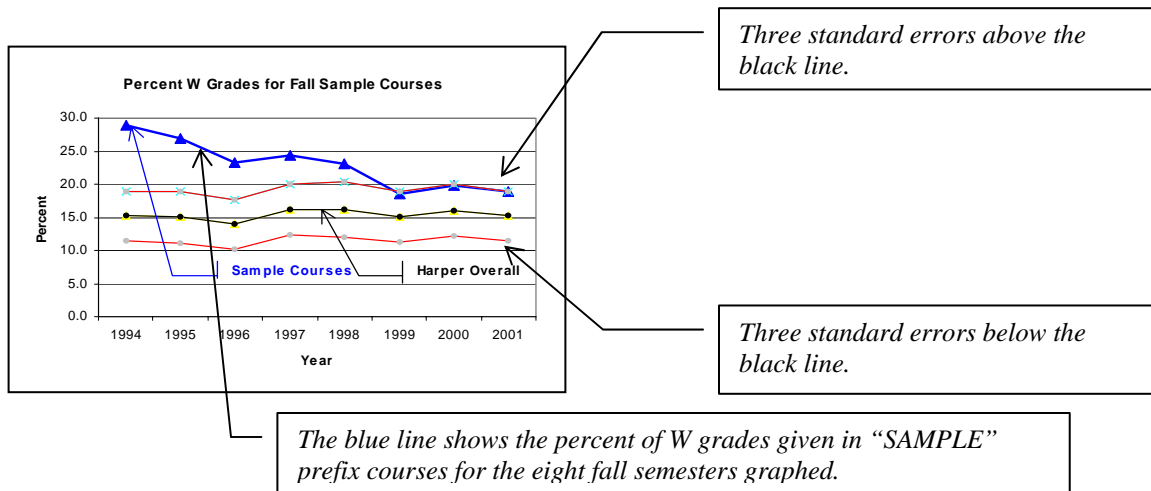


Semester Level Grade Distributions
with Graphs for
EMS Prefix Courses

*Prepared by the Office of Research
Teaming to Serve the Research Needs of the College
November 21, 2007*

The page that follows provides grade distributions for the past ten fall and spring semesters¹, which contains four graphs showing the percent F and W grades awarded students taking courses with the specified prefix. Each grade graph has a black line representing the overall Harper percent of students (excluding AED courses) receiving that grade. Each grade graph also has two red lines representing three course prefix standard errors above and below the black line. The percent line for the specified prefix is blue. An annotated sample graph is provided below.



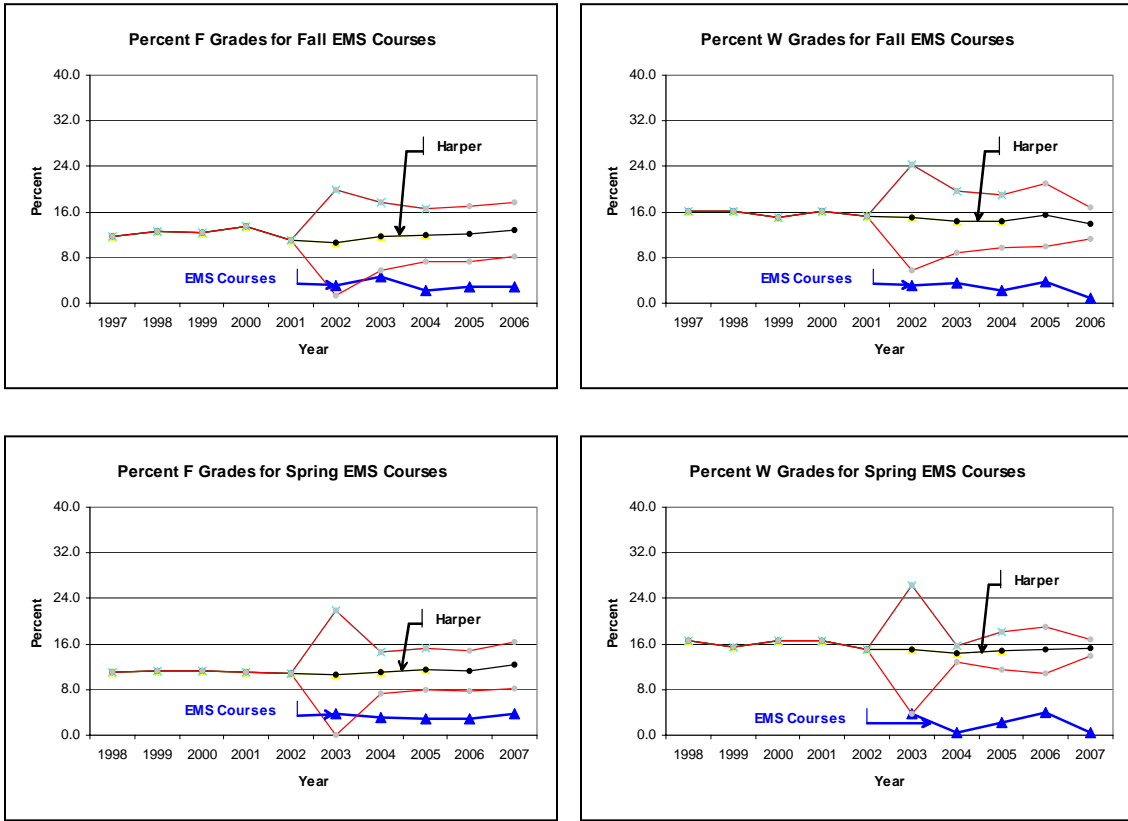
Generally, the blue line should stay between the two red lines with some points above the black line and some points below the black line. Blue points that are above the top red line represent percents that are significantly above the overall Harper percent ($p < .01$). Similarly, blue points that are below the bottom red line represent percents that are significantly below the overall Harper percent ($p < .01$).

