

About

This program is used to calculate your GPA (Grade Point Average) based on your micromarks. It is designed to be easy to use, versatile, and reliable. It has save feature which means through out the year as you get new assignments and grades, you can keep updating your marks with out having to re-enter everything. It uses a tree structure to calculate you grade, each tree branch represents a category of marks or sub mark, each leaf represents a micro-grade (or an Item).

This program is designed primarily for Western University Students (Other grading system will be implemented if there is enough demand)

• IMPORTANT NOTE: Do not use spaces or special characters for Course, Category, or Item names as it will corrupt the save file when you save it, the only special character that is allowed is the underscore "_" and dash "-".

1. How To Add A Course

Description:

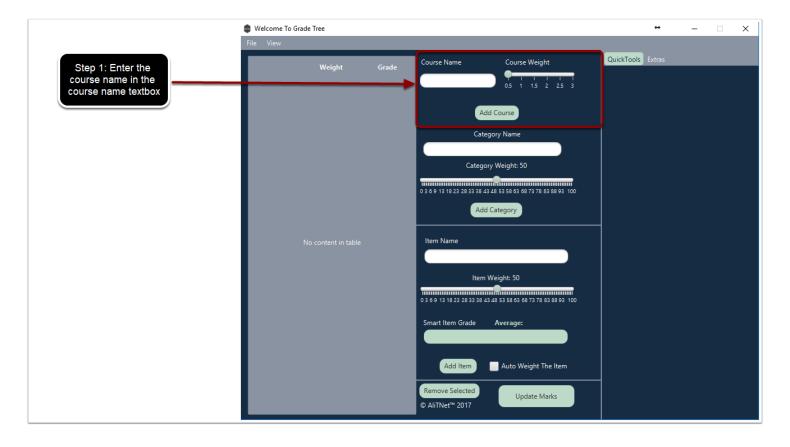
When you add a course, you are adding a new root to the grade tree, a course does not have a "parent" node.

Later on when we discuss adding categories and items, you can see that they must have parent node, either the parent node can be another category or item, as well as a course.

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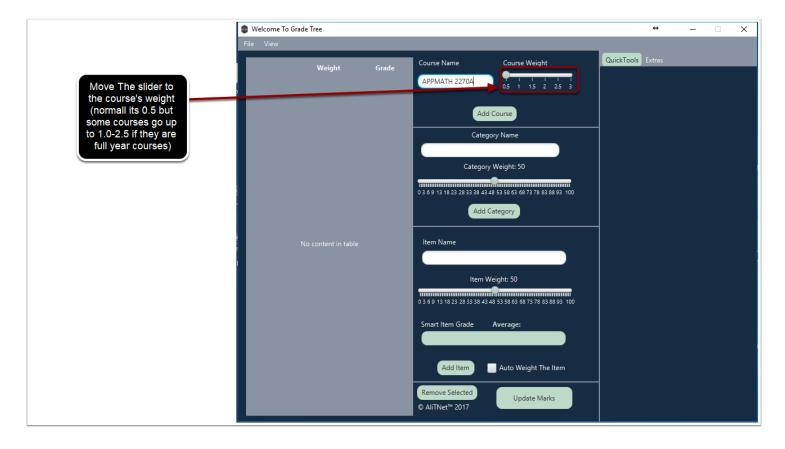


