The Education Edge™

Grades and Skills Guide
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EE-GradesandSkillsGuide-102111
Grades and Skills

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In Grades, you can enter marking column grades, comments, and skill ratings for students enrolled in classes. You can enter grade information using a method that best fits your needs: by teacher, course, or student. In Grades, you can also run calculations to determine course averages, GPAs, performance levels, and rankings.

You can also enter student grades for courses in which they are not enrolled, such as courses taken at previous schools. Define a course record for the course including at least the required fields and necessary grading information. Select to enter grades by student and add the course as an Other Course. Then you can enter the student’s grades for the course as you would for a regular class.

Before entering grades, there are several areas to consider when planning your grades processes.

Marking columns. Marking columns are the time frames in which you enter grades, comments, and skill ratings for classes. You define marking column sets in Registrar Setup in Configuration and associate marking column sets with sessions on academic year records in Configuration. For more information about defining marking column sets and sessions, see the Configuration Guide for Registrar’s Office.

Translation tables. Translation tables define how numeric grades translate into letter grades and vice versa, and also how grades translate to GPA values. You define translation tables in Registrar Setup in Configuration. You associate translation tables with marking columns on the Grading tab of course records. For more information about defining translation tables, see the Configuration Guide for Registrar’s Office.

Skills. In Registrar Setup in Configuration, you can define skills to evaluate student performance on general course goals such as Effort or specific benchmarks such as Reading Level. You associate skills with courses on the Grading tab of course records. Skills can comprise the only grading information of the course, which is common in a lower school, or they can supplement numeric or letter grading, which is common in middle and upper schools. For more information about defining skills, see the Configuration Guide for Registrar’s Office.

Course records. On the Grading tab of course records, you set up grading information for each academic year and session. On the Grades tab, you select whether to include the course on report cards and transcripts, include the course in performance categories, include the course in GPAs, and give the course a weighted value. You designate whether to award credits in the same or different marking columns in which they are attempted. You specify the marking columns in which credits are attempted and awarded. For each marking column associated with the session, you specify which marking columns to grade, associate a translation table, and designate whether to allow numeric or grade values or both. You can also associate a marking column with a course average calculation. On the Skills tab, you can associate skills with the course. For more information about the Grading tab of course records, see the Records Guide for Registrar’s Office.

Grade comments. In Registrar Setup in Configuration, you can define default comments to select during grade entry. You assign a comment number to each default comment. On academic year records, you designate whether grade comments can be entered in free-form text or by number only. For more information about defining default comments and setting up academic years, see the Records Guide for Registrar’s Office.

Calculations. In Registrar Setup in Configuration, you can define course average, GPA, performance, and rank calculations. You can run these calculations from Grades. For more information about defining calculations, see the Configuration Guide for Registrar’s Office.

Business rules. You set business rules in Configuration related to grade entry. You can enter the number of trailing zeros to show in GPAs and numeric grades and specify an indicator to separate default comments. You also determine how to award credit and calculate GPAs for courses taken multiple times. For more information about business rules, see the Configuration Guide for Registrar’s Office.

Options. You can set user options related to grade entry. You control whether to show the skills grid, what columns to display in the grade entry grids, how to format student and teacher names on the grids, and whether to get a message to save when switching views. You can also set color options for the grade entry grids. For more information about grades options, see the Program Basics Guide.

Faculty Access for the Web. Teachers can maintain a daily gradebook using Faculty Access for the Web. Teachers can also enter final marking column grades in Faculty Access for the Web that an administrator can post to Grades in Registrar’s Office. For more information about entering grades in Faculty Access for the Web, see the User’s Guide for Faculty Access for the Web. For more information about posting grades from Faculty Access for the Web, see the Administration Guide for Faculty Access for the Web.
Accessing Grades

To access Grades, on the navigation bar in Registrar’s Office, click Grades. The Grades page appears. In the School, Academic Year, and Session fields on the action bar, select the school, academic year, and session in which you are currently working. These selections default on the grade entry screens when you open a grade entry task. If you have only one active school or rights to only one school, the School field does not appear.

The Grades page organizes grading tasks into categories: Grades Entry tasks, Administrative tasks, and Other Grading tasks.

Grades Entry Tasks

There are three ways to enter grades: entering by teacher, entering by course, and entering by student.

