

Grading Scheme for Junior Seminar  
Spring 2013

The principle aim of Junior Seminar is for the student to identify and propose a topic of study in Senior Seminar.

Each student's work will be awarded points of 4, 3, 2, 1 or 0 (quarter and half divisions may be used) in each of the following categories

1. Content
2. Communication
3. Independence
4. Participation

These points will be summed, rounded up, and the final grade will be awarded as follows:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
16	15 or 14	13	12 or 11	10	9	8 or 7	6	5	4 or 3	2	1 or 0

Assigning grades

1. The content grade will be assigned by assessing the project proposal that the student writes. The grade given will be the maximum attainable if the project were carried out as described in the proposal. See the main document for full guidelines for completed projects.
2. The communication point grade will be derived as follows: The student will be graded on the written proposal (30%), on one oral presentation (35%), and on the final report (35%). These will be graded using the rubrics in the main document. The weighted average of these grades will be determined using the weights indicated above.
3. A student earns 4 if they find and propose the topic of study with minimal guidance. This will require the student to perform all of the following actions that are appropriate to their chosen topic.
  - Choose a general area of interest.
  - Conduct an informal survey of the area
  - Generate a list of possible topics within the area
  - Do some background reading on each topic
  - Talk with professors about the feasibility/suitability of topics in the list
  - Select the specific topic
  - Coordinate with professors about who should be their supervisor
  - Conduct more detailed background reading on the specific topic

- Collaborate with their supervisor on writing the final proposal

A student earns 3 if their actions include most, but not all, of the items listed above that are appropriate to their project, and needs moderate levels of assistance on the others. A student earns 2 if their actions include some, but less than half, of the items listed, and needs considerable assistance on several items listed. A student earns 1 if they complete only one or two of the listed actions by themselves, and needs considerable levels of assistance on most items.

4. The participation point grade will be established using the tables contained in the main document.