1.1 Entering Course Name



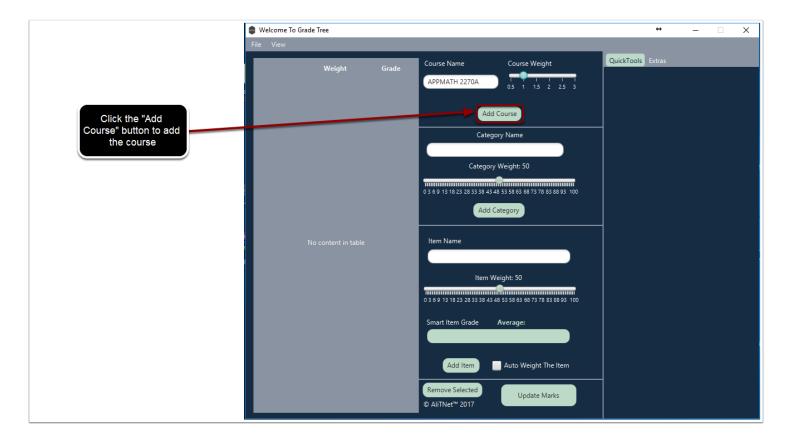


1.2 Entering Course Weight



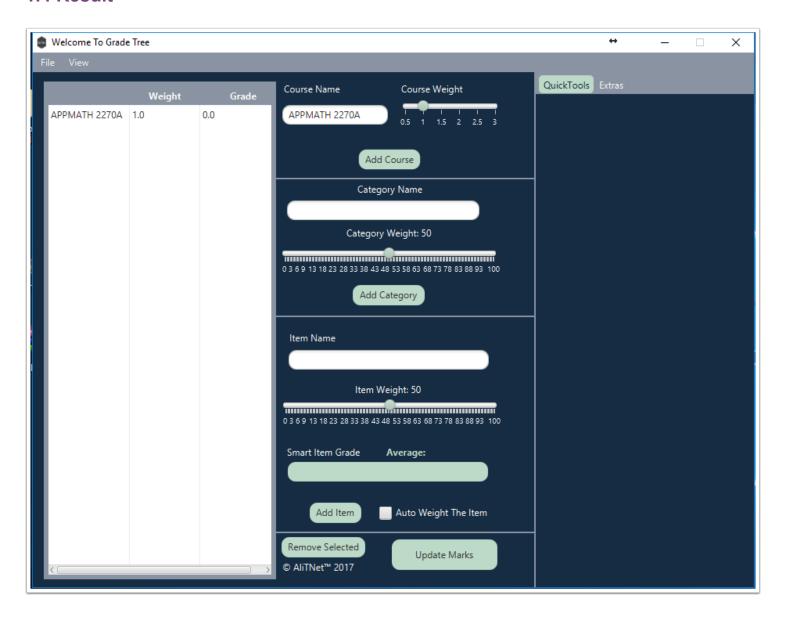


1.3 Add the course





1.4 Result



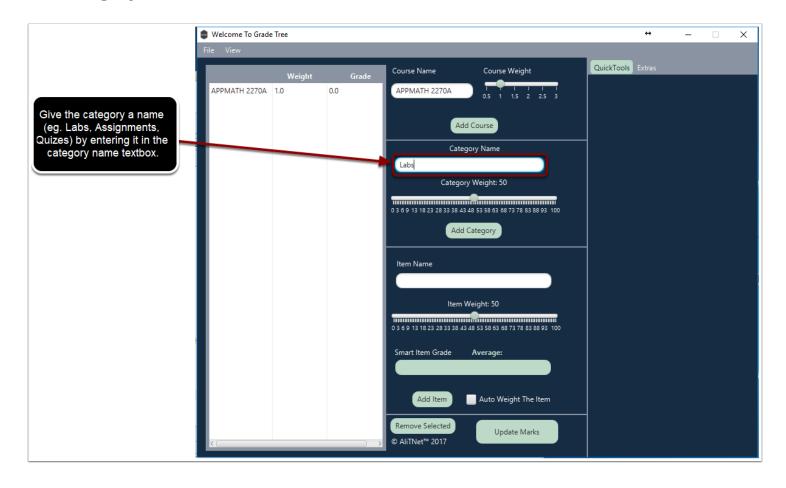


2. How to Add A Category

- Categories are things like assignments, quizzes and labs where they have a total weight equal
 to a fraction of a course.
- Each category can have an arbitrary number of items, for example you may be a lab category in the course with 5 labs, and an assignment category in the same course with 12 assignments.
- Categories can be nested which means you can have a sub-category of a category for example, you can have a category named "assignments", and this category can have sub categories for example "oral_assignments" and "written_assignments". In this document the words "Parent Category" and "Parent Item" are used. They mean, respectively, the category and item which the subject inherits from. For example, the parent category of "oral_assignments" and "written_assignment" is the category "assignment".
- IMPORTANT NOTE: Do not use spaces or special characters for Course, Category, or Item names as it will corrupt the save file when you save it, the only special character that is allowed is the underscore "_" and dash "-".

