

Grading System—Gold Team Science

(Updated 8-27-12)

Grading Scale*

*On a case-by-case basis, a different grading scale may apply.

Grade/Percent Range	Remarks
A 90 to 100	An excused absence (including illness) does NOT excuse you from doing the work. You will, however, receive options to make up missing assignments. At the teacher's discretion, late work may be refused as described in the section below. Grades are based on three categories: <i>assignments</i> , <i>daily work</i> , and <i>tests/projects</i> . (See next section.)
B 80 to < 90	
C 70 to < 80	
D 60 to < 70	
F < 60	

Grade Categories

Category Name and Impact on Grade	Power School Abbreviation	Description
<i>Assignments</i> (40 percent)	ASMT	<i>Assignments</i> are done in class or occasionally as homework. They have a due date and are graded on accuracy. Examples include worksheets, lab work, and electronic assignments.
<i>Daily Work</i> (30 percent)	PAR	<i>Daily work</i> includes entry tasks, discussions, classroom debates, and exit tickets. These activities are graded on creativity, thoughtfulness, and effort.
<i>Tests/Projects</i> (30 percent)	TEST	We all know what a <i>test</i> is. A <i>quiz</i> is simply a short test. A <i>work sample</i> is a major project and report (sometimes oral) that requires you to show your knowledge of laboratory work and scientific research. Knowledge Fair work is considered to be a project.

Late Assignments

All assignments have a due date. If you need extra time or help to finish an assignment, let me know *before* the due date, and I will extend the deadline without penalty. This is especially important if you are an English Language Learner. Help is available if you need it. I will also give you extra time for an excused absence, but it is your responsibility to request it. Communication with me before the due date prevents penalties on your grade.

Remember, at anytime I may refuse to accept *any* late assignment, especially late in the quarter or if the assignment is several weeks past due.

Bonus Points

Sometimes you may earn bonus points or extra credit. For example, if you find an error on the board or in a worksheet, you will receive 3 extra credit points. To receive the points, you must quietly point out the error to me without disrupting the class. The points are awarded only to the first student in that period who finds the error.

If you have missing assignments during the quarter, you may not request extra credit work to boost your grade or to replace the missing work.

Progress Reports

Get in the habit of checking your grades in PowerSchool at least once a week. I usually update the grades by Monday morning for assignments turned in on time. If you are struggling with schoolwork, don't get discouraged. Make an appointment with me outside of class to get help or to discuss your grades. I'm usually available before or after school and during lunch.

Remember this: Every student at ALMS can be successful in science. Therefore, you will never fail my class if you do your best, get help when needed, and come to school every day. In my class, an "F" is due to poor choices, not academic ability. If you are failing my class, you can expect me to contact the other Gold Team teachers and your parent or guardian. Arrangements will be made for you to get help outside of class, if needed.

Parent signature _____