**GRADING DETAILS FOR THIS CLASS**

**10% EXTRA-CREDIT CLASS PARTICIPATION POINTS:**At the end of the semester, I will add *up to* ten extra-credit percentage points to your semester grade (enough, for example, to turn a “C” into a “B”) depending on the quality of your (1) in-class participation in discussions and (2) in-class written work. Please note that these are entirely *extra-credit* points. If you are shy and have trouble participating in class you will *not* lose points; instead, you simply don’t get the extra-credit points. It is the equivalent, in other words, of not doing an extra-credit assignment. It is entirely possible to get an “A” in the course and not participate in in-class discussions. These points also reflect your class citizenship (e.g., were you respectful of your peers?)

**70.1** When you clearly have invested time in assignment but did not understand the material, I will give you a grade of 70.1/100 instead of whatever other (lower) grade you might have received. That is, I will give you extra-credit for effort. But you should consider this grade a heads-up that you should seek out additional assistance from me or the course’s peer mentor.

**TWO ALTERNATIVE TRACKS TO THE REGULAR COURSE**

If you want to stay on the regular course track you do not need to do anyting. You need to notify me only if you are interested in the ALTERNATIVE tracks below.

**A) The I-already-have-these-skills ALTERNATIVE TRACK**

If you receive a 95% or above on the first five assignments, you will have demonstrated to me that many of the skills the course aims to teach you already have. In such cases, I will meet with you in person and discuss which assignments you do not have to do for the rest of the semester. You will also be allowed to miss certain classes. All of the is will be arranged in our private meeting. YOU MUST MAKE THIS MEETING WITH BY OCTOBER 7th.

**B) The I-Only-Want-A-“C” ALTERNATIVE TRACK**

Students who are willing to forfeit the possibility of getting any higher than a “C” in the class can—with my permission—opt to do less work. You will have to meet with me during office hours (no exceptions) and write a brief paper (again, no exceptions) detailing why you do not need the skills taught by the course. Students on this track can still do worse than a “C”—but they will not have to do many of the assignments. Which assignments you will need to do and which assignments (and class days) you can skip will be worked out with me in conference (again, no exceptions). YOU MUST MAKE THIS MEETING WITH BY OCTOBER 7th.