

ECON 200 – Grade Calculation

With the revised syllabus, my goal was to change the grading to be much more generous, because I know that the move online was stressful, and might have created a lot more work for you. The online lectures were probably not as effective as “live” ones, either. The revised grading policy increases the percent of grades you get to drop, from 25% to 33%, but it’s also a bit complicated – more than I had anticipated. Here’s an explanation...

You have these assignments in the class:

Live classes (before spring break): Quiz 1 (20 pts) ; Exam 1 (40 pts)

Online classes (after spring break): Quizzes F-K (6 @ 10 pts each) ; Final Quiz (30 pts)

The total points available is 150. As explained in the revised syllabus, I’m going to count only those assignments worth 100 points on which you performed best. (In other words, I drop assignments worth 50 points on which you performed worst.)

In the grade posting sheet, you can see the *possible points (in green font)* above all of the row headings. As usual, you find your scores by your POST-ID. For this posting, you’ll see two rows of scores for your ID.

In the top row, you’ll see your POST-ID, and your scores for all assignments, including a 0 for any quizzes you missed, such as the Final Quiz (since it’s not until April 25). Your lowest quiz scores will be shown in **red**. The total *possible scores* for your red numbers should be 50.

In the second row of your posting, you’ll notice all of your **red** scores disappeared. What remains are the scores that are included in your grade calculation. Please check that these scores’ *possible* points sum to 100.

Once you add scores in your second row, add 1 point (to cover rounding error), and you should get the “Total from best 100 pts of assignments” column. Your grade is based on a 90-80-70-60 scale. I assigned minus (-) grades for 0/1, and plus (+) grades for 8/9 of each bracket. For example, if you got an 80 or 81 it’s a B-, and if you got 88 or 89 that’s a B+.

If you take the Final Quiz, your performance on that quiz can either improve your overall grade, or not affect it at all. It can’t harm your grade from what’s shown today, because the Final Quiz score (0) is already your lowest; if you take the Final and it’s still one of your lowest, nothing changes. But if your Final Quiz score is higher than 30 possible points from 3 other quizzes, for example, it will get counted, and those other, lower scores will get dropped.

Even without the Final Quiz, the average class grade right now is at 78%, about a full letter grade higher than it would be during a regular semester. Because I have provided such a generous grading system, I ask that you do not ask that I further modify your grade; that is not fair to other students. However, if you do have any questions about grading, please send me an email. Include “EC200-grade” in the subject line to confirm you’ve read this document or watched the video explanation. If that’s *not* in your email subject line, my reply will be “Please see the written or video explanation I provided in OAKS.”