

## Grades on the First Exam.

Forty-six people took the exam. The high was 96 and the low was 13. The average was 61; the median (half the scores above, half below) was 64. The cutoffs for the various grades are shown in the table; they do vary slightly from exam to exam, but are never higher than announced on the course syllabus. I also indicate the percent of the class that received each letter grade.

Grade	Range	Number	Percent of class
A	84–100	5	10.9%
B+	80–83	5	
B	74–79	8	28.3%
C+	70–73	3	
C	60–69	9	26.0%
D	54–59	3	6.5%
F	0–53	12	26.0%

If you did poorly ask yourself the questions enumerated below. Keep in mind that the last day to drop the class with a W is Monday, February 21.

1. How many classes have you missed? (Remember that 5 or more absences drops your final grade by half a letter grade; 7 or more absences drops it a full letter grade.)
2. When reading assignments are made do you do them? Do you start on problems before class or do you wait until someone shows you how to do them?
3. How much of the homework have you seriously attempted? When you have not understood how to do a problem what have you done about it?
4. In class, do you participate fully? Do you review the notes and complete the partly worked problems after class?
5. Have you sought help from the instructor outside of class?
6. Do you have a study partner or group?
7. Do you study the quizzes and their solutions, and the worksheets and their solutions, until you can get them perfect?
8. How many hours do you spend on the course each week, outside of class? (Six hours absolute minimum is expected; I'd be surprised if you can do well with less than eight to ten.)