Best Practices For Teaching & Data About Fall 2008 Grading
Syllabus

● **What to include**
  - *Grade weights for exams, assignments, etc.*
  - *Reminder about academic honesty*
    - Explicitly mention of copying code

● **Stick with what you promised**
  - *Number of Assignments, weight, etc.*
Be Professional in Handling Business

- **Office hours**
  - Schedule several different times during week
    - *Often good: right after class, and another time that doesn’t conflict with the first one*
  - *Make sure you show up on time*
    - *Post a notice if you will miss a time*

- **Questions**
  - *Don’t tell students a question is dumb!*
  - *Students are still learning the jargon*
    - *The question they ask may not be the one they were trying to ask*
Exams and Assignments

- **Give plenty of notice**
  - Best if exams dates are on the syllabus

- **Prompt Grading**
  - Return assignments and exams in one week

- **Consistency Matters**
  - Pick policies on late work, re-grades, etc.
    - Stick to the announced policy
      - Relaxing an announced policy is as much of a problem as making it tougher
Avg. GPA Intro Classes (Fall 2008)

Department Average: 2.99
Avg. GPA 400-level Classes (Fall 2008)

Department Average: 3.09
Avg. GPA Graduate Classes (Fall 2008)

Department Average: 3.60

University of Maryland