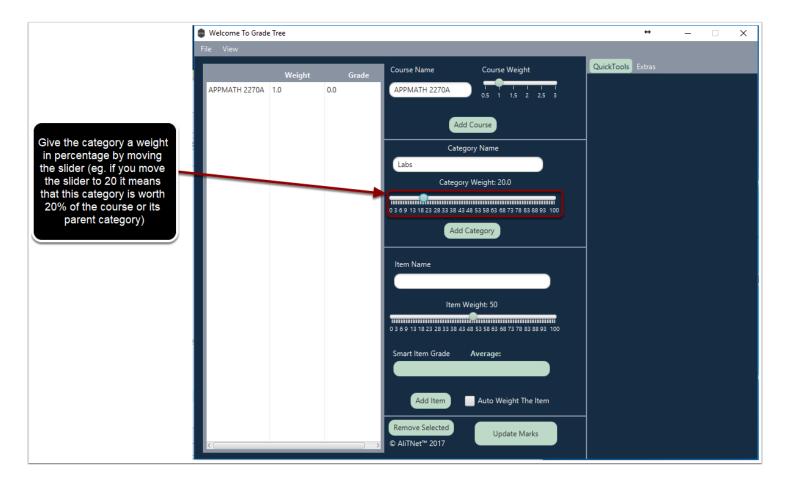


2.1 Category Name





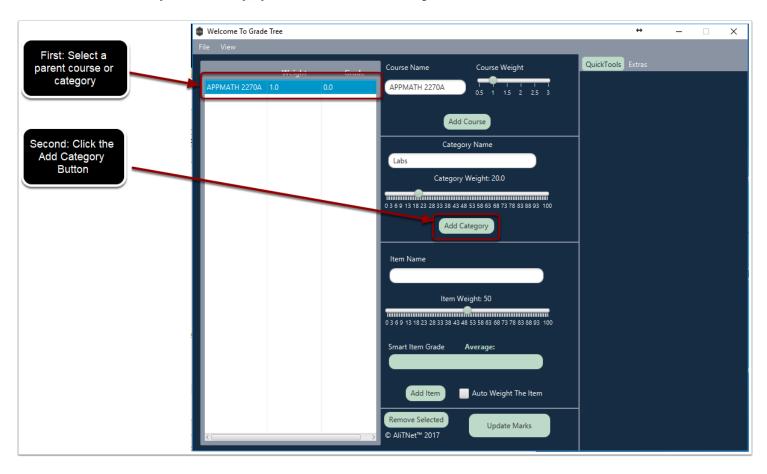
2.2 Category Weight





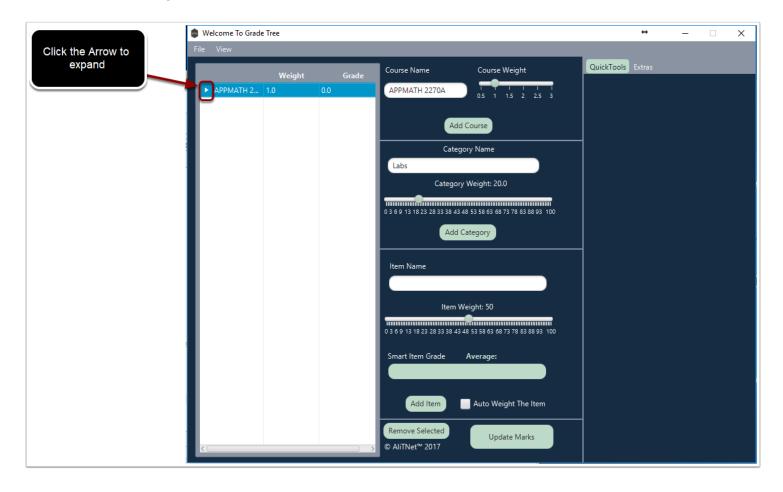
2.3 Adding the category

Note: This is an important step, please follow carefully or desired results will not ensue.



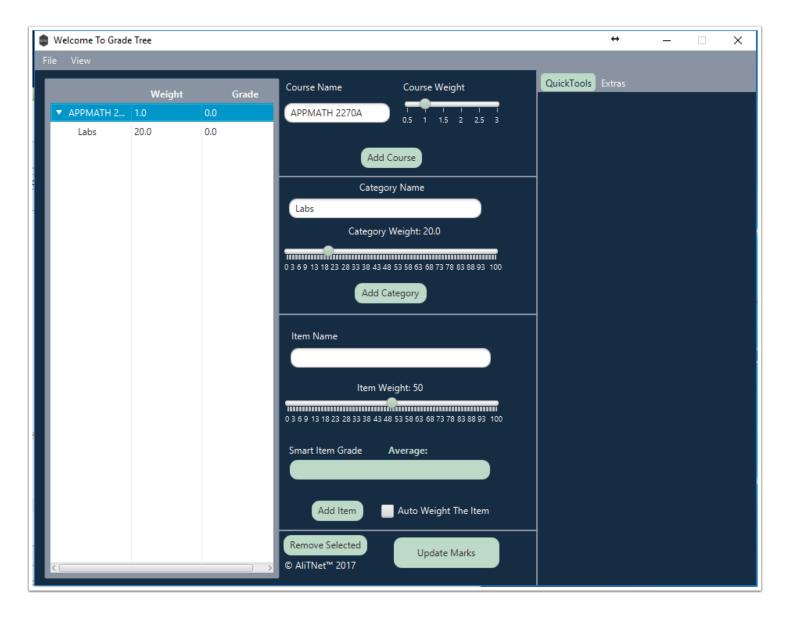


2.4.1 How To Expand The Course





2.4.2 Result



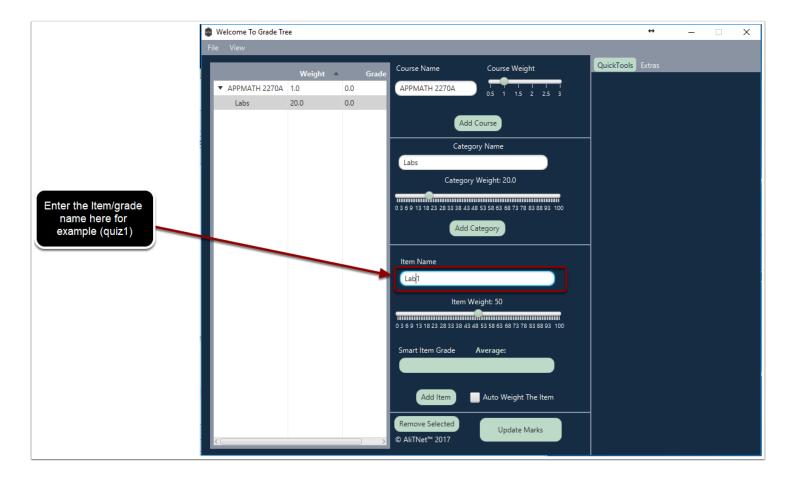


3 How to Add an Item (Grade)

- Items are your individual assignment/lab/quiz/midterm/final grades.
- Each category can have an arbitrary number of sub items, for example you may be a lab category in the course with 5 labs, and an assignment category in the same course with 12 assignments.
- Items can be nested which means you can have a sub-Items of an Item for example, you
 just wrote a quiz, lets call it "quiz1". This quiz had two parts, a multiple choice and a
 written, then you can have a sub-item for that quiz named "MC" and another one for
 "Written".
- In this document the words "Parent Item" is used. It means the item which the subject inherits from. For example, the parent category of "MC" and "Written" is the category "quiz1".
- IMPORTANT NOTE: Do not use spaces or special characters for Course, Category, or Item names as it will corrupt the save file when you save it, the only special character that is allowed is the underscore "_" and dash "-".

