FYS 274 Grading Guidelines

Each experiment will be graded on a 36 point scale, using the criteria listed below.

5 point category:

These occur rarely, but their effect on experimental results or the laboratory environment is serious. Thoughtful Pre-Lab and Analysis preparation (and asking questions!) will help you avoid these errors.

  a) misunderstood the physics
  b) serious misunderstanding or omission of requested work
  c) careless or unsafe lab procedure
  d) notebook more than 19 hours late will lose 5 points for each day that it is late.

3 point category:

The following have a substantial negative impact on the efficiency and/or the quality of your work, or that of lab instructors and graders.

  a) unprepared for lab
  b) minimal time, effort; overreliance on lab partner
  c) seriously disorganized notebook, hard to follow
  d) poor measurement technique - uncertainty not minimized
  e) missing or improper uncertainties, or uncertainty not justified (3XAP)
  f) missing or inadequate sample calculations, analysis details
  g) inadequate "stand alone" description of procedure or analysis

2 point category:

While not major problems, these detract noticeably from what should be a professional approach to laboratory work.

  a) missing or inadequate diagram(s)
  b) missing or improper units, significant figures
  c) loose sheets not taped (chronologically) in notebook
  d) missing, incorrect, or inadequate "stand alone" responses to questions
  e) missing or inadequate conclusion
  f) late lab book (<19 hours)

1 point category:

These are minor problems, but they can add up! Defend yourself by reading the Modern Physics Lab - Getting Started link on FYS 274 web page, and check these grading guidelines before turning in each lab.

  a) missing or inadequate title
  b) partner(s) not credited
  c) missing or inadequate purpose
  d) page not dated with current date
  e) missing or improper page number(s)
  f) large blank space(s)
  g) ink not used
  h) obliterated information (page torn out, white-out, erasing, etc.)
  i) table of contents not updated