

## Evaluation Criteria for Student Performance

*The following outline should help you understand my expectations. The criteria and structure has been modified from Dr. Denise Knight's handout, "Understanding Grades" which was in turn based on a system developed by Prof. John. H. Williams, Pepperdine U.*

### **"A" Student – Superior Performance**

#### Attendance

"A" students maintain nearly perfect attendance. Their commitment to class is obvious.

#### Preparation

"A" students prepare for class not only by reading the assigned material, but also by thinking about it. In this way, they are able to effectively engage the material in the appropriate context for the course.

#### Participation

"A" students show interest in the material and the class. They consistently ask provocative questions or make thoughtful comments.

#### Retention

"A" students have retentive minds and are able to connect past learning with the present. They are able to apply background material and context to current readings and assignments.

#### Attitude

"A" students have a positive attitude toward learning. They are self-disciplined, determined, and take initiative.

#### Performance

"A" students have exceptional intelligence and insight, usually evidenced by performance on exams and papers. Their written work is well-developed, well-argued or presented, sophisticated, often original, a pleasure to read.

### **"B" Student – Strong Performance**

#### Attendance

"B" students use typically one or two of their excuse absences. Their commitment to class is good, but sometimes inconsistent.

#### Preparation

"B" students almost always read assigned material on time, but sometimes haven't thought about it adequately.

#### Participation

"B" students often show interest in the material and in the class, but inconsistently. They frequently make interesting questions or make thoughtful comments.

#### Retention

"B" students retain much of the material and are usually able to connect past learning with the present.

#### Attitude

"B" students usually have a positive attitude about learning. They possess a fair amount of self-discipline, initiative, and determination, but are sometimes inconsistent in exercising these attributes.

#### Performance

"B" students usually have high intelligence and insight, but don't always exhibit these attributes in obvious ways. Their written work is usually strong, but it falls short of excellence.

## **“C” Student – Average and Generally Acceptable Performance**

### Attendance

“C” students typically use all of their allowable absences.

### Preparation

“C” students usually read their assignments, but often without much critical thought or reflection.

### Participation

“C” students voice interest in the material or the class inconsistently. They occasionally ask interesting questions or make thoughtful comments.

### Retention

“C” students retain an adequate amount of the material and have mixed success in making connections between assignments.

### Attitude

“C” students participate without much enthusiasm or engagement. Their body language often expresses boredom and disinterest.

### Performance

Some “C” students may have exceptional ability, but exhibit poor work habits, including carelessness. Others may work diligently, but simply have average ability in this particular subject matter. As a result, “C” students often obtain mediocre results on tests and papers. They are often unable or unwilling to meet the demands of high-level performance.

**“D” Student – Minimally Acceptable Performance**, except for CPN 100 and 101 (Academic Writing) for which a C- is the minimally acceptable grade and for which separate evaluation criteria are established.

### Attendance

“D” students typically exceed the allowable number of absences; additionally, they often arrive late to class and have a variety of excuses to explain their excessive absences or latenesses.

### Preparation

“D” students may read their assignments, but they engage the material superficially, not intellectually. They often hand in work late or incomplete.

### Participation

“D” students rarely express interest in the material or in the class. They seldom ask interesting questions or make thoughtful comments.

### Retention

“D” students retain little of the required material and generally have difficulty reading and thinking critically.

### Attitude

“D” students rarely participate the class discussions and generally convey a poor attitude toward learning and the classroom.

### Performance

“D” students usually perform only fairly in class. They usually earn poor grades on papers and tests.

**“E” Student – Not acceptable**

The “E” student fails to perform adequately in all or most of the above areas.