

A couple students raised a concern about time management, and it got me to thinking:

Some Students would save a lot of time by ignoring the Quizzes.

4 or more hours of extra preparation for test-length quizzes, plus the 2 hours actually taking those giant quizzes.

The down-side of this is that it would make the Written Midterm and Final weigh more.

One up-side of this strategy would be more time, including more time to thoroughly prepare for the Written Midterm and Final.

Some Students would prefer to keep the Quizzes, to reduce the impact of the Written Midterm and Final.

This would keep the Written Midterm and Final down to 35% of your grade, and reduce what damage, if any, to your overall grade from poor performances on the Written Tests.

How Would this "Quizzes Are Optional" Thing Work?

It would work seamlessly! Take or don't take the Chapter Quizzes. I will simply structure the gradebook to calculate 2 versions of your grade, and take whichever version gives you the better overall grade:

One version would include the Quizzes in the grade scheme as stated in the Syllabus.

The other version would not include the Quizzes in the grade scheme. The "without Quizzes" version of your grade might be computed in one of two main ways that I can think of:

Strategy 1: Spread the removal of the Quiz Grade proportionately, using  $100 - 20 = 80$  as the divisor:

E-Mail Settings: 5/80 (6.25%)	5%	<b>LOOKS LIKE STRATEGY 1, THEN! WE COULD DO "BEST OF" STRATEGY 1 OR STRATEGY 2. THAT MIGHT HELP SOME IMAGINARY STUDENT.</b>
WebAssign Homework: 20/80 (25%)	20%	
Written Homework: 20/80 (25%)	20%	
Written Midterm and Final: 35/80 (43.75%)	35%	

Strategy 2: Divvy up the 20% that the Quizzes currently weigh amongst Written Tests, Written Homework and WebAssign Homework:

E-Mail Settings: 5%

WebAssign Homework: 25%

Written Homework: 25%

Written Midterm and Final: 45%

I'm going to implement one or the other of the two strategies, so you will all have a with/without version of your overall grade.

I'm open to suggestions. Which of the two strategies would you prefer?