

FIGURING YOUR FINAL GRADE

1. Subtotals

A. Average your homework scores. Label this percentage H. There will be nine assignments, worth a total of 270 points. (To average, add up all of your points and divide by 270.)

B. Label your test *percentages* T1, T2, and T3. (T1/75; T2/60; T3/60)

C. Label your final exam percentage X.

2. Grade Plug your percentages into the following equation to see what score you need on the final in order to earn the desired letter grade G.

$$G = (.15)(H) + .20(T1 + T2+T3) + (.25)X$$

Rewriting this, we have

$$X = 4G - \frac{3}{5}H - \frac{4}{5}(T1 + T2+T3)$$

NOTE: To figure your course grade with your final exam score replacing your lowest test score with X, we alter the formula. Replacing T3, the new formula becomes:

$$G = (.15)(H) + (.20)(T1+T2) + (.45)X$$

Rewriting this, we get

$$X = \frac{20}{9}G - \frac{1}{3}H - \frac{4}{9}(T1+T2)$$

3. Point System Grades will be determined at least by the straight scale of 100% - 90% for A, 89%-80% for B, 79% - 70% for C, 69%-60% for D, and 59% - 0% for an F.

4. Example Suppose Sandy's homework average is .82, and she scored .80, .75, and .65 on the three exams, respectively. She would like a B in the class. Then she would plug her scores into the equation as follows:

$$X = 4(.80) - \frac{3}{5}(.82) - \frac{4}{5}(.8 + .75 + .65) = .95$$

In other words, she'd need 95% on the final, which is possible. However, based on her previous test scores, this is unlikely.

However, using the other (replacement) formula:

$$X = \frac{20}{9}(.80) - \frac{1}{3}(.82) - \frac{4}{9}(.8 + .75) = .82$$

In other words, she'd need 82% on the final, which is more likely, given her past test scores.