

Dear Students,

I tried to grade questions consistently, but grading is not a science: It is conceivable that I took off more points from one person than another person who made a similar mistake. I do not wish to haggle over grades, but I am more than happy to explain the solutions to any student.

Regrettably, no students took advantage of my office hours before (or after) the exam to ask questions about the course material. I am available to answer any questions you might have in advance of the next exam. You have my email address and telephone number.

The test grades seemed to me to be quite low. There was a low score of 12 (24%) and a high score of 46 (92%), with a mean of 28.7 (57.4%) and a standard deviation of 8.8 (17.6%). I do not know how Professor Pilz will determine the course grades from the test scores.

I will not say that grades are unimportant, but to the students who are concerned about how a low grade will affect their ability to do graduate work or obtain employment, I can offer this—which is not part of the course, and is unrelated to your course grade: Employers and university admissions committees will be more interested in anything you do resembling research than in your course grades. So I welcome any student who wishes to work on a project with me. I have projects for students interested in computer science, teaching, and pure mathematics.

Regards,

Jonathan Farley, D.Phil. (Oxon.)

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