Remarks on Grading Policy and Conventions in Sho's Grading

This document outlines the grading policies for exams, quizzes, and assignments in Sho's lecture courses at National Sun Yat-sen University (NSYSU). These policies apply only to Sho's courses and not to those of other faculty members.

Overview

The grading policy for Sho's courses at NSYSU should follow the university regulation[1]. The method of calculating the final grade is stated in the syllabus ("Administrative Information") of each course, which is designed with the following standards:

- **A+** for "performance gone beyond Sho's expectation",
- **B−** for "partial achievement of the lecture goals with some shortcomings", and
- **C−** for "achievement of the minimum lecture goals but with major shortcomings".

> ♯**1:** https://regs.nsysu.edu.tw/rule/rul_vie?rul=20190816111934

Policy on the return of answer sheets

In principle, Sho will not return answer sheets of mini tests, quizzes, or exams. This is because Sho believes that returning exam sheets does not improve students' learning:

- Sho wants students to develop as independent thinkers, not to rely on the "truth" given by authority. Hence, Sho does not want to give them "correct answers."

- Returning answer sheets consumes significant time of Sho, but does not improve student learning. Even if Sho returns the answer sheets, students usually focus only on their scores, not on the content. Motivated students review exams regardless of whether sheets are returned, while unmotivated students do not review in either case.

- The primary purpose of exams is to evaluate achievement, not to provide feedback or promote further learning. If students need advice or feedback, they should ask before the exam.

- According to NSYSU regulations, faculty are not required to return answer sheets.

However, the following cases are exceptions:

- For a "mini test", which is designed for Sho to provide feedback on student answers, rather than to evaluate achievement. Sho will give feedback comments so that students can recognize shortcomings in their discussion and writing.

- In fall-semester lectures targeting first-year students, who are still "kids" in their first semester and not yet mature enough to behave as independent thinkers.

- After an exam, if a student reworks it, produces revised answers, and submits them during an in-person meeting (e.g., office hours).

Mark Style

Sho's feedback on your answers will be given using the following mark style:

$\bigcirc$: correct
ⓢ : correct but mishandling of significant figures.
$\times$: incorrect
$\triangle$: partial mark (with a number $n \to n$折)[#2].

ACCEPT: a problematic answer but accepted as a correct answer.

| UM | : unit missing
| UE | : unit handling error
| UD | : unit duplication
| DM | : direction missing
| DE | : direction error
| Dir | : direction missing/error
| VE | : vector handling error
| Exp | : insufficient explanation
| Calc | : calculation error

underline ending with $\lrcorner$: correct claim for partial mark
underline ending with a number : correct claim for partial mark indicated by the number
underline ending with $\times$: incorrect claim

wavy underline : critical issue (usually it leads you to a wrong answer)
purple marker   : English issue (tolerated)
yellow marker   : minor issue (tolerated)

(Sample: For a two-second free fall of a 5 kg object, find the final kinetic energy and average speed.)

Since it reach the ground at t=2.0s, the height in t=0 is
$$h = \frac{1}{2}gt^2 = 19.6\text{m}$$
and the average sped is
$$19.6/2.0 = 9.8\,\text{m/s.} \quad +0.3$$
The kinetic energy at t=2.0s is
$$K = \frac{1}{2}mgh = \frac{5.0\,\text{kg} \cdot 9.8\,\text{m/s}^2 \cdot 19.6\,\text{m}}{2} = 420\,\text{J.}$$

♯2: For $1 \le n \le 9$, (full mark) $\times$ 0.1n. For $10 \le n \le 99$, (full mark) $\times$ 0.01n.