July 1, 2010

PHY2054 Overall Course Grade

Your overall course score (in %) is evaluated from the following four terms:

Overall Course Score = Exams + Quiz + Homework + HITT

Exams: Your overall exam score is given by

$$Exams = \frac{(Ex1 + Ex2 + Ex3)}{60} \times (60\%).$$

Ex1 and Ex2 are your exam scores. The exams will be 20 problems each with one point per problem. Ex3 is the cumulative final exam which is also 20 problems and is weighted equally with the other exams, giving a total possible exam score of 60 points (hence the division by 60). The exams are weighted to count for 60% of your overall course score.

Quiz: Your overall quiz score is given by

$$Quiz = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{10} Q_n}{(0.9) \times 50} \times (20\%) \,.$$

 Q_n is your quiz grade for the for nth assignment (0-5 points). These are summed over all 10 quizzes and divided by the total number of quizz points possible, $10 \times 5 = 50$, minus 10% (forgiveness for illness, missed classes, etc...):

$$0.9 \times 50 = 44$$

and then weighted to count 20% of your overall course score. You can not get more than 20% for this portion so if the 10% forgiveness results in you getting more than 20%, you will only get the full 20%.

Homework: Your overall homework score is given by

$$Homework = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{11} HW_n}{(0.9) \times HW_{tot}} \times (15\%)$$

 HW_n is your homework grade for the for nth assignment. These are summed over all 11 assignments of the semester and divided by the total number of assigned homework problems, HW_{tot} , minus 10% (forgiveness for network problems, etc. ...).

$$HW_{tot} - 0.1 \times HW_{tot} = (0.9) \times HW_{tot}$$

The homework portion is weighted to count for 15% of your overall course score. You can not get more than 15% for this portion so if the 10% forgiveness results in you getting more than 15%, you will only get the full 15%.

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HITT: Your overall HITT score is given by

$$HITT = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{all} HQ_n}{(0.8) \times HQ_{tot}} \times (5\%)$$

where HITT is the sum of all the HITT points, $\sum_{n=1}^{all} HQ_n$, you have received, divided by

the total number of HITT points possible, HQ_{tot} , minus 20% (forgiveness for illness, missed classes, etc...).

$$HQ_{tot} - 0.2 \times HQ_{tot} = (0.8) \times HQ_{tot}$$

The HITT portion counts for 5% of your overall course score. You can not get more than 5% for this portion so if the 20% forgiveness results in you getting more than 5%, you will only get the full 5%.

Grading Scale: THERE IS NO CURVE IN THIS CLASS. Curves pit students against each other in competing for a better grade but education research has shown that learning from peers can be an effective learning aid both for the students who get the help and for those who give the help (the latter clarifying their thoughts in the process). You are encouraged to form study groups and work together to bring the entire level up. Your overall course score will be calculated to 5 significant figures and there is no rounding off.

Grade Scale (fixed)		
	А	$\geq 85\%$
	A-	$\geq 82\%$
	B+	$\geq 80\%$
	В	\geq 70%
	B-	$\geq 67\%$
	C+	\geq 65%
	С	$\geq 60\%$
	C-	\geq 58%
	D+	\geq 55%
	D	\geq 50%
	D-	\geq 45%
	Е	< 45%

Example of How to *Estimate* Your Course Grade:

Suppose we have completed exams 1 and 2, with your scores being Ex1=12, Ex2=15. Also, suppose that to date there have been 8 quizzes and your total score 27 points and suppose we have had 72 homework problems and your total score is 54. Also, lets assume that you have gotten 3/5 of a possible 70 HITT points. In this case,

$$Exams = \frac{(12+15)}{40} \times (60\%) = 40.5\% \qquad Quiz = \frac{27}{0.9(8\times5)} \times (20\%) = 15\%$$

Homework = $\frac{54}{0.9\times72} \times (15\%) = 12.5\% \qquad HITT = \frac{\frac{3}{5}(70)}{0.8\times70} \times (5\%) = 3.75\%$

and

Overall Course Score = 40.5% + 15% + 12.5% + 3.75% = 71.75%,

which corresponds to a grade of "B".

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Department of Physics