• If skills entry is enabled in Options, click Enter grades by teacher - Student skills view or Enter grades by teacher - Class skills view to enter grades and skill ratings by teacher. For more information, see “Entering Grades by Teacher in Student Skills View” on page 5 or “Entering Grades by Teacher in Class Skills View” on page 7.

• Click Enter grades by course to enter grades and skill ratings by course. For more information, see “Entering Grades by Course” on page 9.

• Click Enter grades by student to enter grades, skill ratings, GPAs, performance levels, and rankings by student. You can also add Other Courses for a student to record grades in classes not scheduled. For more information, see “Entering Grades by Student” on page 11.
Administrative Tasks

Note: We offer high-quality, customized report card and transcript forms that are specifically designed for use with our software. Our report card and transcript forms feature state-of-the-art, tamper-proof backgrounds. For more information, visit our Web site at forms.blackbaud.com or call us toll-free at 866-4-BB-FORMS (866-422-3676).

You can run calculations to generate course averages, GPAs, and rankings, and to assign performance levels. You can also print transcripts, report cards, and grade entry sheets:

- Click Run calculations to generate course averages, GPAs, performance categories, and rankings. For more information, see “Running Calculations” on page 28.
- Click Print transcripts to create comprehensive statements of a student’s academic performance to send to other schools. For more information about transcripts, see the Transcripts chapter of the Mail Guide for The Education Edge.
- Click Print report cards to create report cards that summarize a student’s academic performance for a specific period of time. For more information about report cards, see the Report Cards chapter of the Mail Guide for The Education Edge.
- Click Print grade entry sheet to print forms to use to manually enter grading information. For more information about grade entry sheets, see the Grade Reports chapter of the Reports Guide for Registrar’s Office.
- Click Publish report cards to NetClassroom to export report cards to NetClassroom. This link appears only if you have the optional module NetClassroom. For more information, see “Publishing Report Cards and Transcripts to the Web” on page 31.
- Click Publish transcripts to NetClassroom to export transcripts to NetClassroom. This link appears only if you have the optional module NetClassroom. For more information, see “Publishing Report Cards and Transcripts to the Web” on page 31.
- Click Remove report cards from NetClassroom to delete report cards published to NetClassroom. This link appears only if you have the optional module NetClassroom. For more information, see “Publishing Report Cards and Transcripts to the Web” on page 31.
- Click Remove transcripts from NetClassroom to delete transcripts published to NetClassroom. This link appears only if you have the optional module NetClassroom. For more information, see “Publishing Report Cards and Transcripts to the Web” on page 31.

Other Grading Tasks

With other grading tasks, you can edit grade options and show or hide marking columns.

- Click Edit grades options to open your grades user options. For more information about grades options, see the Options chapter of the Program Basics Guide.
- Click Show marking columns to open a list of marking columns available for the session. You can mark checkboxes to control which marking columns appear in Grades. For more information, see “Hiding/Showing Marking Columns” on page 27.
- Click Hide marking columns to collapse the list of marking columns available for the session. For more information, see “Hiding/Showing Marking Columns” on page 27.

Entering Grades

Grades centralizes the process of entering grades and skill ratings in one location. You can enter grades and skill ratings for:
• Students in classes taught by a specific teacher.
• Students in classes of a specific course, regardless of who teaches each class.
• Classes taken by a specific student.

**Enter grades by teacher - Student skills view.** Use this screen when entering both grades and skill ratings in a small number of marking columns. This shows a list of skills for one student at a time so that multiple marking columns display for skills, which is useful for comparing skills development from one marking column to the next.

**Enter grades by teacher - Class skills view.** Use this screen when entering skill ratings in many marking columns.

**Enter grades by course.** Use this screen when entering grades and skill ratings for more than one class of a selected course. For example, you are entering grades for multiple sections of an English course. You enter grades for one class at a time.

**Enter grades by student.** Use this screen when entering grades and skill ratings for the classes taken by selected students. You can also use this screen to enter GPA, performance, and ranking data. This is the only screen on which you can enter Other Courses.

From any grade entry screen, you can print grade information on a Grade Report by selected File, Preview or Print from the menu bar. For more information about the Grade Report, see the *Reports Guide for Registrar’s Office.*

### Entering Grades by Teacher in Student Skills View

**Note:** If you are entering grades in many marking columns, select View, Skills from the menu bar. The program hides the Skills grid and you can see and enter grades in more marking columns at one time.

