

Difference between a Weighted and Points Gradebooks

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In D2L you can use either a **Points** grading system or a **Weighted** system. Either is a valid choice. But whichever you use, it should be the one described in your syllabus.

[▶Show Video Walkthrough](#)

Weighted by Category

- The grades are organized by category.
- Each category is assigned a weight.
- All category weights add up to 100%
- The number of points any grade item is worth is irrelevant because the percent score is multiplied by the category weight.

Points by Activity

- Grades may be organized by category, chronologically, or in any order desired.
- Each grade item is worth a certain number of points toward the total points possible.
- The more points an item is worth, the more weight it will have in the final grade.
- The final grade is calculated by dividing the number of points attained by the total points possible.

Example Gradebook Setup

It is helpful to students for you to organize your gradebook the way it is in your syllabus. For example, if your syllabus contains the grading structure below:

Weighted System

Exams - 25%
Essays - 20%
Lab - 20%
Quizzes - 20%
Discussions - 15%

Then your **Manage Grades** tab should look like this:

Grade Item	Type	Association	Max. Points	Weight
Exams				25
Exam 1	Numeric	Quizzes 	100	50

Grade Item	Type	Association	Max. Points	Weight
Exam 2	Numeric	Quizzes ?	100	50
Essays				20
Essay 1	Numeric	Assignments ?	100	50
Essay 2	Numeric	Assignments ?	100	50
Lab				20
Lab 1	Numeric	Assignments ?	100	50
Lab 2	Numeric	Assignments ?	100	50
Etc.				

Points System

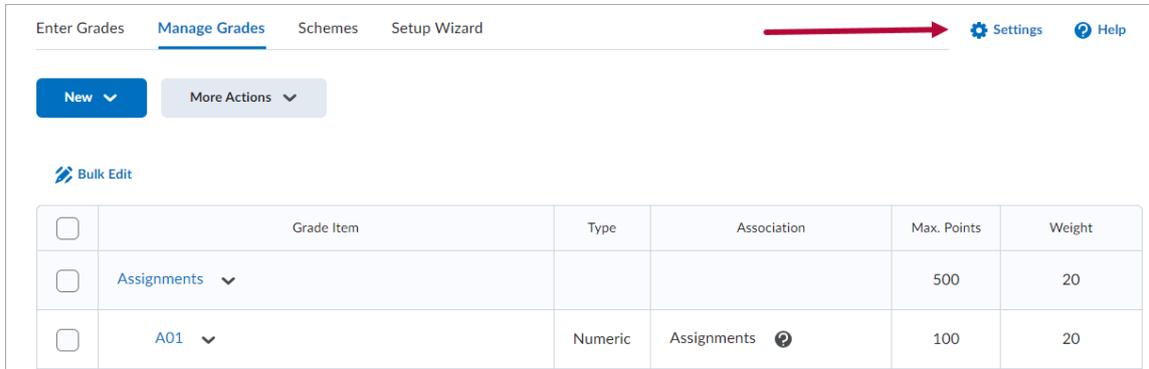
- Exams** - 250
- Essays** - 200
- Lab** - 200
- Quizzes** - 200
- Discussions** - 150

Then your **Manage Grades** tab should look like this:

Grade Item	Type	Association	Max. Points
Exams			
Exam 1	Numeric	Quizzes ?	125
Exam 2	Numeric	Quizzes ?	125
Essays			
Essay 1	Numeric	Assignments ?	100
Essay 2	Numeric	Assignments ?	100
Lab			
Lab 1	Numeric	Assignments ?	100
Lab 2	Numeric	Assignments ?	100
Etc.			

