Courses taught in CEE involve quantitative reasoning, analysis, design, and experimental studies. Consequently, student performance is frequently evaluated by one or several of the following areas (1) class participation, (2) homework assignments (problem sets), (3) laboratory reports, (4) individual or group projects, (5) term papers, (6) posters and/or presentations, (7) midterm exams, and (8) final exams. Nonetheless, in some cases, evaluation may include other evaluation areas that are specific to the course in question.

Instructors are expected to include their grading policy in the course syllabus, with clear explanation on what areas will be included in grading, how areas will be evaluated, and the percentage that each area will contribute to the final grade. At appropriate time, the instructors should state and explain the expectations for each assigned work. The grades given to students should reflect the degree to which they met these expectations.

At any time, throughout the course, instructors may change the grading policy, but should inform students about the change. Also, if they judge it appropriate, instructors may use a curve to establish the final course grade distribution.

Based on the Princeton University grading policy*, guidelines for the assignment of grades for student work are given as follows:

- **A+**: Exceptional
  - Significantly exceeds the highest expectations for undergraduate work
- **A**: Outstanding
  - Meets the highest standards for the assignment or course
- **A-**: Excellent
  - Meets very high standards for the assignment or course
- **B+**: Very good
  - Meets high standards for the assignment or course
- **B**: Good
  - Meets most of the assignment or course
- **B-**: More than adequate
  - More than adequate; shows some reasonable command of the material
- **C+**: Acceptable
  - Meets basic standards for the assignment or course
- **C**: Acceptable
  - Meets some of the basic standards for the assignment or course
- **C-**: Acceptable
  - While acceptable, falls short of meeting basic standards in several ways
- **D**: Minimally Acceptable
  - Lowest passing grade
- **F**: Failing
  - Very poor performance