



How to Calculate Your Grade in a Class

- (1) Find out what percentage of your grade each assignment is worth. Some professors have this listed for you, but for other classes you may have to figure this out yourself.**

Here is an example:

Let's say you have five assignments in your class. Two papers each worth 30 points, a midterm exam worth 50 points, a presentation worth 40 points, and a final exam worth 100 points.

To find out what each assignment is worth as a percentage you need to first add up all of the points possible for the class.

Paper 1 =	30 points
Paper 2 =	30 points
Midterm =	50 points
Presentation =	40 points
Final Exam =	<u>100 points</u>
Total Points	250 points

Now divide what each assignment is worth by the total number of points possible and that will be the percentage that assignment is worth for the class.

Paper 1 =	30 points / 250 points =	0.12 or 12%
Paper 2 =	30 points / 250 points =	0.12 or 12%
Midterm =	50 points / 250 points =	0.20 or 20%
Presentation =	40 points / 250 points =	0.16 or 16%
Final Exam =	100 points / 250 points =	0.40 or 40%

- (2) Now that you know the percentage of your grade that each assignment is worth, you can create a formula that will allow you calculate your grade in the class.**

The formula will look something like this:

$$(\text{Grade} \times \% \text{ assignment is worth}) + (\text{Grade} \times \% \text{ assignment is worth}) = \text{Grade in class}$$

Here is an example:

Using the information from the first example, let's say you got a 90 on your first paper, an 87 on your second paper, a 68 on your midterm, a 96 on your presentation and a 75 on your final. Here is what the calculation would look like:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccc}
 (90 * 0.12) & + & (87 * 0.12) & + & (68 * 0.20) & + & (96 * 0.16) & + & (75 * 0.40) & = & \text{Grade in class} \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 10.8 & + & 10.44 & + & 13.6 & + & 15.36 & + & 30 & = & 80.2
 \end{array}$$

You would have an 80.2% in the class.

- (3) Now, let's say that you hadn't taken the final yet, but you wanted to know what you would need to earn on your final in order to get a certain grade in the class. The following example shows the steps you would need to complete:

Here is an example:

Using the information from the previous examples, you would set up your formula as follows, but instead of putting a 75 in for your final exam grade, you would put an "X" instead and you would enter an 85 for "grade in class":

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccc}
 (90 * 0.12) & + & (87 * 0.12) & + & (68 * 0.20) & + & (96 * 0.16) & + & (x * 0.40) & = & 85 \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 10.8 & + & 10.44 & + & 13.6 & + & 15.36 & + & 0.4x & = & 85 \\
 \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} & & & & & & & & & & \\
 50.2 & + & 0.4x & = & 85
 \end{array}$$

To solve for x you will now subtract 50.2 from 85 for a total of 34.8 and then you will divide 34.8 by 0.4 to get 87. This means that in order to get an 85% in the class, you would need to score an 87% on your final exam.

How to Calculate Your Semester Grade

College grades are weighted by the number of credit hours that you are taking. Let's say that you are taking 15 credit hours this semester, here is an example of how you would calculate your semester grade.

First, you need to know what a specific grade in the class is equivalent to:

A = 4.00	B- = 2.67	D+ = 1.33
A- = 3.67	C+ = 2.33	D = 1.00
B+ = 3.33	C = 2.00	F = 0.00
B = 3.00	C- = 1.67	

Next, you need to know what grade you have in the class and then you need to know how many credit hours each class is worth. Once you have this information, you will be able to calculate your semester grade. See the example below:

Information student UCCS has gathered:

- Freshman Seminar is 3 credit hours and has a B in the class.
- College Algebra is 3 credit hours and has a C in the class.
- Psychology 1000 is 4 credit hours and has an A- in the class.
- Weight Training is 2 credit hours and has an A in the class.
- English 1310 is 3 credit hours and has a B+ in the class.

Here is the calculation:

- Freshman Seminar: 3 credit hours x B(3.00) = **9.00**
- College Algebra: 3 credit hours x C(2.00) = **6.00**
- Psychology 1000: 4 credit hours x A-(3.67) = **14.68**
- Weight Training: 2 credit hours x A(4.00) = **8.00**
- English 1310: 3 credit hours x B+(3.33) = **9.99**

Add together the total numbers you get for each class and divide by the total number of credit hours you are taking.

47.67 ÷ 15 credit hours = 3.178

Multiply the number of credit hours by the grade you have earned for each class.

This is student UCCS' semester grade.