## Pacing\_yourself\_plus\_the\_difference\_between\_Due\_and\_Incentive\_Dates

You can see your Incentive Dates as a link in each Unit. The link is right above the Learning Quizzes folder.

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To **pace** yourself = “to establish a moderate or steady pace for (oneself)” – from *Merriam-Webster’s Online Dictionary*

Stacking of similar sounding items can help people compare:

* **Due** date = the**last** day you can do a quiz for **points**(Blackboard automatically closes the quiz at 11:55 PM on that date.)
* **Incentive** date = the date when I  record 1 point of extra credit if you completed a quiz with 80% or more of the questions right

Incentive dates are always:

* **earlier** than the due date
* **spread out** so you can **pace** yourself but be complete by the due date

**Guys, this is common sense.** When I had a bunch of stuff to do by a due date, especially on a tight schedule, I’d look at the calendar and spread the work out just the way I did with your incentive dates. I don’t assume something will be easy until I try it. I set a **pace** early and I follow it. If things are going slower than I hoped, I know I am likely to fail before I actually do fail so I can speed up my pace.

**Why the extra credit for keeping up with the Learning Quizzes in a Unit at a regular pace?**

* Research says learning is more successful that way.
* I’d rather reward you for pacing yourself than watch some of you fail.

**FYI:** If you want to wait until the end of Unit 1 to do these quizzes, then that is your business. You just will **not** get the extra credit.

Just to say the obvious, my putting:

* A 0 for a grade that is **extra credit**does **not** take away from your points
* A 1 for a grade to help you remember to pace yourself may help your future—and I want to help your future.

**Tip:** I had some students not understand the math issues in the bullets above. If you do not understand this, I am glad to help you.