Determination of Points for Lab (Discussion Section)

We refer to sections as "labs." They are a hub of active learning where you work with the concepts introduced in the readings and in lecture. Labs will be run on the small group format, with work to be completed in groups each day. 10% of your course grade (50 points) will depend upon your participation in lab. You are required to do four things.

[1] In each lecture, an exercise ("the Blue & Gold Exercises") is distributed. You are to complete the B&G exercise and take it to the next section following lecture where your GSI will check to be sure it has been completed. (Max of 20 points will be counted although 27 are available; points based on attempt not on accuracy.)

You receive 1 point per day for this activity, based on attempt not on accuracy. The maximum number of points available and the maximum number of points you can receive for activity #1 over the term is 20.

[2] Each section, you will do small-group work on problems ("the section exercises"). You may occasionally have in-section quizzes. Your GSI will provide more information in section. Absences result in 0 points for that day. (1 point per day; max of 20 points will be counted although 25 are available.)

You receive 1 point per day for taking part in this activity and contributing to your group's success. The maximum number of points you can receive for activity #2 over the term is 20.

[3] Once during the term, you and two partners will make an oral presentation. Your presentation should use PowerPoint or equivalent. There are no makeup opportunities for presentations. If you fail to make your presentation on the day you signed up for, you get a 0. If you show up without an electronic presentation, you get a 0.

The presentation will be based on a news article you have recently located. In your oral presentation, your group will summarize the article, state the link between the article and what we are covering in Economics 1, and lead your classmates in a brief discussion of two questions that you have written. The article needs to be pertinent to material covered within 2 weeks of your presentation. At least one of your questions must be an exam-like question, similar to the (b) questions for the reader articles. You must email the article and your questions to your GSI at least 72 hours before the section in which you are presenting. If you do not meet this deadline, you get a 0.

Time allotted for the presentation and discussion period: 6 minutes. Your summary of the article should take no more than 3 minutes. The rest of the time you will be coordinating the discussion. You will be graded on your time management, your ability to engage your classmates in a discussion, the relevance of the article to concepts covered in class, and the quality of the questions you pose. (6 points possible)

You receive up to 6 points for the presentation. A grading rubric is on the course website. In addition, you **must** provide your GSI with a confidential evaluation of your own and your partners' contributions to the assignment in which you answer these questions: "Do each of you deserve the same number of points for this assignment? If not, why not?"

[4] After each midterm, you'll complete an "post-exam reflection" – a series of questions inviting you to reflect on how you prepared for the exam and whether you want to make adjustments to your preparation. You'll submit the reflection on bCourses within 7 days of the exam. No late submission allowed. (2 points per reflection; points based on completion.)

You receive up to 4 points, 2 for each reflection. There are no late submissions allowed. Watch bCourses and email for the assignment.