

E N G L I S H 1 0 0 C O U R S E G R A D E C A L C U L A T O R

COURSE GRADE	ESSAYS PASSED	DEMOS PASSED	TASKS MISSING	MEEs
A	6	4	5.5 or fewer	→ 15 or more unused MEEs are needed for an A.
B	5	3	6.0 - 7.5	No MEEs are needed for grades of B, C, etc., but MEEs can raise overall course grades when used to reduce missing tasks and non-passing demos (see more info below).
C	4	2	8.0 - 9.5	
D	3	1	10.0 - 11.5	
F	Fewer than 3	0	12 or more	

To pass the course, all essays must be completed. Some rewrites are available (see syllabus).

HOW TO FIGURE OUT COURSE GRADES:

1. Circle results of Essays, Demos, and Tasks (above).
2. Factor in MEEs earned over the semester.
3. **Use the lowest result in any category above to determine the course grade.**

Using MEEs to try to boost course grades:

1 MEE = 1 Missing Task

3 MEEs = 1 Non-Passing Demo

MEEs are “Marks of Exceptional Effort” and can be earned in various ways throughout the semester. The majority of the MEEs available come from excellent work on essays, especially on essays later in the semester. Another common way of earning MEEs is by doing extra credit. More details are on the back of this handout.

E X A M P L E S O F D E T E R M I N I N G C O U R S E G R A D E S

SCENARIO NUMBER	ESSAYS PASSED	DEMOS PASSED	TASKS MISSING	MEEs, UNUSED (grade-boosting potential)	MORE INFO (IF NEEDED)	COURSE GRADE
1	6	4	3.5	17	• Half credit on tasks can be earned when eligible tasks are submitted one class late.	
2	6	4	0	8	None	
3	6	3	10	3	• 2 rewrites raised the essays passed total from 4 to 6. • How can the unused MEEs help?	
4	4	2	8	0	• 2 essays were never submitted	
5	5	1	7	6	• How can the unused MEEs help?	
6	3	3	19	2	None	

Answers for Scenarios 1-6: 1 = A; 2 = B; 3 = B; 4 = D; 5 = B; 6 = F

Contract Grading Details about Marks of Exceptional Effort (MEEs)



- MEEs can be earned by showing exceptional work and growth, but to earn an A in the course, the majority of those marks will need to come from demonstrating exceptional essay work.
- A limited amount of MEEs is available in other ways, such as showing exceptional improvement, showing exceptional involvement in class, and doing extra credit. Those MEEs (not linked to excellent essays) can often improve course grades (from a C to a B, for example) but not enough to earn an A.

- **How can we get MEEs? When can we get them? How many can we get?**
- **How will I know if I'm on track to get an A in the course? Answers to these questions are below . . .**
- Students can earn the following amounts of MEEs in the following ways:
 - ❖ Up to **(3)** three marks for Extra Credit (at least 12 opportunities are available)
 - ❖ Up to **(1)** mark for going to the Writing Center an extra time, not for the two visits required for homework
 - ❖ Up to **(2)** two marks for demonstrating Exceptional Growth
 - ❖ Up to **(2)** two marks for demonstrating Exceptional Participation
 - ❖ Up to **(30)** thirty marks for Exceptional Essays. Note—most of the MEEs are linked to excellent essays.
- **Extra Credit** opportunities are listed on the extra credit handout, and they occur throughout the semester.
- **Exceptional Growth** can occur throughout the semester, and if marks are earned in that category, it will be communicated to students in their essay feedback (mid-semester in Essay #2 and late semester in Essay #4). Exceptional means more than average academic growth, and it's earned when students demonstrate exceptional growth in the classroom and in their essays, demos, and tasks. Typically it occurs by using feedback, seeking extra assistance, and going the extra mile to reach or surpass the goals that have been set.
- **Exceptional Participation** can also occur throughout the semester, and if marks are earned in that category, it will be communicated to students in their essay feedback (mid-semester in Essay #2 and late semester in Essay #4). Marks for exceptional participation go to students who are *consistently prepared, engaged, and actively involved* in class. They go to those who are helpful and active participants in group work and class discussions. And they go to students who *often* volunteer to share their ideas but also hold back at times when listening to others is more valuable.
- **Exceptional Essays** are essential to earning an A in the course since the majority of MEEs must come from essays. Each essay assignment comes with specific goals, but exceptional essays, in general, demonstrate the following:
 - Excellent content (assertive thesis; powerful support; engaging examples; well-selected quotes; careful explanations)
 - Excellent clarity (meticulous proofreading; professional-looking MLA formatting and citations)
 - Excellent flow (highly effective transitions, topic sentences, and paragraphing)

How will I know if I'm on track to earn an A?

You'll be on track for an A if you're earning, on average, half the available MEEs for each essay (assuming you don't need to use them to make up missing work)

Maximum Possible MEEs per essay:	Half of Max	Running Total of Half Max MEEs = On track for an A
Essay 1 = 2	1	1 = 1 total after Essay 1
Essay 2 = 4	2	1+2 = 3 total after Essay 2
In-Class Midterm = 4	2	3+2 = 5 total after In-Class Midterm
Essay 3 = 6	3	5+3 = 8 total after Essay 3
Essay 4 = 8	4	8+4 = 12 total after Essay 4
In-class Final = 6	3	12+3 = 15 total after In-Class Final

Total Maximum Essay MEEs = 30

Half Total = 15

15 unused MEEs needed for an A