

LEARNING SCIENCE DESIGN OF

Sapling Plus

for Economics

An end-to-end learning experience



LEARNING RESEARCH

Supported by three core constructs in education research—Sapling is founded on a wealth of education research on effective interactive pedagogy, formative assessment, and immediate feedback

19,000+

DATA-DRIVEN INSIGHTS

Anonymized data-mining of more than 300 instructor courses and nearly 20,000 students was used to identify preferences in content assignments, a wealth of insights into content quality and performance, and trends in learner engagement. Data-mining also identified where students could be optimally directed to eBook readings during assignments. It also revealed areas for additional, targeted customer training and support.

CO-DESIGN

Instructors and students co-designed new, novel features - Recent co-design workshops with instructors from 13 colleges identified areas to further improve usability (such as making students more aware of upcoming assignments) and new functionality (such as providing instructors with richer tools to edit questions, and managing how much content they want to see during assignment building).



26k

PRODUCT IMPACT

An in-depth, local case study drove further product optimization and support best practices - a mixed-method study involving detailed on-the-ground data collection from 234 students and over 26,000 data points revealed instructor implementation and student usage patterns that were related to higher student in-class engagement and better course outcomes.

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Features and benefits: Pre-lecture tutorials, bridge questions, embedded eBook, video tutorials, Learning Curve activities, graphing activities, a wealth of homework assignments, and refined test bank

“ I found the Sapling Plus wrong answer feedback on end of chapter problems and suggested homework among the best I’ve seen.”

INSTRUCTOR

eighty-four%

Students come to class better prepared and engage more actively with SaplingPlus

84% of students report that Sapling Plus pre-lecture activities helped them prepare to participate in class



Students engage in an end-to-end learning experience with SaplingPlus’ integrated experience

77% of students engage with SaplingPlus before class, in class, and after class



81% of students who report being less motivated in Economics said that the Sapling Plus pre-lecture activities helped them to participate more in class



Students enjoy their course more using SaplingPlus

74% of students report that they enjoyed their Economics course more than other courses they were taking



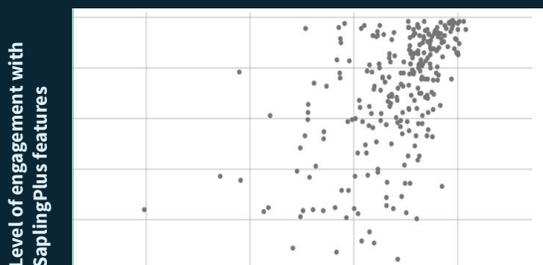
87% of students say there is more interaction in their Economics classes than in other courses they are taking because of Sapling Plus

“ I like that I can customize the bridge assignments and their grading is more helpful to me in class so I can go over them.”

INSTRUCTOR

Students increase academic performance when using SaplingPlus

Students who engaged with more SaplingPlus features achieved higher final exam scores



Final exam grade

Students who completed more pre-lecture activities achieved higher average in-class assessment grades



Proportion of pre-lecture activities completed