32	37	41	47	52	57	

★ ★ ★ 19 Ratings    💬 4 Reflections

Average Rating: 2.84 stars

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- Make assorted announcements



**Andrew Gavrin**, FA16: MECHANICS: 21148  
@AG160 · 15 days · Shown 504 times

**WU13, WU14a regraded**

I accidentally made the "final comment" worth a point on each of these two warmups. Since that had never been the case all semester, I didn't want anyone losing credit by accident. I just eliminated those points and regraded, resulting in minor changes in %ages.


Sorry for the confusion!

★ ★ ★ 14 Ratings    1 Reflection

Average Rating: 2.86 stars

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- Create posts for enrichment (remember to use hashtags!)



**Andrew Gavrin**, FA16: MECHANICS: 21148  
@AG160 · Nov 14, 2016 (Edited 11/14/2016) · Shown 613 times

**Supermoon**

Glad to see a bunch of posts about the #supermoon! I took the shot below from my front yard last night ~ 9PM.



★ ★ ★ 19 Ratings    6 Reflections

Average Rating: 2.89 stars

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- Create a few fun posts like this to build community



Andrew Gavrin , FA16: MECHANICS: 21148

@AG160 · 23 days · Shown 636 times



Here are some Thanksgiving #pies for everyone. I still can't decide which is my fave!



★ ★ ★ 15 Ratings

7 Reflections


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Average Rating: 3 stars

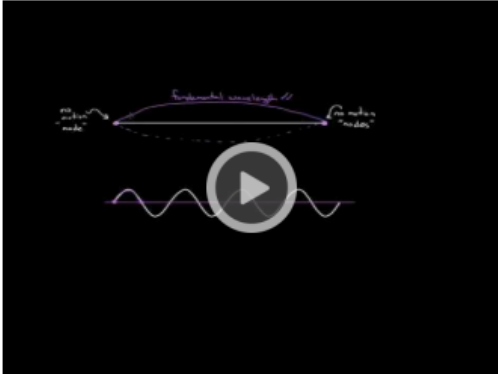
[Show all reflections](#)

## 2. Student Post Examples

- Students post for a wide variety of reasons, too. A lot of it is sharing resources:

 **[REDACTED]**, FA16: MECHANICS: 21148    
8 days  Shown 328 times  
  

For those, including myself, how still need help learning a little bit more about the next chapter  
[#StandingWaves](#)









(8 views)




☆☆☆ 11 Ratings

3 Reflections

[Email](#) · [Rememberit](#) · [Translate](#)

 **[REDACTED]**: I don't feel comfortable with the last chapter it is so different than what we have used   
to do in 152  
[Best](#) · [Reflect](#) · [Hide](#) · [Translate](#)  8 days

 **[REDACTED]**: I completely agree with you man, and I already struggled with those subjects and I knew at least a little about them   
[Best](#) · [Reflect](#) · [Hide](#) · [Translate](#)  6 days

 **[REDACTED]**: That's a pretty useful video. I hope there's not too much on waves during the final exam.   
[Best](#) · [Reflect](#) · [Hide](#) · [Translate](#)  5 days

- Students post to share study tips

 , FA16: MECHANICS: 21148    
@JS734 15 days Shown 463 times  
**STUDENT**  



Anybody have any breakthrough study methods? I got lucky last year and had one class Monday and Wednesday, so I went to a coffee shop and studied for the entire day. I wasn't that lucky this year, but hopefully a block of time Monday and Wednesday will suffice. #Work

☆☆☆ 11 Ratings



6 Reflections

[Email](#) · [Rememberit](#) · [Translate](#)



#### Show all reflections

 : Being an academic mentor I have read many studies about effective study methods. It seems pretty consistent that small, daily practice and baby steps seem to be most effective in both short term and long term memory. 

[Best](#) (3) · [Reflect](#) · [Hide](#) · [Translate](#) 14 days

 From previous experiences, I have found that studying a little bit each day is more beneficial than trying to cram everything in a few days before the exam. 

[Best](#) · [Reflect](#) · [Hide](#) · [Translate](#) 14 days

 I agree with Cory, I always perform better when I study each day. Studying the night before never turns out well for me. 

[Best](#) · [Reflect](#) · [Hide](#) · [Translate](#) 14 days

- This student was particularly prolific (and academically successful). He posted a half dozen polls of this form throughout the semester. (Favorite fictional substance/element, favorite fictional scientist/engineer, what fictional culture is most technologically advanced, etc.). Also, that pic used as an avatar is one he drew.


[Redacted Name], FA16: MECHANICS: 21148
 ⚙️ 🇺🇸

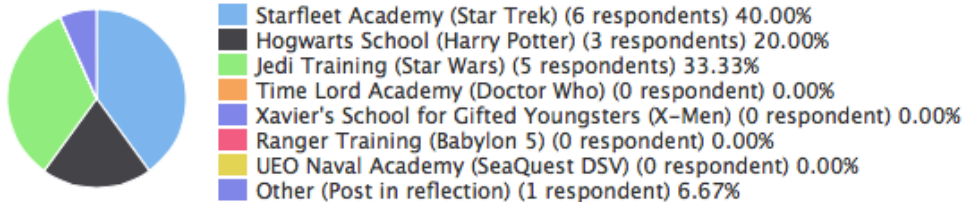
@KM382 🕒 2 days 👁️ Shown 641 times

STUDENT
👤

(Question 1 of 1) Which fictional learning institute/program do you think has the most challenging final exams? (15 respondents)

- Starfleet Academy (Star Trek)
- Hogwarts School (Harry Potter)
- Jedi Training (Star Wars)
- Time Lord Academy (Doctor Who)
- Xavier's School for Gifted Youngsters (X-Men)
- Ranger Training (Babylon 5)
- UEO Naval Academy (SeaQuest DSV)
- Other (Post in reflection)

SUBMIT



Total submission(s): 15

### 3. A few random thoughts without pictures:

- I suspect there is a minimum amount of “activity” required to keep students coming back. With a large class, this will happen automatically. With a medium class a small incentive is in order. With a small class, participation would need to be required.
- I give up 5% extra credit for the course. Students max out at 5% if they earn 350 anar seeds (which is a significant, but not onerous, amount of activity). Less than 350 gets prorated extra cred.
- When students post physics questions related to the class (help on homework, “can someone please explain the Ctr of Mass frame, etc.) I don’t answer right away. Usually, a class member does it. If no one answers for 12-24 hours, I will step in.

- When students post comments or questions beyond the scope of the class (“I heard in QM energy isn’t conserved”) I will often comment sooner.
- I have never used any of the cross-institution tools. CN does allow for students at different institutions to get in on a single conversation (“global classmates”).
- Students often answer each other on questions of course policy. Sometimes they even say “it’s in the syllabus” to one another!