

Since the grading scales on tests, exam, and weighted homework-quiz scores vary, letter grades for the overall course will be determined by comparing each student's total points with the totals at the cutoff for each letter grade. The following example, similar to two students' records in an earlier course, illustrates the method:

Cutoff Scores						
Test 1	Test 2	Test 3	Quiz & Hw.	Final exam	Total	Course grade
90 A	89 A	91 A	85 A	175 A	530	A
85 B+	84 B+	86 B+	78 B+	160 B+	493	B+
80 B	78 B	80 B	70 B	145 B	453	B
75 C+	74 C+	76 C+	63 C+	130 C+	418	C+
70 C	68 C	70 C	55 C	115 C	378	C
65 D+	64 D+	66 D+	48 D+	100 D+	343	D+
58 D	56 D	60 D	40 D	85 D	299	D
Student 1						
97 A	81 B	76 C+	88.6 A	136 C+	478.6	B
Student 2						
70 C	62 D	68 D+	33.1 F	119 C	352.1	D+

“Cutoff scores” for A, etc. are defined to be the lowest scores one could have received and still obtained an A, etc. on that particular item (test, quiz and homework score, final exam). As you can see, cutoff scores for each letter grade are totaled up at the end, and the student totals are matched with the respective totals to arrive at the course letter grade.