

Grading Contracts

A Quick Reference Guide



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What is contract grading?

- Gives students **specific, clear criteria** for earning a grade.
- Asks students to focus on **reading, writing, rethinking, and revising**.
- Emphasizes **giving and receiving feedback** and **making revision plans**.
- Begins from the assumption that **all students can become better writers**.

Why use contract grading?

- To emphasize that **writing is a process**.
- To de-emphasize **subjective grading schemes** based on inequitable notions of "**correctness**."
- To help students build **skills, approaches, and literacies** that will help them in **any** communication situation.

Resources

Program Resources

- 10103 Grading Contract: <https://tinyurl.com/5n6mav74>
- 10103 Syllabus: <https://tinyurl.com/3hpupfuz>
- 10103 Course Guide: <https://tinyurl.com/2p8p7jsf>
- TA Handbook: <https://tinyurl.com/bddaap5u>

Further Reading

- Alfie Kohn, "The Case Against Grades": <https://tinyurl.com/4hspswtm>
- Writing Commons, "So Your Instructor is Using Contract Grading...": <https://tinyurl.com/2s3ch8hd>
- CCCC, "This Ain't Another Statement...": <https://tinyurl.com/mr2b5763>
- Jesse Stommel, Ungrading: A Bibliography, <https://tinyurl.com/bddb477a>