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# Grading Made Easy(er)

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PIE Coffee Hour & Teaching  
Workshop Series

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# Workshop Objectives

1. Walk away with practical ideas on how to increase the efficiency and equitability of grading
2. Consider questions to ask yourself when creating assignments
3. Quick review of policies

# Grading Feelings -- Expressed in Haiku

**Write a haiku that reflects your feelings on grading.**

Review: a haiku is a short poem that is written in a 5-7-5 pattern

- 5 syllables in the first line
- 7 syllables in the second line
- 5 syllables in the third line

Example:

Bleary eyed, hands cramping  
Staring up at Mount Paper  
Is it break time yet?

# Getting to Know Each Other

Which of these best describes the discipline in which you teach?

- a) Natural Sciences/Math/Engineering
- b) Humanities/Fine Arts
- c) Social Sciences

# Getting to Know Each Other

Think of a fall course that you will be grading. How many students will be in the course?

- a) 15 or fewer
- b) 16-30
- c) 31-60
- d) 61-120
- e) 121 or more

# Getting to Know Each Other

Now think of an assignment in that course that will be challenging to grade.  
What kind of assignment is it?

- a) Test/exam
- b) Homework
- c) Paper
- d) Project
- e) Presentation
- f) Other

# Why Bother Grading?

- Feedback to students
- Feedback to instructors
- Evaluation
- Motivation
- Other reasons?

# Grading Challenges

What are some of the challenges associated with grading?

- Accuracy
- Fairness
- Time
- Grumpy students
- A focus on numbers/letters
- Others?



# Activity



# Activity

1. Grade the speech using the provided rubric
2. Compare the grades that you and the other people at the table assigned.
3. Discuss how you came up with your particular grade and come to a consensus among your tablemates.

# Different Types of Grading

- High stakes vs low stakes (formal vs informal)
- Letters
- Numbers
- Complete/Incomplete
- Check +, Check, Check -

# Equitable Grading

## Tips:

1. Grade in a good mood!
2. Use rubrics
3. Grade norming or calibration
4. Skim over assignments prior to grading
5. Grade the assignment, not the student
6. Review your work and the overall grades
7. Avoid a grading marathon

# Efficient Grading

## Tips:

1. Set clear expectations and guidelines
2. IOR - ask why the assignment and does it really need to be graded?
3. Grade with a timer
4. Use a comment bank or solution sheet
5. Less is more, or give deliberate comments
6. Make sure students are actually looking at comments
7. Set a grading schedule

# Don't Forget to Cover Your Butt

- Grading policies
  - What are your policies for grading turnaround time?
  - What about grade complaints?
  - How will you handle late assignments?
- FERPA rules - <https://registrar.fsu.edu/records/ferpa/>
  - Email
  - Returning papers
- Backup your gradebook - Canvas Support via Office of Distance Learning
  - Always have a backup of your grades and gradebook
  - Download your Canvas gradebook throughout the semester
- Academic honor policy - <https://fda.fsu.edu/academic-resources/academic-integrity-and-grievances/academic-honor-policy>
  - Prevent plagiarism issues by reviewing the academic honor policy with your students