Grading Scheme

The final letter grade for MA 165 will be determined based upon the scores in the following categories with the weights specified as follows:

Homework	100	pts
Quizzes	50	pts
3 Midterm Exams	$300 = 100 \times 3$	pts
Final Exam	200	pts
Maximum Total Score	650	pts

While the scores for 3 Midterms and Final Exam used are raw scores, the scores for the homeworks and quizzes are normalized to fit into the specified weights.

Explanation of the process to determine the final grade.

1. **Total Common Exam Score**

The Total Common Exam Score is computed as the sum of the scores of 3 midterms and the final exam.

Based upon the T.C.E.S., the cut-off points for the letter grades will be determined. These cut-off points are common to all the sections in MA 165.

2. **Assignment of the Final Grade:**

Looking at the cut-off points common to all the sections, the recitation instructor sees how many of the students in his/her sections are in the range of $A, A^-, B^+, B, B^-, C^+, C, C^-, D, F$, respectively. The recitation instructor also computes the **Total Score**, which is the sum of T.C.E.S. and the scores for the homeworks and quizzes. Now he makes the list of the T.S. of all the students in his/her sections. Looking at the list and in descending order, he/she will determine the final letter grades, giving each letter grade to the number of students determined by the cut-off points.

Note: The letter grade A^+ is out of this grading scheme. Whoever scores above 95% of the Maximum Total Score will receive an A$^+$ automatically in the course.

Remarks

- The use of the T.C.E.S., excluding the scores of the homeworks and quizzes, in determining the cut-off points, is designed to provide uniformity across all the sections under the supervisions of different recitation instructors.
- Although letter grades are announced for each midterm, only the total of exam **raw** scores are used at the end of the semester to compute the T.C.E.S.
- Homeworks and quizzes are extremely important parts of the course. A poor score on either one of these categories can jeopardize the effort of the student towards a good grade, especially in borderline cases. On the other hand, homeworks and quizzes only contribute 150 points to the T.S., while the exams contribute 500 points. Obviously a poor performance on the exams will most likely not be compensated by good scores on homeworks and quizzes.