If the graphs on the following pages show several “blue” points above the top red line or below the bottom red line, further investigation may be warranted. In the sample graph, most of the blue points are above the top red line. This indicates an excessive number of W’s were issued for courses with the “SAMPLE” prefix. When all the blue points are below the black line the percent is consistently on the low side; similarly, when all the blue points are above the black line the percent is consistently on the high side.

The last page includes tables giving the total number of all grades given for each year, the percent of each grade type (%A, %B, %C, %D, %F, %W) graphed and its standard error (SE), and another grade labeled “O.” O grades are other types of grades (audit, transfer credit, pass, incomplete, and so forth). Typically there are very few O grades.

¹ There were no EMS courses offered in the past ten summer semesters.

Grade Distributions for EMS Prefix Courses by Semester



Total N of EMS Students and Percent Earning Each Grade with Standard Error (SE)

Fall	N	%A	SE	%B	SE	%C	SE	%D	SE	%F	SE	%W	SE	%O	SE	%P	SE
1997	0																
1998	0																
1999	0																
2000	0																
2001	0																
2002	32	31.3	8.2	53.1	8.8	6.3	4.3	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2003	110	36.4	4.6	38.2	4.6	14.5	3.4	2.7	1.6	4.5	2.0	3.6	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2004	91	54.9	5.2	27.5	4.7	12.1	3.4	1.1	1.1	2.2	1.5	2.2	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2005	105	34.3	4.6	42.9	4.8	16.2	3.6	0.0	0.0	2.9	1.6	3.8	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2006	107	57.0	4.8	32.7	4.5	6.5	2.4	0.0	0.0	2.8	1.6	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Spring	N	%A	SE	%B	SE	%C	SE	%D	SE	%F	SE	%W	SE	%O	SE	%P	SE
1998	0																
1999	0																
2000	0																
2001	0																
2002	0																
2003	26	34.6	9.3	46.2	9.8	11.5	6.3	0.0	0.0	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2004	200	29.0	3.2	31.0	3.3	3.5	1.3	0.0	0.0	3.0	1.2	0.5	0.5	1.0	0.7	0.0	0.0
2005	180	37.8	3.6	21.1	3.0	4.4	1.5	0.0	0.0	2.8	1.2	2.2	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2006	205	34.6	3.3	21.0	2.8	4.9	1.5	0.0	0.0	2.9	1.2	3.9	1.4	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
2007	208	42.3	3.4	13.9	2.4	6.3	1.7	0.0	0.0	3.8	1.3	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

*Harper overall percent plus/minus three standard errors form the red lines on the graphs. EMS percents within the red lines are not significantly different from the overall Harper percent at the .01 level of significance.