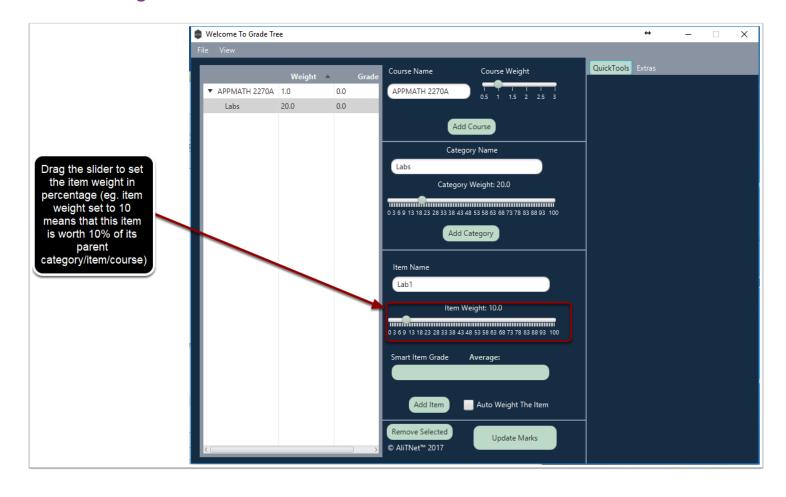


3.1 Item Name



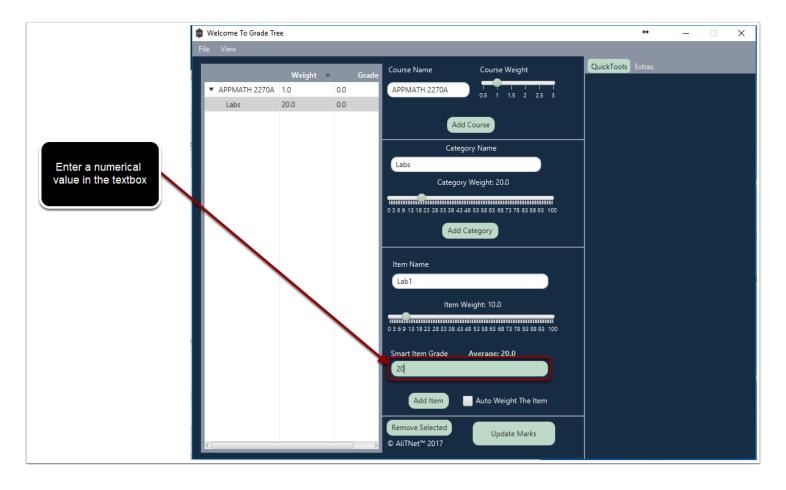


3.2 Item Weight





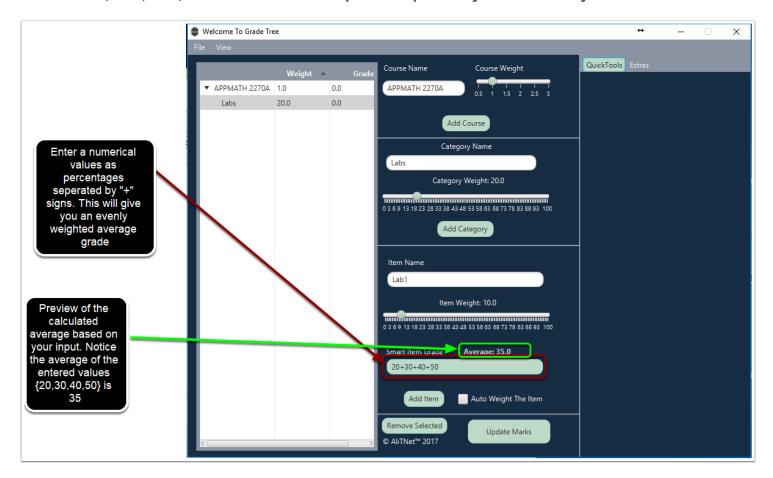
3.3.1 How to enter basic grade in the Smart Item Grade text-box





3.3.2 How to Enter unbiased (even) grades in the Smart Item Grade

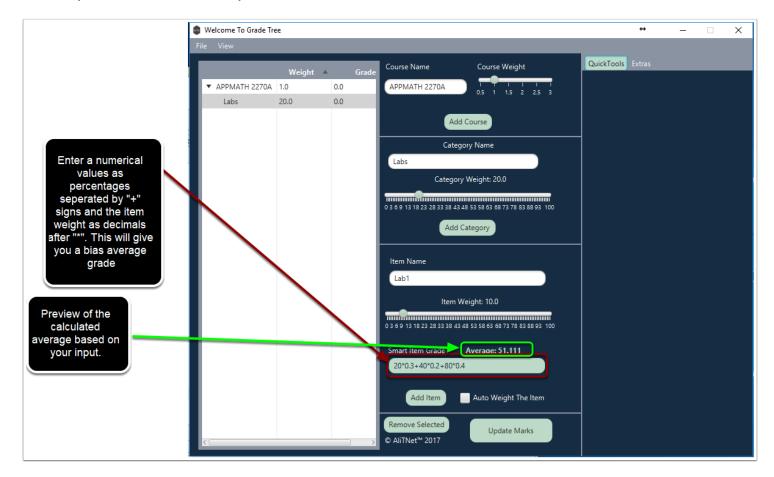
- Note: unbiased average means that all the items in the text-box have the same weight, or the weight is evenly distributed among the items.
- This is an easy way to get your sub total of an assignment or an exam which has multiple parts or sub parts. For example, you wrote a quiz and it had 4 equal parts, you got 20%,30%,40%,50% in each of those parts respectively. This is how you would enter it:





