

GRADING POLICIES CHEMISTRY 162

SPRING 2008

YOUR COURSE GRADE

Your grade in this course will be determined primarily by your scores (compared to the scores of all the other students) on the three 80-minute “hour” exams, and the 3-hour final exam. Eventually we will assign grades based on the total number of points you achieve on all of these and in a variety of other ways that are discussed below. We advise you to take very seriously all the different evaluations that will be available to you; they might make a difference.

The maximum score for the course is 725 points, distributed as follows:

Category	Points
Exam I	100
Exam II	100
Exam III	100
Final Exam	220
Quizzes (3×20)	60
On line Homework	90
Worksheets	30
Lecture Quizzes	25
TOTAL	725

GRADING

A rough “curve” with cutoffs for letter grades will be established for each of the three exams during the semester. This “curve” should be viewed as a guideline to how you are doing. At the end of the semester, a new “curve,” based on total points earned, but still emphasizing exams, will be established and course grades assigned accordingly. If your final examination grade differs markedly (higher or lower) from your hour examination grades, the final exam may, at the discretion of your instructors, be weighted more heavily. Furthermore, a minimum score of approximately 35% on the final exam will be required to pass the course, regardless of scores on hour exams.

You will be assigned a preliminary letter grade based on all these factors, including the total number of points you have earned out of 725. In addition, recitation instructors will evaluate students on the borderline between two grades on the basis of attendance, preparation, participation, and effort. Students who receive their instructor’s endorsement may be considered for “promotion” to the next letter grade.

Regular attendance in both lecture and recitation often results in an improved letter grade.

HOUR EXAMS

There are no makeups for hour exams, only a **conflict** exam. An unexcused absence

will be counted as a zero. See the General Information section at the beginning of your textbook **for instructions on how to be excused from an exam** you have missed. There will be a makeup final exam. The General Information section at the beginning of your textbook also has instructions on conflict exams. The form you need to complete in order to be permitted to take the conflict exam can be found at the end of this document. If you need to take the conflict exam, you can print the form, fill it out, and submit it following the instructions with the form.

You may **not use graphing calculators** on any quiz or exam. Failure to fill out the OpScan form on the exams correctly **will** result in a deduction of 5 points from your score.