Setup Grading in Jupiter Ed

Show online for students/parents

All three boxes should be checked.

- **Assignments**: This allows for students/parents to see each assignment.
- **Scores (assignments)**: This allows for students/parents to see the score given for each individual assignment.
- **Grades (total)**: This allows for students/parents to see the overall grade in the class (e.g., A/B/C/D/F, S/U, X/M/E/N, 4/3/2/1/0, etc.).

Show on reports

- **Total points**: If checked, a total number of points earned, out of the total possible, will be shown next to the letter grade. If using weighted categories, this will appear next to each category only. If using unweighted categories, this will appear next to each category as well as the overall grade.
- **Category grades**: If checked, a subtotal grade will be shown for each category. Also shown is the category's worth for the overall grade.
- **Percents for total grades**: If checked, a percentage will be shown next to the overall letter grade. (For percentage-based grade scales only.)
- **Percents next to scores**: If checked, a percentage will be shown next to each assignment. (For percentage-based grade scales only.)
- **Grades next to scores**: If checked, a letter grade will be shown next to each assignment.
- **Assignment worth (weight)**: If checked, how many points the assignment is worth will be shown (which is not necessarily the same as the points possible).
- **Impact on grade**: If checked, percentages and red/green bars will appear next to each assignment, indicating how each affects the student's grade negatively or positively.
- **Student's rank**: If checked, the student's rank in that section will be shown. Students/parents will not be able to see the grades of other students.
- **Class average**: If checked, the class average will be displayed. You can set this to display either median (middle-most score of all students in the class) or mean (average).

Assignments are worth

Say you have the following assignments that you wish to include in your gradebook:

- Five homework assignments, each worth 5 points
- One multiple-choice test with 50 questions
- One final exam out of 50 possible points

Without any sort of weighting, the multiple-choice test would be worth just as much as the final exam. But let's say you want the multiple-choice test to be worth half that of the final exam. One way to set this up is to look at how you set up each assignment's worth.

- **Different point values**: Each assignment's weight can be adjusted using different point values.
  - If you are using Points to input your scores, then "Out of ___ possible" is how you input the score. So for the 50-question test, you can make it "out of 50 possible." (This does not appear if you use Percents or Grades to input scores.)
  - "Worth ___ points" is how you set the worth for each assignment. So for the homework assignments, you could make each "worth 5 points." Similarly, you would make the final exam "worth 50 points." But for the multiple-choice test, you would make it "worth 25 points," effectively making it worth half as much as the final exam.
- **Single, double, etc.**: This is a different way to weight assignments. Each assignment is weighted equally against others in the category, unless additional weight is given. In this scenario, you should have a baseline idea of what a "single" assignment is worth.
  - In the above scenario, let's say each homework assignment serves as the baseline. You would then make each "worth 1 grade."
  - You would want the final exam to be worth ten times as much as each homework assignment. Thus, you would make it "worth 10 grades."
  - You would want the multiple-choice test to be worth half as much as the final exam. Thus, you would make it "worth 5 grades."

For "Points" users, it is important to note that points possible and worth are different things. One homework assignment could be out of 5 points possible, while another could be out of 10 points possible. But if they are assigned the same worth, then they affect the grade equally.

Grade Scale

- Click the ▼ to see different templates for grading. The most commonly used is ABCDF (with or without a ±).
- It is also possible to use 43210, though teachers should be cautioned that students/parents sometimes interpret this to mean 4 = A, 3 = B, 2 = C, 1 = D, and 0 = F. If this is not what you intend, then you may not want to use a 43210 scale. You can still grade assignments on a 43210 scale, but you may want to use an ABCDF scale for determining the letter grade—just adjust the percentages as needed.
- While Jupiter Ed provides these templates, teachers can customize their own grade scales.
  - The minimum percentage needed for each grade can be adjusted. For example, a teacher who has "hard" tests might adjust so an 85% minimum is needed to earn an A, rather than 90%.
  - Some teachers use S = 100% minimum, U = 0% minimum for classes like CAP, where all assignments must be completed satisfactorily to pass.
  - Some departments may use letter codes like XMEN with their own percentage cutoffs (though parents do sometimes ask how this translates on an ABCDF scale—be sure to explain in your syllabus how you determine your letter grades).