3.3.3 How to Enter Bias Average (un-even)

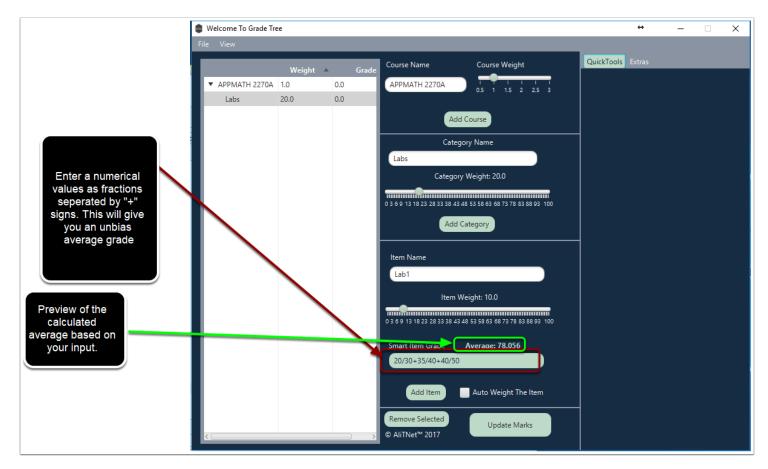
- Note: a bias average means that each individual item in the text-box has different weights defined by the number after the "*" signs.
- This is an easy way to enter your marks but give each one a weight. Lets say you wrote another quiz in geography, it had a multiple choice part but it was worth 30% and you got 20% in it, (you would enter 20*0.3). It had a short answer part it and you got 40% in it, but it was worth only 20% of the quiz (you would enter 40*0.2). Finally, did quit well on the long answer part and managed to get an 80, and lucky for you, it was worth 40% of the quiz (so you would enter 80*0.4). Now you are not quit sure where the rest of the quiz mark went as there is still 10% left, but fear not as the Smart Item Grade will re-adjust the weighting to ignore the missing 10%. This is how you would enter your quiz mark's parts (20*0.3+40*0.2+80*0.4):





3.3.4 How to enter grades as fractions (un-bias average)

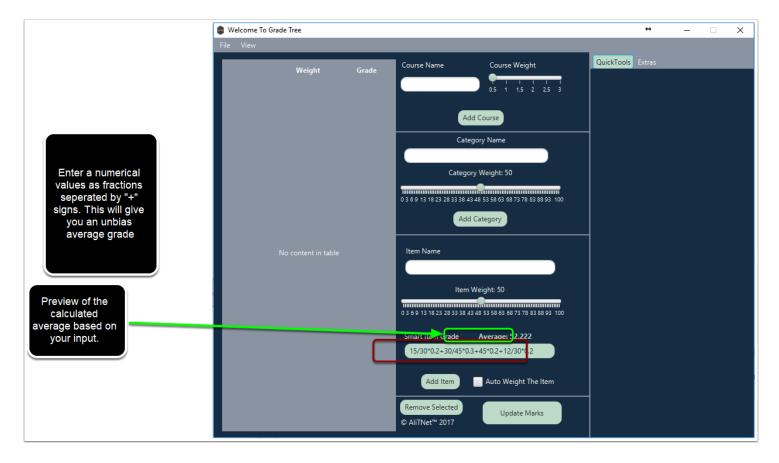
- Who has time to calculate their grades from fractions and enter them here, I don't, so here is how you can enter you grades as fractions here and save some number crunching.
- Lets say you wrote another quiz, this time in Calculus. But you are not too good at math and you can't convert proper fractions to decimals in your head. Lo and Behold Grade tree's Smart Item Grade is here to save your butt, just enter your marks as you see them. So lets say you got 20/30 in the first part of the quiz, 35/40 in the second part, and 40/50 in the last part. Just enter them like that separated by plus signs ("+") and the magic box will tell you the average.





3.3.5 Mix and Match!

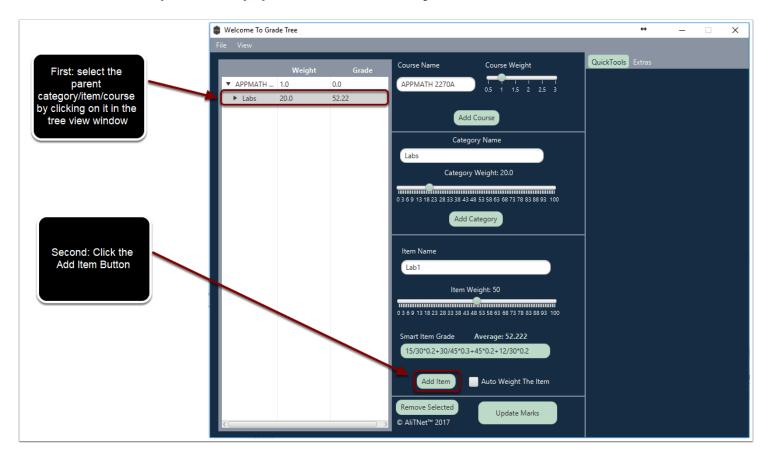
• You can mix any previous steps together to get an average, this is the "smart" part of the Smart Item Grade, it knows how to handle your crazy use cases.





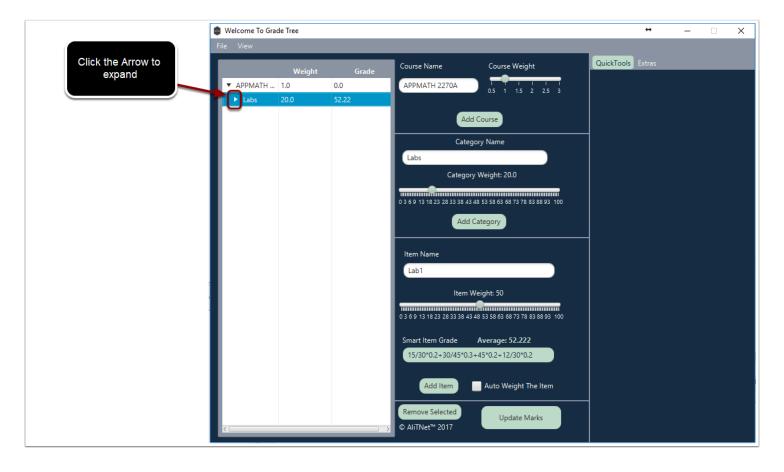
3.4 Adding Item

Note: This is an important step, please follow carefully or desired results will not ensue.



