Team-Based Learning:

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Two Methods for
Calculating Peer Evaluation Scores

1. Percentage Method

2. Separate "Team Maintenance" Score Method

When using team-based learning, it is essential to include peer evaluations as part of the course grading system. But people are sometimes unclear about how to do this.

Basically there are two related components to peer evaluations: collecting the data from the students and then incorporating that data into the course grade. There are various ways of doing this and it does not matter which method you use – so long as you have some valid procedure for reflecting any differences in student contributions to their group, into the course grade.

The attached pages present two different methods for conducting peer evaluations: a percentage method and a separate "team maintenance" score method. The former leads to a number that is used as a percentage-multiplier when calculating the course grade; the latter leads to a number that is added to two other grade components.

PEER EVALUATION: Percentage Method

(Note: This means that the peer evaluation is used as a percentage-multiplier in calculating the course grade.)

Prior Decision:
➢ How many points in the course grading system will be based on:
- Individual activities? (e.g., 50%, 60%?)
- Group activities?   (e.g., 30%, 50%?)

Steps:

**(1) Have students fill out
the Peer Evaluation Form**
   (Note: See p. 6 for a sample form for collecting data for this method.)

A. Amy	--
B. Bob	xx
C. Clark	xx
D. Denise	xx
E. Edward	xx
TOTAL: 100	

Rules:
- Do not evaluate yourself.
- Total points to distribute: always = 100

(2) Add the points given to each person.
- Totals will always be around "100".
- Hard working students will receive more than 100.
- Less hard working students will receive less than 100
- Make the sum a percentage: "X%".
- This percentage = Individual's Peer Evaluation Score

Sample Form:

	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	TOTAL
A.Amy	X					**100%**
B.Bob		X				**105%**
C.Clark			X			**110%**
D.Denise				X		**95%**
E.Edward					X	**90%**

③ Plug Peer Evaluation Percentage into the Course Grading Form
(Note: The peer evaluation component is shown in blue.)

Graded Activities:

I. Individual Activities
   a. Readiness Tests   xx
   b. Essays   xx
   c. Individual Exams   <u>xx</u>
   Sum of Indiv. Activities: "A"

II. Group Activities
   a. Readiness Tests   xx
   b. Group assignments   <u>xx</u>
   Sum of Group Activities: "B"
   (Note: This will be the same for all individuals within the group.)

III. <u>Adjust Group Score for Individual Peer Evaluation</u>

   Multiply **"B"** x **"Ind. Peer Eval. %"** = **"C"**

IV. Calculation of Overall Course Grade:

   Individual activities: **"A"**
   + Adjusted Group activities: **<u>"C"</u>**

   = Total Pts Earned in Course: "D"

PEER EVALUATION: Separate "Team Maintenance Score" Method

Prior Decision:
➢ How many points (or what percentage of) in the course grading system will be based on:
- Individual activities? (e.g., 30%? 50%)
- Group activities? (e.g., 30%? 50%)
- Contribution to team maintenance? (e.g., 15%? 20%)

Steps:

1) **Have students fill out the Peer Evaluation Form**
(Note: See p. 7 for a sample form for collecting this information.)

1. Amy	--
2. Bob	8
3. Clark	10
4. Denise	10
5. Edward	<u>12</u>
TOTAL:	40
Average:	10 each

Rules:
- Do not evaluate yourself.
- Assign an average of 10 points to each of the other members of the group.
- There must be some differentiation.
- Reminder: This is not a time to be "nice" and give everyone the same grade. It is a time to be honest and identify the people who contributed the most.

2) **Calculate the Peer Evaluation Score.**
- Calculate the average score for each student.
- Multiply: the average score x the weight (or percentage) for the "team maintenance score" (="Points toward grade")

Sample Form:

	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	Average	Points toward grade*
A. Amy	X					8.2	123
B. Bob		X				9.4	141
C. Clark			X			9.8	147
D. Denise				X		10.8	162
E. Edward					X	11.8	177

*In this example, assume that the weight for the "Team Maintenance Score" is 15%. Thus, 8.2 x 15 = 123.

(3) **Add the Three Components of the Course Evaluation**
(Note: The peer evaluation component is shown in blue.)

Graded Activities:

I.   Individual Activities
   a. Readiness Tests -   xx
   b. Essays -   xx
   c. Individual Exams -   xx
Sum of Individual Activities: **"A"**

II.   Group Activities
   a) Readiness Tests   xx
   b) Group assignments   xx
Sum of Group Activities: **"B"**

III.   Team Maintenance Score

   Taken from preceding worksheet:
   "Points toward grade" =   **"C"**

IV.   Calculation of Overall Course Grade:

   Individual activities: **"A"**
   + Graded Group activities: **"B"**
   + Team Maintenance score: **"C"**

   = Total Pts Earned in Course "D"

(SAMPLE FORM FOR PEER EVALUATION: Percentage Method)

<u>Assessment of Contributions of Group Members</u>

At the end of the semester, it is necessary for all members of this class to assess the contributions that each member of the group made to the work of the group. This contribution should presumably reflect your judgment of such things as:

> Preparation – Were they prepared when they came to class?
> Contribution – Did they contribute productively to group discussion and work?
> Respect for others' ideas – Did they encourage others to contribute their ideas?
> Flexibility – Were they flexible when disagreements occurred?

It is important that you raise the evaluation of people who truly worked hard for the good of the group and lower the evaluation of those you perceived not to be working as hard on group tasks. Those who contributed should receive the full worth of the group's grades; those who did not contribute fully should only receive partial credit. Your assessment will be used mathematically to determine the proportion of the group's points that each member receives.

Evaluate the contributions of each person in your group <u>except yourself</u>, by distributing 100 points among them. <u>Include comments for each person</u>.

Group #: _____

Points
<u>Awarded</u>:

1. Name: _____   _____
   Comments:

2. Name: _____   _____
   Comments:

3. Name: _____   _____
   Comments:

4. Name: _____   _____
   Comments:

5. Name: _____   _____
   Comments:

Your Name: _____   TOTAL: 100 Points

(SAMPLE FORM FOR PEER EVALUATION:
Separate Team Maintenance Method)

Peer Evaluation   Name_____   **Team # _____**

Please assign scores that reflect how you really feel about the extent to which the other members of your team contributed to your learning and/or your team's performance. This will be your only opportunity to reward the members of your team who worked hard on your behalf. (**Note: If you give everyone pretty much the same score you will be hurting those who did the most and helping those who did the least.)**

Instructions: In the space below please rate each of the **other** members of your team. Each member's peer evaluation score will be the average of the points they receive from the other members of the team. To complete the evaluation you should: 1) List the name of each member of your team in the alphabetical order of their last names and, 2) assign an average of ten points to the <u>other</u> members of your team (Thus, for example, you should assign a total of 50 points in a six-member team; 60 points in a seven-member team; etc.) and, 3) differentiate some in your ratings; for example, you must give at least one score of 11 or higher (maximum = 15) and one score of 9 or lower.

Team Members:	**Scores:**	**Team Members:**	**Scores:**
1)		5)	
2)		6)	
3)		7)	
4)		8)	

Additional Feedback: In the space below would you also briefly describe your reasons for your highest and lowest ratings. These comments -- but not information about who provided them -- will be used to provide feedback to students who would like to receive it.

Reason(s) for your highest rating(s). (Use back if necessary.)

Reason(s) for your lowest rating(s). (Use back if necessary.)