Special Marks

- Special marks can consist of single letters, short codes, or symbols.
- Some commonly used symbols include the plus (+) sign, the minus (-) sign, the slash (/), and the checkmark (type a backslash, \).
- When using a special mark, the students do not see the letter/code/symbol. Instead, they see the description shown to the right. For example, if a teacher inputs the code "abs," the student/parent will see the descriptor "absent."
- Special marks can also carry a value that is applied to the grade. For example, a teacher could make a + worth 100% of possible points, while a checkmark could be worth 50% of possible points, and a - could be worth 0% of possible points.

Categories

You may wish to organize assignments in various categories (e.g., Homework, Quizzes, Tests, Projects, Final Exam).

- **Unweighted**: The different categories will not be weighted. Thus, each assignment's impact on grade is determined solely by the weight you determined when setting the assignment's worth (see **Assignments are worth**).
- **Weighted**: The different categories will be weighted, according to the percentages that you set. For example, you could say that Homework is worth 5% of the grade, Quizzes are worth 10%, Projects are worth 25%, Tests are worth 25%, and Final Exams are worth 35%.
- **None**: Categories will not be used.

Cumulative

- **Unweighted sum**: Jupiter Ed simply sums up both quarters to generate each semester grade. The year grade is a sum of the four quarter grades.
  - o If using points, one term can affect the summed grade more than the other if the terms have different point totals.
  - o For example, if Quarter 1 has a total of 300 points and Quarter 2 has a total of 200 points, then Quarter 1 is essentially worth 60% of the Semester 1 grade, while Quarter 2 is worth 40% of the Semester 1 grade.
- **Weighted average, precise**: Jupiter Ed performs a weighted average of each quarter percentage to determine the semester and year grades. You specify how much weight you wish to apply for each quarter.
  - o For example, when determining 1st semester grades, if you wish to weigh the Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 percentages at 40% and 60%, respectively, then you can put 40 and 60 (or a similar ratio, like 2 and 3).
  - o The "Mid Qtr" weights should be left at 0, by default.
- **Weighted average, by grade**: This option works similarly to **Weighted average, precise**, except Jupiter Ed averages the letter grade from each quarter, rather than the percentage.
  - o For example, an A– and a B would average to a B+, if weighted equally.
  - o The benefit/drawback of this system is that the gradebook does not differentiate between, say, a "low" B+ versus a "high" B+. This can be a good thing, or a bad thing… Most people will choose **Weighted average, precise** if choosing to use some sort of weighted average.

Show which grades

- If choosing **Quarter** grade, then the student will only see the current quarter grade when they log in. They will still be able to see semester and year grades on the Report Cards page, however.
- If choosing **Semester** grade, then the student will only see the current semester grade when they log in. They will still be able to see quarter and year grades on the Report Cards page, however.

See **Cumulative** for more information on how semester and year grades are determined.

Standards-Based Gradebooks

There are several other things to note regarding standards-based gradebooks:

- **Standards-based grades**: There are three options regarding how Jupiter Ed calculates scores for each standard.
  - **Average**: The scores for each standard are weighted according to the **Assignments are worth**, **Categories**, and **Cumulative** settings. No weight is given towards recency.
  - **Summative**: The scores for each standard are determined according to recency. **Categories** and **Cumulative** will not be available when using this option.
    - If you have 1-3 assignments covering that standard, the score will simply be the latest one.
    - If you have 4-6 assignments, the score will be the average of the last two.
    - If you have 7-19 assignments, the score will be the average of the last three.
    - If you have 20+ assignments, the score will be the average of the last 20%.
  - **Both**: The scores that appear on the **Report Card** page will be calculated using the Summative setting. The overall percentage that appears on a student's **To Do** and **Grades** pages will be calculated using the Average setting.

Grade Overrides

If the quarter, semester, and/or year grades are different from those shown on the Report Cards page, you should utilize grade overrides to display the correct grade. The instructions for overriding these grades are the same as those for setting up mid-quarter grades—just input the scores in the appropriate **Qtr**, **Sem**, or **Year** column (instead of the mqtr columns).