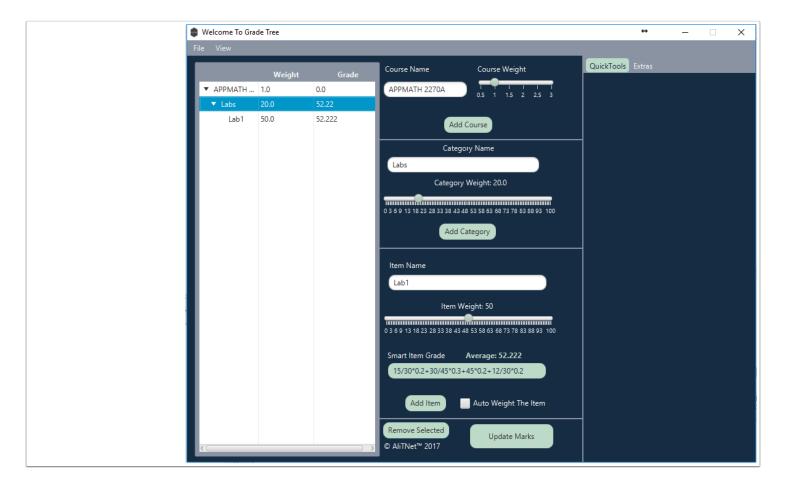


3.5.1 How to Expand Category/Item



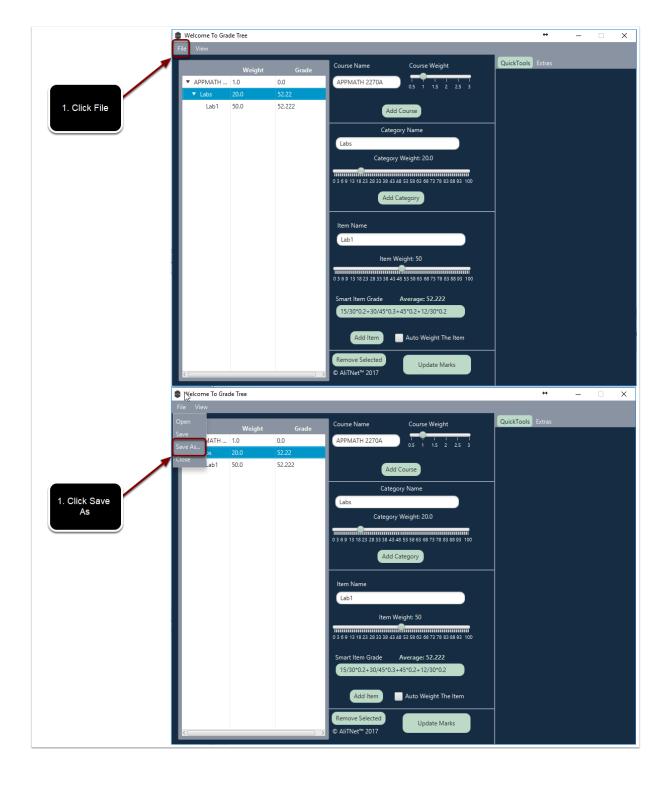


3.5.2 Result





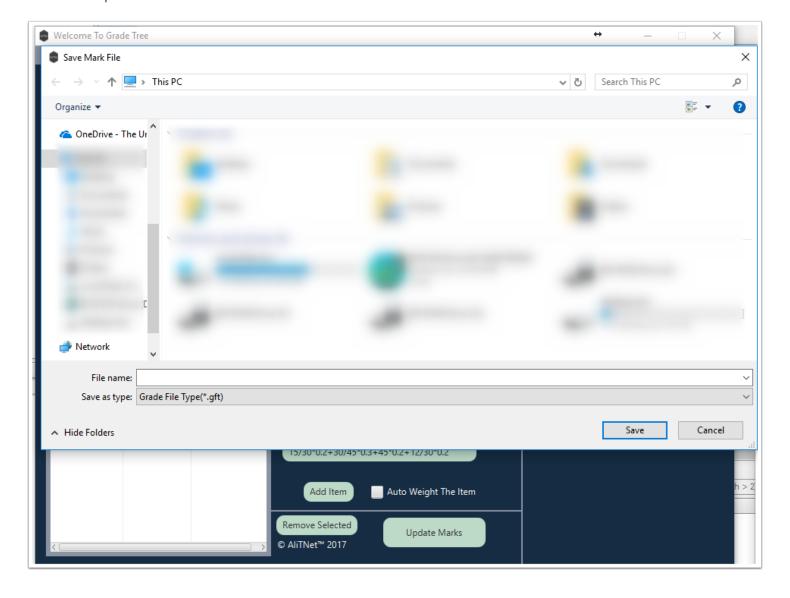
4 How To Save your grades (no put intended)





4.1 How to use Save As Dialog

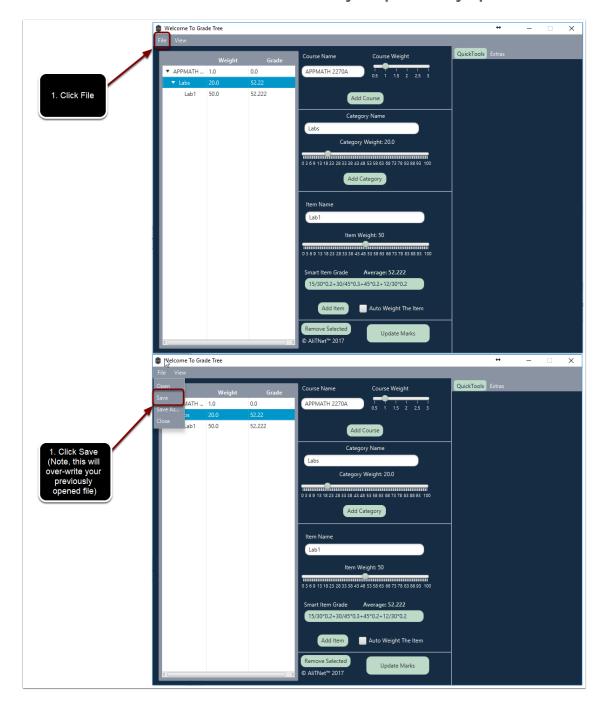
- Step 1. Choose a location
- Step 2. Enter Enter a file name (do not enter extension as it will be done automatically)
- · Step 3. Click Save





