Curve on the Objective Test

I do frequently do a curve, but I do not promise to do one on the next test.

Prior Classes Taking This Test

* Fall 2015 – 3 classes – curve 12
* Spring 2016 – 3 classes – curve 20 (Spring US History I classes are frequently a **little** lower.)
* Fall 2016 – 3 classes – curve 12

You are my only 1301 class this term. What I did was calculate a curve (21) based on the 3 highest scores:

* 88 – something that results in a curve of 12
* 76
* 72

My hypothesis is your lower class are NOT because you are less capable and are NOT because you didn’t try, but instead it is the result that you had as a group less prior experience in history as shown by the pre-test. I have temporarily moved the pre-test scores

* From below the Total
* To next to Unit 1 exam parts.

Here is the explanation of the pre-test grade that you can see at My Grades. I have made 2 things larger because I want to stress.

|  |
| --- |
| The pre-test does not count for points for your average. It does reveal how much you knew before you got to this class. For example, if you started at an 8 out of 100 on the pre-test and if you made 52, you probably worked hard. (I may be able to show you how to work a bit faster and with less stress.) FYI: I will be glad to help any of you.  Two things:   * If there is no grade (looks like --), it means you did not take it. * If there is a 0 for a grade, it means none of the answers were correct. |

Will be changing the date on the Analysis of Primaries

Family events have altered my grading rate and I will take care of this, but I will be changing the date on the Analysis of Primaries.

Estimating Your Current Letter Grade through Getting Started and Unit 1

I will explain these things in class. Extra credits are not included in the total. (They would not be *extra* if they were part of the divisor.) Note: I have not graded your Video project. I will tell you and put up an Announcement when I do.

If you did not do well on the Unit 1 Objective Exam, do not panic. I have seen students improve greatly from Unit 1 to Unit 2 if we talked briefly about useful habits for learning history. (Some of those habits also work with biology because both history and biology are detailed, complex, and interconnected--like life.)

Your pre-test score (TEMPORARILY next to the objective but usually below the Total) may indicate you are vulnerable--something true for people with very low scores and very high ones. If you took advantage of the extra credit with the Course Tour and the Video project, you have a cushion to help you with the points. If you did not do that,  there is an offer that I make that may help you recover.

***Getting S****t****arted (Subtotal 30 Points) and Unit 1 Graded Items (Subtotal 220)***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Assignment to be Done On Your Own or With Your Instructor in a   Computer Lab I Arrange** | **Points** |
| \_ | Determine your plan and submit it to Turnitin and   bring a print according to the Course Schedule | 20 |
| \_ | Follow the instructions in the Course Tour –   Because this is an experiment, those completing it alone will receive ~~20~~   40 points extra credit. | 10 |
| \_ | Take 4 Evidence Quizzes @10 each | 40 |
| \_ | Self-Management and Participation for Unit 1 @ 30 each | 30 |
| \_ | Take Unit 1 Objective Exam (100) and Concepts   Exam (50) | 150 |
|  | Total Points of Graded Items | 250 |

Given 250 regular points, this is how many points determine each letter grade:

* 225 or higher = A- (90% 0f 250 is 225).
* 200 or higher = B-(80% 0f 250 is 200).
* 175 or higher = C- (70% 0f 250 is 175).
* 150 or higher = D-(60% 0f 250 is 150).
* 149 or less = F

***Caution:*** If you did **not** do the 1st Primary Writing, the points **below** determine your letter grade.

***Unit 1 Currently Ungraded or Not Yet Done Points (Subtotal 60 Points)***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Assignment** | **Points** |
|  | Total Points of Graded Items above | 250 |
| \_ | 1st Primary **Writing** @ 10 points for content and 10 or following all 5 Good   Habits for Evidence. | 20 |
| \_ | **Peer Review** of another student’s 1st   Primary Writing @ 20 points for content and 20 for following all 5 Good   Habits for Evidence (***Caution:*** you must do   the 1st Primary Writing to do the peer review.) | 40 |
|  | **Total Points for All of Getting Started and Unit 1** | 310 |

After the 1st Primary Writing and the Peer Review are graded and given 310 regular points, this is how many points determine each letter grade:

* 279 or higher = A- (90% 0f 310 is 279).
* 248 or higher = B-(80% 0f 310 is 248).
* 217 or higher = C- (70% 0f 310 is 217).
* 186 or higher = D- (60% 0f 310 is 186).
* 185 or less = F

Entered for **all** 1302 classes:

* + Unit 1 Objective Exam (100 points)  
    Note added here and in the announcement on estimating your letter grade: If you did not do well on the Unit 1 Objective Exam, do not panic. I have seen students improve greatly from Unit 1 to Unit 2 if we talked briefly about useful habits for learning history. (Some of those habits also work with biology because both history and biology are detailed, complex, and interconnected--like life.) Also your pre-test score (below your Total at the bottom of My Grades) may indicate you are vulnerable--something true for people with very low scores and very high ones. There is an offer that I make that may help you recover.
  + Unit 1 Objective Exam Curve (13 points)  
    How it was calculated: Top scores in each of the 4 classes were 84, 100, 96, and 88 (with many 88s). Because those points would have made a small curve, I also used the next highest scores in the calculation and the result was a curve of 13.
  + Unit 1 Concepts Exam (50 points)
  + Self-Management Grade (30 points)  
    Quiet self-management is 23.9; 1 blue dot is 25.5; 2 blue dots is 27, 3 or more blue dots is 30.   
    If you have an orange dot (usually for a cell-phone), it is 0; however, if you email that you want to practice self-management in the next Unit and if your actions do not result in an orange dot, then I will also change the 0 from Unit 1 to whatever score you make for Unit 2.

How the Course Tour Points were determined

The Course Tour was 10 points regular credit and initially 20 points extra credit if you did it on your own (an experiment I was doing). Given the network problems WCJC was having and given my attempts to encourage students to pay attention to offers and to encourage persistence in the face of adversity (what one educational expert calls "grit"), I added 20 points extra credit.   
  
FYI: That last statement is not a "zap." I do recognize that some of you would have done this if you had not been facing other challenges or if you had not determined that other actions would give you more reward.

I printed all of the Blackboard record sheets for each place with a Mark Reviewed button, marked each click on a Mark Reviewed button that Blackboard recorded for your name, tallied them, and used this formula:

* 0 points = no clicks on a Mark Reviewed button anywhere
* 5 points = at least 1 click on a Mark Reviewed button
* 10 points = 2-3 clicks on Mark Reviewed buttons
* 20 points = 4-5 clicks on Mark Reviewed buttons (That's 10 regular points and 10 extra credit points.)
* 30 points = 6-7 clicks on Mark Reviewed buttons (That's 10 regular points and 20 extra credit points.)
* 40 points = 8-9 clicks on Mark Reviewed buttons (That's 10 regular points and 30 extra credit points.)
* 50 points = over 10 clicks on Mark Reviewed buttons (That's 10 regular points and 40 extra credit points.)