Post-COVID Teaching and Transitions: *Effective Communication with Students*

Carl Nelson 10/8/21

Elements of student-faculty communication

- Syllabus
- Scheduling
 - Lecture topics
 - Homework
 - Exams/assessments
- Announcements
- Delivery of course content
- Individual feedback

Syllabus

- Use Canvas "syllabus" tool
- Include all required information
 - Grading
 - Policies
 - Student resources (SSD, mental health, etc.)

Course Syllabus

Here is the <u>syllabus</u> <u>↓</u>

Here is the approximate <u>schedule</u> <u>↓</u>

Fall 2021

Home

Announcements

Assignments

Discussions

Grades

People

Pages

Files

Syllabus

Outcomes

Rubrics

Scheduling

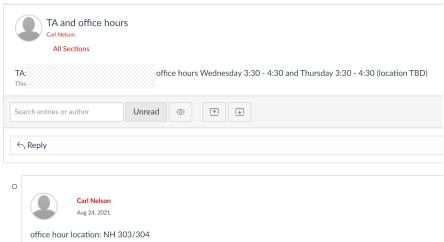
- Lecture topics
 - Tentative schedule posted with syllabus
 - Includes order of topics and correlation to textbook sections
- Homework and assessments
 - Regularity is key (e.g., weekly/biweekly on the same day of the week)
 - This semester I adopted a fixed HW/quiz schedule for the first time

Course Syllabus

Here is the <u>syllabus</u> \downarrow Here is the approximate <u>schedule</u> \downarrow

Announcements

- Use Canvas tools
 - Email vs. announcements
 - Email is good for...
 - Getting information in front of students quickly
 - Flexibility of audience (individual students vs. whole class)
 - Announcements are good for...
 - Mass broadcast, but not necessarily seen until next Canvas login
 - Persistent information (e.g., regular office hours)



Course content

- Notes (clear; consider archiving in Canvas)
- Textbook (aligned to content and sequence)
- Supplemental resources (load to Canvas)
- Recordings
 - VidGrid
 - Zoom
 - Archiving in Canvas consistent formatting

KINEMATICS & DYNAMIC MECH342 SEC 001 Fall 2021



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Here are links to in-class lecture materials:

10/5/21: cams (video ♂ and notes ↓)

9/30/21: cams (video ♂ and notes ↓)

9/28/21: cams (video ♂ and notes ↓)

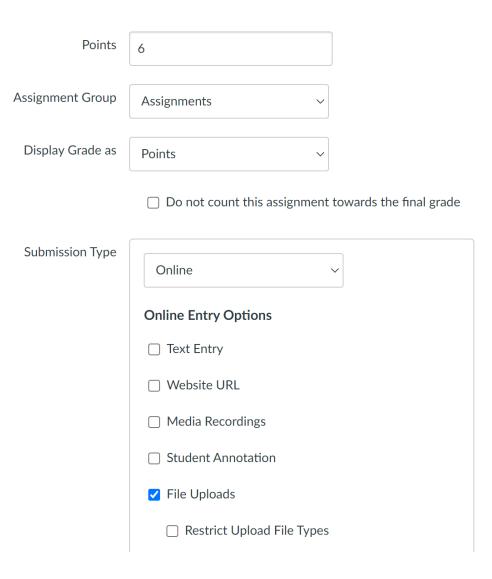
9/23/21: instant centers; cams (video ♂ and notes ↓)

9/21/21: vector polygons; instant centers (video ♂ and notes ↓)

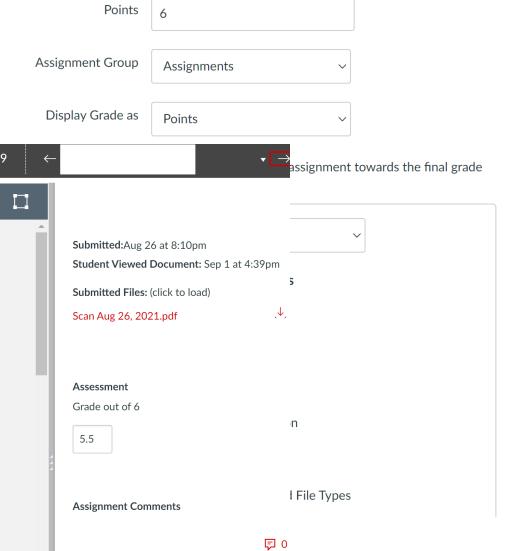
9/16/21 (supplement): graphical vector polygon solution (video ♂ and notes ↓) - see also minilecture ♂ and summary sheet
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Individual feedback

- Rapid feedback for learning
 - Don't wait long to assign and return homework
 - Canvas tools
 - Online submission
 - Speedgrader
- Students who appear to be struggling
 - Check gradebook periodically
 - Send kindly worded email offering support
- In-person contact
 - After class
 - During office hours
 - Zoom?



Individual feedback



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Summary of modalities

- Canvas tools
 - Email
 - Persistent information (Announcements and Syllabus)
 - Feedback: Gradebook, Speedgrader
- Recordings
- Oral (in class)
- Written (class notes)
- In person

Take-away messages

- Don't overwhelm students with too many minor communications
- Do promptly communicate unexpected/new information in ways that will catch students' notice
- Do use available 1-stop-shopping functionalities (e.g., Canvas)
- Do be consistent in how information is communicated (timing, format/modality, etc.)
- Do use multiple modalities (repeat key information in writing, orally, and digitally to reinforce)