Grading System Calculation Options Settings

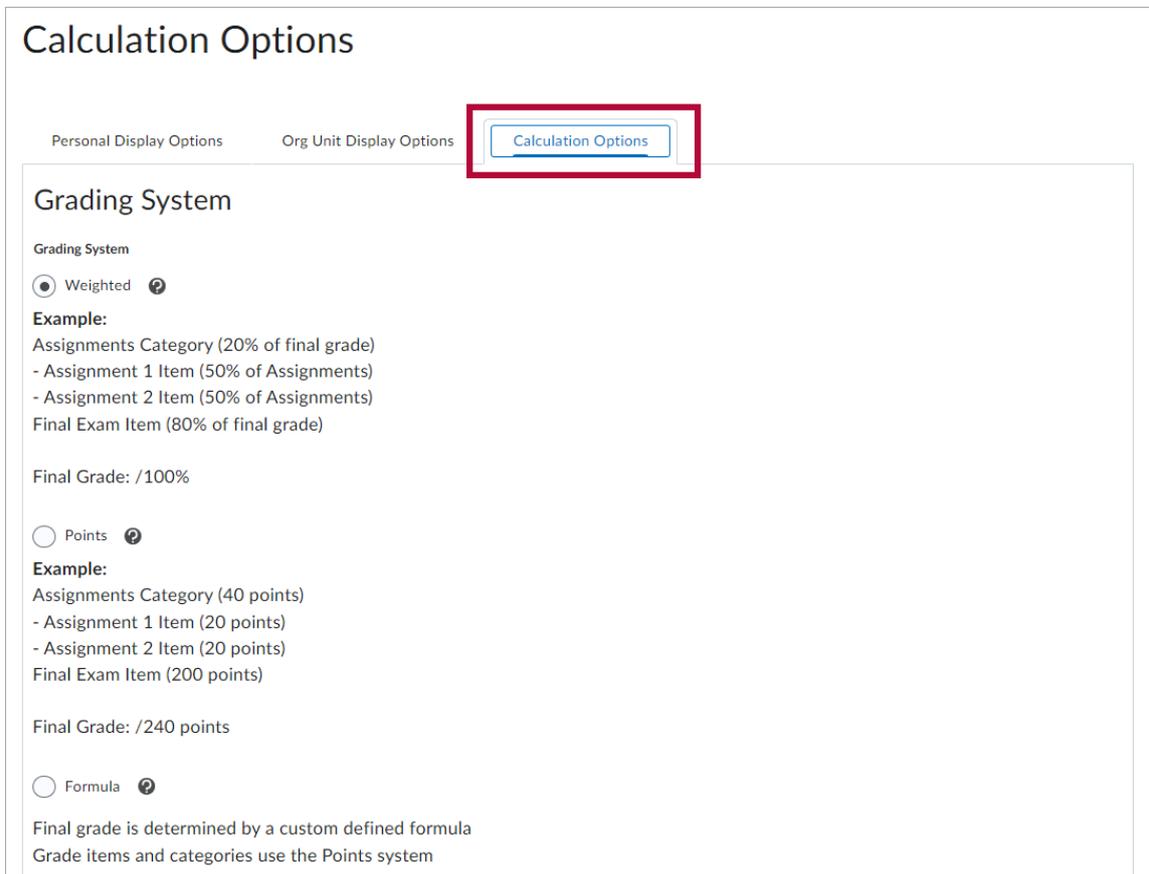
You have the option to modify the gradebook grading system within the gradebook settings. Navigate to the **[Settings]** section by clicking on it within the **[Enter grades]** or **[Manage Grades]** window.



The screenshot shows the 'Manage Grades' interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'Enter Grades', 'Manage Grades' (selected), 'Schemes', and 'Setup Wizard'. On the right, there are links for 'Settings' and 'Help'. Below the tabs, there are buttons for 'New' and 'More Actions'. A 'Bulk Edit' link is also present. The main area contains a table with the following columns: 'Grade Item', 'Type', 'Association', 'Max. Points', and 'Weight'. The table has three rows:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Grade Item	Type	Association	Max. Points	Weight
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assignments			500	20
<input type="checkbox"/>	A01	Numeric	Assignments	100	20

Choose your preferred option from the **[Calculation Options Tab]**.



The screenshot shows the 'Calculation Options' tab selected in the 'Grading System' settings. The tab is highlighted with a red box. Below the tab, there are three radio button options for the grading system:

- Weighted**
Example:
Assignments Category (20% of final grade)
- Assignment 1 Item (50% of Assignments)
- Assignment 2 Item (50% of Assignments)
Final Exam Item (80% of final grade)
Final Grade: /100%
- Points**
Example:
Assignments Category (40 points)
- Assignment 1 Item (20 points)
- Assignment 2 Item (20 points)
Final Exam Item (200 points)
Final Grade: /240 points
- Formula**
Final grade is determined by a custom defined formula
Grade items and categories use the Points system