

What's My GPA?

Grade	Grade-point Value
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
D-	0.7
F	0.0

Your *G.P.A.* is your *grade-point average*. A G.P.A. is determined by letter grades. Although different schools may use slightly different formulas for calculating a student's G.P.A., all formulas are based on the sort of scale to the left. Imagine that these are your grades for the quarter:

Algebra I	A
World History	B
English I	B-
Physical Education	C
General Art	B+
Earth Science	A-

What is the G.P.A. for these grades? All you need to do is find the grade-point value for each course and average these grade-point values.

Algebra I	A	4.0
World History	B	3.0
English I	B-	2.7
Physical Education	C	2.0
General Art	B+	3.3
Earth Science	A-	3.7

$$4.0 + 3.0 + 2.7 + 2.0 + 3.3 + 3.7 = 18.7 \div 6 = 3.12$$

The G.P.A. for this set of grades is 3.12, which equates to a "B" average for the quarter.

Most schools base the semester grade on two quarters and an exam.

Quarter 1 = 2/5 (40%) Quarter 2 = 2/5 (40%) Exam = 1/5 (20%)

To calculate the semester G.P.A., you add together the exam G.P.A. with double each quarter G.P.A., then find the average.

Quarter 1 = 3.12 Quarter 2 = 3.5 Exam = 3.8

$$3.12 + 3.12 + 3.5 + 3.5 + 3.8 = 17.04 \div 5 = 3.41$$

For the above grades, the student's semester G.P.A. is 3.41, a "B+" average.

- Notes:
1. Many schools give "weighted grades" to honors courses. When this is done, the grade-point value for an honors course is increased by one. For example, a "B" in Honors English is worth 4.0 rather than 3.0. This is how some honors students are able to have a G.P.A. higher than 4.0.
 2. The standard cut-off for "honor roll" is a G.P.A. of 3.5.
 3. Universities award "Latin honors" of *cum laude* for a G.P.A. of at least 3.5, *magna cum laude* for a G.P.A. of at least 3.7, and *summa cum laude* for a G.P.A. of at least 3.9. (Check with a particular university for its specific cut-offs.)