

Course Policies

Attendance

Students are strongly encouraged to attend lectures and discussion sections. During sections, your TA will review material presented in lecture and clarify questions that may arise as you study your notes and the book. Section attendance is highly encouraged, but not mandatory. There will be self-graded weekly quizzes. The TAs will not record the score, but we will record if they were taken. If you take all of the quizzes, we will bump your grade up if you are on the borderline. In addition, feedback from the TA is taken into account for students with borderline grades.

Time spent on this course

In addition to attending lectures, the typical student should anticipate devoting approximately 15 hours per week to this course. One of Mendel's lesser known laws: the more time spent outside of class studying, the better you will do in the class.

Grading

Grades will be based on one midterm and a final exam. The midterm counts for 40% of your grade. The final counts for 60% of your grade. The final will cover material presented after the material covered on the midterm. However understanding concepts covered in the first half of the course are necessary for understanding concepts covered in the second half of the course. If you perform significantly better on the final than the midterm we weight the final more heavily. To minimize competition between students, grades will not be based on a curve. The following general guidelines will be used to assign grades:

A = 85-100% B = 72-84% C = 60-72% D = 50-59% F = 0-49%

As described above, section attendance and input from your TA will also be considered in borderline cases. I will say more about this during lecture

Make-up exams

Make-up exams will only be given in exceptional circumstances with the approval of the instructor. Students who are unable to take an exam (or arrive late for the exam) may be required to take an alternative oral exam at a later date. The final exam will not be given early to accommodate a student's travel plans.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Individuals who cheat, commit plagiarism, provide false information about missed exams; or submit altered material for re-grading will receive a zero for the entire assignment; a grade of F or NP in the course; and will be subject to further disciplinary action by the University. Don't risk your future by cheating in this (or any other) course!

Students with Disabilities

UC Santa Cruz is committed to creating an academic environment that supports its diverse student body. If you are a student with a disability who requires accommodations to fully participate and succeed in this course, please submit your Accommodation Authorization Letter from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to Professor Tamkun privately, preferably within the first week of the quarter. At this time, we can discuss ways to ensure your full participation and success in the course. For additional information about support and accommodations for students with disabilities and learning differences, please contact the [DRC \(Links to an external site.\)](#) by phone at 459-2089 or by email at drc@ucsc.edu.