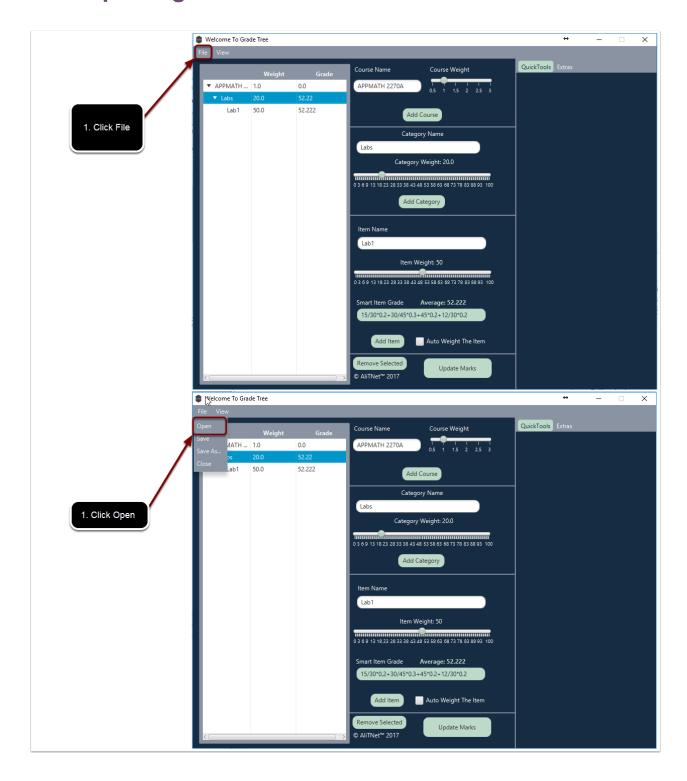
4.2 How To Save

• NOTE: Be careful as this button will over write your previously opened file.





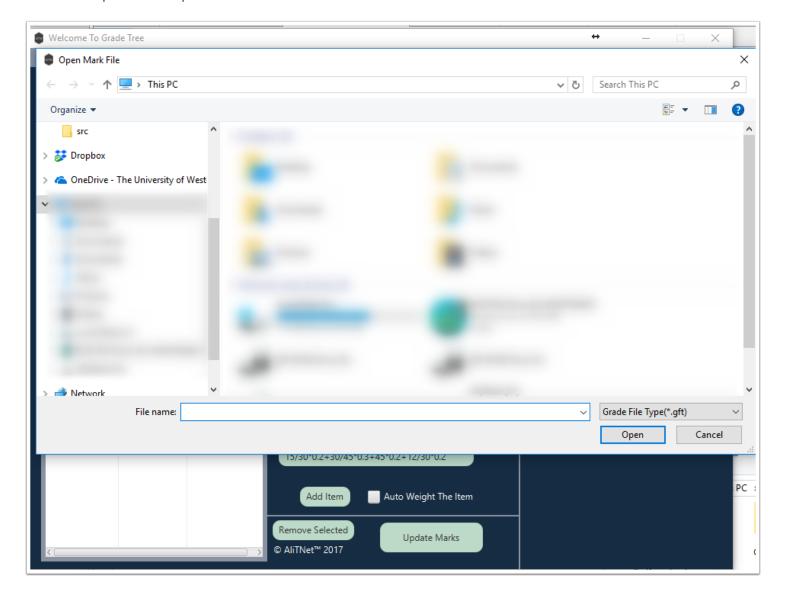
5 How to Open a grade book





How to use Open File Dialog

- Step 1. Choose a file (NOTE: It must be Grade File Type or .gtf file)
- · Step 3. Click open



Grade Tree V2.0

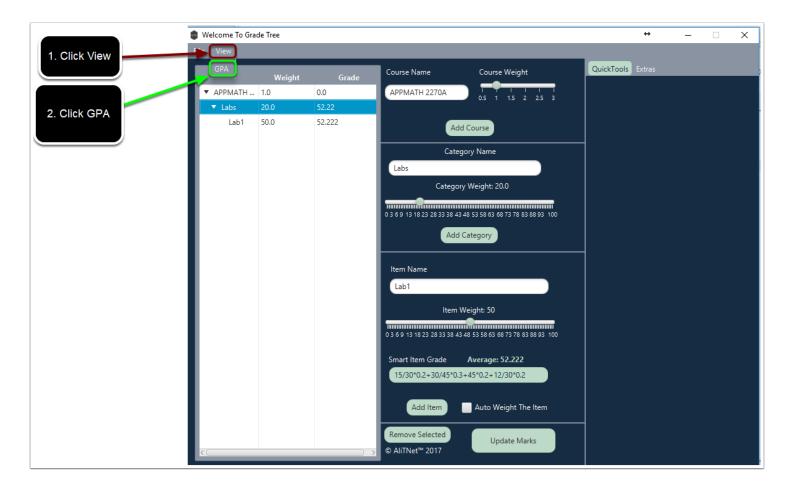


6. View Your GPA

This option lets you view your grade point average in three different formats.



