

**Homework #7 Part C: Calculate Your Grade**  
**Due in class Wednesday, March 21**

Log into Blackboard for access to your grades. Now is a good time to check that your scores on assignments that have been handed back match what I've entered on Blackboard.

Step 1: Compile all of your homework, MA, lab, reading quiz, exam scores

	Your score	Points Available	Percent*
Homework 1		25	
Homework 2		130	
Homework 3		55	
Homework 4		65	
Homework 5		40	
Homework 6		105	

	Your score (percentage)
MA 1	
MA 2	
MA 3	
MA 4	
MA 5	
MA 6	
MA 7	

	Your score	Points Available	Percent
RQ #1		20	
RQ #2		20	
RQ #3		20	

\*compute this by dividing column 2 by column 3 and multiplying by 100

	Your score	Points Available	Percent
Nature of Science		55	
Intro to Observations		68	
Spectra Lab		68	
Sun Lab		40	
Jupiter's Moons		108	

Midterm Score: \_\_\_\_\_%

### Step 2: Calculate Your Homework Grade

Recall that I will be dropping your TWO lowest homework assignments, which include the weekly homeworks and the mastering astronomy assignments. Using the percentages column (which you should have filled in for each assignment, reading quiz and lab by following the instructions in the footnote on page 1), **find your two lowest assignments and cross them off.**

Now **add up all of your remaining percentages** from the weekly homework and mastering astronomy tables. By doing this, you are essentially scaling all of your homeworks to the same value (100 points).

Total Homework Points: \_\_\_\_\_

Because you've dropped your two lowest scores, the total available "points" are 1100. Calculate your percentage homework score by dividing your total homework points by 1100 and then multiplying by 100 (to turn your decimal into a percentage).

**Total Homework Percentage:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Step 3: Calculate your Reading Quiz Score

Recall that I will be dropping your lowest reading quiz score as well. Cross off your lowest percentage score on the reading quizzes and then add up your percentages to get your total RQ points:

Total Reading Quiz Points: \_\_\_\_\_

With one score dropped, the total available reading quiz points are 40. Calculate the percentage of reading quiz points you've received:

**Total Reading Quiz Percentage:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### Step 4: Calculate Your Lab Grade

NONE of your lab grades will be dropped. Add up all of your percentages from the lab table to get your total points.

Total Lab Points: \_\_\_\_\_

Divide this score by the total points available (500) and multiply by 100 to get your Lab Percentage.

**Total Lab Percentage:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### Step 4: Estimate Your Participation Grade

Your participation grade has three components, each worth 5% of your total grade. The first component is based on my estimate of your **attendance, timeliness, and participation** during class and during reading quiz discussions (note that this does not just mean do you answer questions aloud, but are you engaged, off of your cell phone and computer, participating during pair activities and labs, completing lecture tutorials and voting questions when asked). I am aided in this by the pair activities that you complete in class, which give me a record of who has been attending.

On a scale of 1 to 100, and being honest with yourself, what do you feel you deserve for an attendance, timeliness and participation grade?

\_\_\_\_\_/100

The second component is based on how you did facilitating the reading quiz discussion. If you have already completed this portion, then fill in your score below. If not, move on to the next piece

\_\_\_\_\_/100

The remaining 5% is based on the average of your reading quiz scores, which you already computed in step 2. Fill the value you calculated into the blank below.

\_\_\_\_\_/100

You should have the hang of this by now. Add your points in the two (or three if you've already done your reading quiz facilitating) and divide by 200 (or 300) to get your participation percentage.

**Participation Percentage:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Step 5: Calculate Your Current Grade

In the table below, fill in the total percentages you received in each category. The Percent of your semester grade that each category is worth is given in the table in decimal form. To calculate the "You Receive" column, multiply the second and third columns together.

Your Percentages	Percent You Received	Percent of Total Grade	You Receive
Homework		.30	
Participation		.15	
Labs		.30	
Midterm		.10	

Add these "you received" scores together and divide them by 85 then multiply by 100 to get a percentage. This represents your current grade.

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} / 85 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \%$$

### Step 6: Contemplate

If you obtain the following overall percentage of available points, you will be guaranteed each grade in this course. These numbers may be lowered when I compute final grades, but they will not be raised (in other words, based on the class distribution, I may decide that anyone receiving 88% and above (rather than 90%) will receive an A, but lowering of these cutoffs is NOT guaranteed)

A: 90%

B: 80%

C: 70%

D: 60%

F: Below 60%

Keep in mind that there are still homeworks, labs and reading quizzes coming up (which can EITHER raise OR lower your score in each category) and that **your final will count for 15% of your grade, and your semester observing project will count for 5% of your grade**. Also, keep in mind that I will be the one determining your final participation grade.

Finally, if you are not happy with the grade that you just computed THERE IS STILL TIME to complete extra credit assignments. See the "Extra Credit Options" on the course site for more details (also handed out on the first day of class). They are worth half of a homework score apiece and you may complete up to three of them.

### **Step 7: Set a Goal**

What are you going to do to raise or maintain your current grade in this course? Write it down!