

PROBLEM SET POLICY

EXPECTED FORM AND ANONYMYZING

Where possible, please type your problem set answers. (There will be a few problems where this doesn't make sense—e.g., where I ask you to draw a diagram or do a derivation using unusual symbols. You can attach these problems as an extra sheet, or write in blank spaces on an otherwise typed sheet, or whatever is most convenient for you.) There's no expectation that you double-space, have a particular font or font-size, etc.—whatever form you find comfortable reading is fine with me. Also, please ANONYMIZE your work in the following way: *do not put your name on the front sheet*. Instead write it on the back of the final sheet of paper that you use (in pen/pencil is fine).

GROUP WORK

You may, and indeed are encouraged, to work on problem sets in groups. But: you *must* do your own write up. And it should be *evident* that you did so (e.g., your answers should be in your own words). Simply copying another will constitute plagiarism.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR GRADE

Problem sets consist of a number of questions each assigned a “point value”. The points are stable across problem sets—so for example if one problem set has a total of 30 points and the other has a total of 50 points, the latter is worth more towards your final grade than the former. I'll return your problem sets with both a number grade (e.g. 20/30) and a letter grade (e.g. B+). The latter is supposed to give you a sense for how your work is contributing to your final problem set grade. You can get partial credit for your answers, so even if you're not sure, it pays to write out a few of your thoughts.

(See over for lateness policy!)

LATE PROBLEM SETS

If a problem set is handed in late *without the accompaniment of a note from a doctor* it will be penalized 1/2 a letter grade per day late, weekends and holidays not included. So if your problem set is due on Thursday at 5 and you turn it in on at Thursday at 5:01, or Friday at 10AM, you'll drop from an A to A- (or A- to B+, etc). If you turn it in the next Tuesday at 4PM, you will drop from a A to B, (A- to B-, etc.). **If two classes pass by the time you submit your problem set you get a 0 for it.** The reason for this policy is not to be harsh, but because I need to go over solutions to problem sets in class relatively soon after they are due, so that the ideas are still fresh in your minds. Because this policy might seem a little tough, I'll be dropping your lowest problem set grades (i.e. the ones that hurt your final grade the most).

Sometimes problem sets may be due before 5PM in the Cathedral. The time deadline is firm, and enforced with or without me because the office doors leading to my mailbox close at 5. *Don't wait until the last minute!*