6.1 View Menu

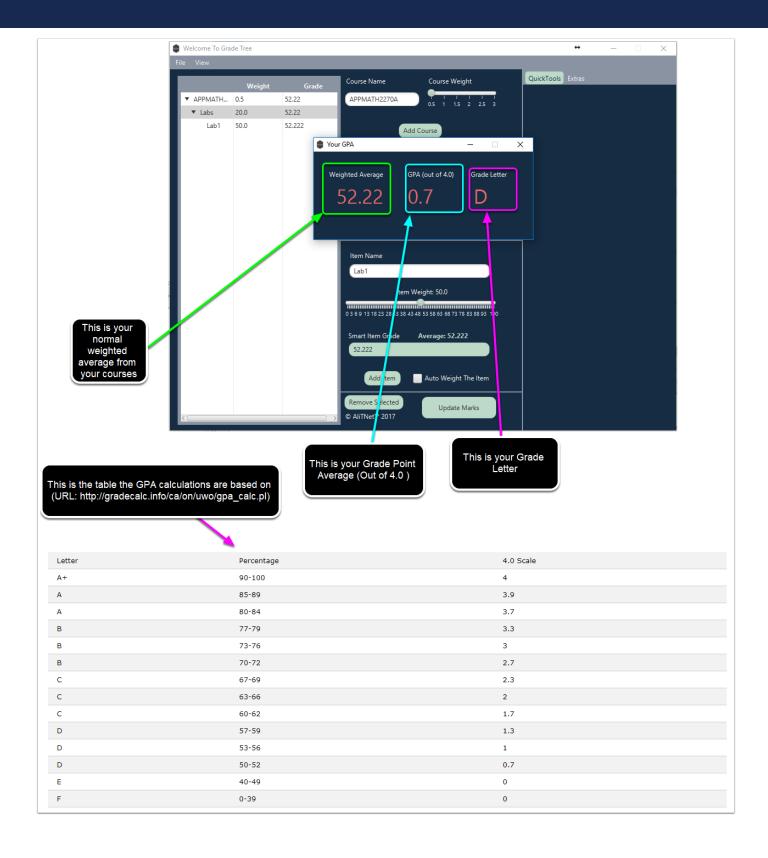


Grade Tree V2.0



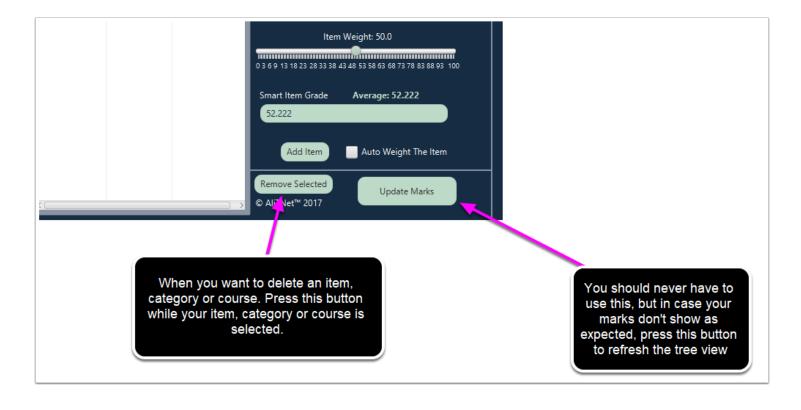
6.2 GPA Form







8. Additional Functionality

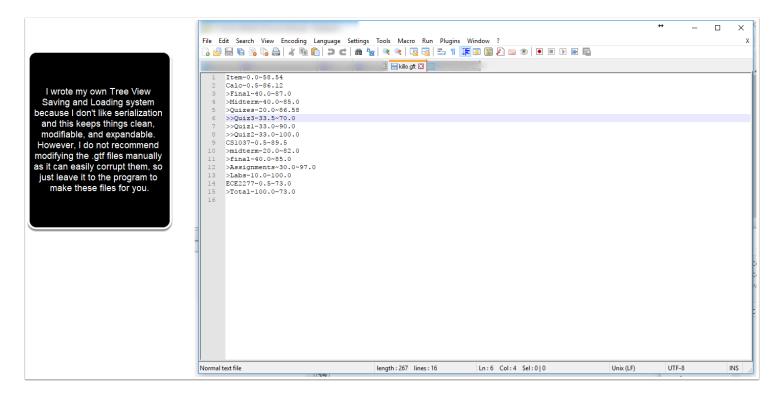




7. For the Morbidly Curious

Question: What is in the save file

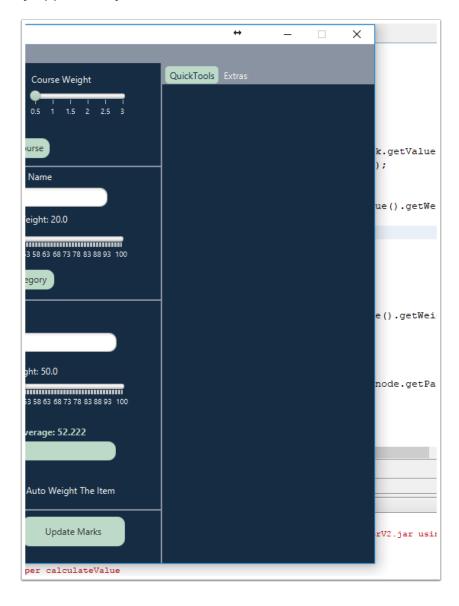
Answer: Let me show you!





9. Future Upgrades

This is part of the program is a place holder for future expansion, please note this program is still in alpha and I would really appreciate your feed back on what to add to this to make it better.



Grade Tree V2.0



10. Final Notes

I hope this program serves you well, if you experience any bugs please send me a screen shot with a description and I will try my best to fix it.

Thank You!