

Rin Pereira

The concept of ungrading is to allow students to self-evaluate themselves accurately in order to receive their grade for assessments. It applies to my exams and work for this course since I must evaluate myself before receiving my final grade on an exam. The professor or TA will be grading it beforehand and will give me feedback in order for me to provide my evaluation of my own grade. In comparison to the TA or professor's grade, my grade will be calculated based on how accurately I score myself to the same as my professor or TA's. If it is within range of their grading, I will receive extra points, otherwise I will lose points.

Some potential benefits for me would be focusing on my strengths and weaknesses, especially in an exam format. I would also need to focus more on how I write out my answers and how accurate they are, especially for proof questions or short-answer questions where my thinking is displayed in an answer.

Some drawbacks would be that exams that I do not perform as well on are more devastating, not evaluating myself accurately, and being bad at self-assessment. I feel like I would be more emotionally-impacted if I got a poor grade and then had to evaluate it in detail. Otherwise, I would feel like I would not be able to assess myself properly just since I know that I can usually do better, especially after exams. In addition, since I have never taken a course that uses this fundamental for grading, I feel like I would be sort of rusty at evaluating answers for this course, let alone my own. However, I did do something similar in high school in a AP course where we had to complete questions and for each option for a multiple choice question, we had to write a paragraph as to why or why not it was the answer. I know this is not as tedious as that, but it does remind me of how in-depth you had to know the subject and historical context in order to fully understand what you were writing about and it definitely helped, but also made me overthink my answer.

I hope to gain more confidence in my answers and really understand why I did or did not get something correct. Since I am retaking this course, I think it would help me a lot if the professor or TA gave feedback since that was not as involved the last time I took this course. I feel like a way to measure my personal goals would be obviously my grade, but also how confident I am able to explain my answer and how confident I feel in going into an exam where I will be expected to evaluate myself.

I plan to be successful in this course by practicing my skills everyday, acknowledging my weaknesses and strengths in this course, and studying

with another classmate in order to ensure that I have a solid foundation of what is occurring and being taught in class. I definitely know I will have to spend more time on proofs and understanding those concepts. Otherwise, I can evaluate that as the course progresses. I feel like last semester I was in a bit of a haze about what I was good at or bad at and since I felt super overwhelmed with the amount of topics and proofs and practice problems, I never could really tell which topics I was really struggling with and which ones I could sort of do. I have a few classmates that I would study with who also have previously taken this course, so I would probably just do practice problems with them and also talk through proofs.

Some of the challenges for this course for me will be taking the time to evaluate myself in such a specific manner, really pushing myself to fully understand the mathematical proofs in this course, and learning how to communicate feedback about my own work for a grade.

In terms of information to know about me, I would mention that I have taken this course last semester and it was very difficult for me since I took it asynchronously and there was so much content. But, what I have seen so far, the content is much more digestible in a real-life sense with lectures and practice. The lectures seem very engaging so far and I can actually see myself enjoying the course knowing that other people are struggling with the same concepts as me.