What Your Grade Means

# A Range: Excellent

“A” is given only for “transcendent” work. “A” work is truly exceptional, work that achieves a very high degree of professionalism, originality and insight as well as showing intellectual sophistication and complete mastery of the course material. Lower “A” range work demonstrates that the student is capable of independent, creative, and critical thought, can synthesize their knowledge well, and can produce a finely wrought product. Also, this level of work contains significant insights and ideas deriving from the student’s own research and understanding of the course materials.

# B Range: Very good

“B” work indicates the student has mastered the material of the course, and demonstrates knowledge of all the facts and information given concerning the object or issue in question. “B” projects will show the student thinking clearly and with rigor about issues and ideas. The student also has the ability to articulate their knowledge in a clearly written and verbal form. Upper and lower ends of this range will indicate, for the former, a higher degree of performance, or, for the latter, a corresponding loss of clarity, insight, sophistication, and/or writing ability.

# C Range: Adequate

“C” work demonstrates the student’s basic knowledge of the material, with some mistakes or gaps in knowledge of relatively minor import. There may be flaws in art/design/written ability or expression (e.g. lack of coherence and organization, spelling and word choice issues, and inability to clearly express ideas or opinions) which detract from the student’s ability to demonstrate their knowledge.

# D Range: Weak

“D” work displays some comprehension of the basic course material, but shows major gaps and flaws in the amount and quality of a student’s knowledge. “D” projects have serious flaws in conceptual, aesthetic, technical/factual information and/or in spoken and written expression.

# F: Poor.

Failing work shows no knowledge, or that the student cannot pull together the few things they do know into any synthetic understanding of the material of the class. “F” work will have severe flaws in conceptual, aesthetic, technical/factual information and/or in writing, grammar, spelling, and structure.