Exam Grading Policy

Complaints about exam grading occasionally arise. Sometimes they stem from routine sources such as incorrect addition of point totals or the failure to locate relevant work. More frequently, students feel that insufficient credit was awarded for partially correct solutions. The evaluation of partial credit is, to some degree, a subjective matter on which people may differ. The uniform mechanism for registering grading complaints in this course, regardless of their basis, is stated below.

On or before the announced deadline for a particular examination, the exam paper should be returned with an attached sheet detailing the complaint to the box for that purpose outside Room 303 Burke. If additional credit is being sought for a partially correct answer, it is useful to describe the scientific basis for the claim of underevaluation; a simple expression of felt injustice is inadequate. It should be emphasized that the re-evaluation mechanism is designed to correct major injustices rather than to open each fine shade of judgment to negotiation; concerns over a point or two of partial credit will rarely be considered.

The grading of the problems, or portions of problems in question will be reviewed from scratch. If a student is dissatisfied with the re-evaluation of the grade, which is final, the student is encouraged to seek further clarification of the decision in person.

Any addition, deletion, or other changes to the exam before submission for regrading is a clear violation of the Honor Principle.