

General Report Grading Guideline for ECE426 TAs

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This document serves as quick guide for fair grading and less subjectivity. It should be consulted by both students and TAs when writing/grading reports. It could be used as a quick checklist for things we look for in any report. This guideline assumes a report grade of five for all reports and is written in accordance with the Report Guidelines Document (Ver 2.0). Students should always satisfy the requirements detailed in that document.

This checklist is for reference only. It is in no way a complete list. **Satisfying all items in the list does not guarantee you a full grade.** It only helps you avoid common mistakes and achieve a better grade. There are many technical details to be evaluated by the TAs and they differ per experiment.

| Report Format | 1 |
|--|-------|
| No or wrong pagination, paragraph justification, spacing and professional fonts ** | -0.15 |
| No or wrong section numbering, subsections, equation numbering, inconsistent table or figure numbering ** | -0.15 |
| No references at all | -0.2 |
| <i>Improper references, that is either its format under the reference section is wrong, or the way it was referred to in text is wrong</i> | -0.1 |
| Report is presented as a personal rather than technical story | -0.2 |
| Table name on top of table, figure caption below figure, should be referenced in text and as close as possible to the paragraph it relates to ** | -0.1 |
| Judging the quality, clarity and correctness of the figure, table, FSM, flowchart... etc. | -0.1 |
| ** (if any is wrong, loses all mark) | |
| If students do not meet the expectations below, they risk losing up to the total mark of the section If the total deducted marks exceed the assigned mark of the section, only the assigned mark is deducted. | |
| Abstract | 0.5 |
| Expectation: concise summary of the purpose of the report, the data presented, and the author's major conclusions. Check Details in Report Writing Guidelines | |
| Abstract too long, more than one paragraph. <i>Should be shortest section of all report</i> | -0.1 |
| Problem Statement | 0.5 |
| Expectation: detailed specification of the problem to be solved Check Details in Report Writing Guidelines | |
| Implementation details, codes, solutions, they do not belong here | -0.05 |
| Theory and Hypothesis | 1.5 |
| Expectation: detailing everything related to the science and theory behind the experiment | |

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| stating the relevant equations, diagrams. Provide a short summary of what the student thinks is going to happen during the experiment. Check Details in Report Writing Guidelines | |
| Missing theory sections | -0.2 per section |
| Missing Hypothesis | -0.1 |
| Implementation | 1.5 |
| Expectation: reporting how student managed to solve what was presented in the problem statement. Design details and modeling (FSM, flowcharts ... etc.). System/peripheral configuration should go here as well as justification. Alternatives, tuning, trial and error? Check Details in Report Writing Guidelines | |
| Long code snippets, copy/paste or screenshots of codes | -0.1 |
| No justification of the choice of peripheral configuration | -0.2 |
| Vague timing (i.e. sampling / interrupt frequency) or presenting it in HEX instead of proper timing units | -0.1 |
| Testing and Observations | 1.5 |
| Expectation: How the student tested and validated the system? What were the metrics used? Why were they chosen? Should describe how you performed your observations. Discuss the experiment's results. Should mention if these were the results expected or not. If not, how far were they off the mark? Etc .. Check Details in Report Writing Guidelines | |
| No description of the procedure of how the results were obtained | -0.5 |
| No discussion of results, only listing them | -0.5 |
| Missing visual aids in presenting results (graphs, tables ... etc) | -0.5 |
| Conclusion | 0.5 |
| Expectation: brief summary of the experiment. Conclusion should be very similar to the abstract, except with more emphasis on the design and results of your experiment Check Details in Report Writing Guidelines | |
| Conclusion is too long spanning three or more big paragraphs | -0.1 |
| No emphasis on results | -0.05 |
| Saying that the results is that the student learnt how to program or do something | -0.1 |

Ver 1.2 (Sept. 2013) Modified grading to be out of 7 instead of 5. Removed Challenges requirement as students lost so many marks on that previously.