You can click **Enter grades by teacher - Student skills view** on the Grades page to open the Enter grades by teacher screen. On this screen, you can select the classes taught by selected teachers. When you open the screen, the Grades grid and Skills grid appear side-by-side on the screen. When you select a student in the Grades grid, the entries in the Skills grid change to show the skills for the selected student.

- **Entering grades by teacher with the student skills view**
  1. On the Grades page, in the School, Academic Year, and Session fields, select the school, year, and session for which to enter grades and skill ratings.
  2. In the marking column box on the Grades page, mark the checkboxes for the marking columns to show on the Enter grades by teacher screen.

**Note:** If Allow skills entry is not marked on your user options, the Grades page has only one Enter grades by teacher link.
3. Click **Enter grades by teacher - Student skills view**. The Enter grades by teacher screen appears.

4. In the **Term** field, select the term for which you are entering grades and skill ratings or select “<All Terms>”.

5. In the **Enter for** field, select a group of teachers. You can select all teachers or a query group. For information about creating queries, see the *Query Guide for The Education Edge*.

6. In the **Teacher** field, enter the teacher name. You can click the binoculars to search for the teacher. After you select a teacher, you can use the arrow buttons to scroll through the teachers in the group selected in the **Enter for** field.

7. In the **Class** field, select a class for which to enter grades and skill ratings. Students enrolled in the selected class for the term or terms selected in the **Term** field appear in the **Grades** grid.

8. In the **Show** field, select the columns to show within each marking column. Columns can include **Grade**, **Attempted Credits**, **Awarded Credits**, **Use in Calculations**, **Print Grade on Transcripts**, **Print Grade on Report Cards**, **Comment**, **Print Comment on Transcripts**, and **Print Comment on Report Cards**.

9. In the **Sort by** field, you can sort the students in the grid by last name, first name, or student ID.

10. In the **Grade** column, select the grade or enter the numeric value for the class.

11. In the **Attempted Credits** and **Awarded Credits** columns, you can view the credit values and edit the values if necessary. The values and the marking columns in which credits are attempted and awarded are defined on the course record.

12. After you enter a grade, the **Use in Calculations** column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a grade from being used to calculate GPAs and honors, unmark the checkbox.

13. After you enter a grade, the **Print Grade on Transcripts** column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a grade from being included on transcripts, unmark the checkbox.

14. After you enter a grade, the **Print Grade on Report Cards** column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a grade from being included on report cards, unmark the checkbox.

15. In the **Comment** column, you can either enter a free-form comment or select a default comment. For more information about comments, see “Adding Comments” on page 22.
You may be restricted to selecting default comments only. How you can enter comments depends on the grade comments entry setting for the academic year.

16. After you enter a comment, the Print Comment on Transcripts column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a comment from being included on transcripts, unmark the checkbox.

17. After you enter a comment, the Print Comment on Report Cards column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a comment from being included on report cards, unmark the checkbox.

Note: Make sure when entering skill ratings that you first select the correct student in the Grades grid.

18. In the Grades grid, select the student for whom you want to enter skill ratings in the Skills grid.

19. In the Skills grid, you can limit the skills that appear by selecting a category in the Skills category field.

20. In the Skills grid, select a skill rating for each skill and marking column.

21. To enter grades and skill ratings for another class, select a different class in the Class field or a different teacher in the Teacher field.

22. To close the screen and return to the Grades page, click Save and Close.

Entering Grades by Teacher in Class Skills View

You can click Enter grades by teacher - Class skills view on the Grades page to open the Enter grades by teacher screen. On this screen, you can select the classes taught by selected teachers. The Grades grid and Skills grid appear on separate tabs.

- Entering grades by teacher with the class skills view
  1. On the Grades page, in the School, Academic Year, and Session fields, select the school, year, and session for which to enter grades and skill ratings.
  2. In the marking column box on the Grades page, mark the checkboxes for the marking columns to show on the Enter grades by teacher screen.

Note: If Allow skills entry is not marked on your user options, the Grades page has only one Enter grades by teacher link.
3. **Click Enter grades by teacher - Class skills view.** The Enter grades by teacher screen appears.

4. In the **Term** field, select the term for which you are entering grades and skill ratings or select “<All Terms>”.

5. In the **Enter for** field, select a group of teachers. You can select all teachers or a query group. For information about creating queries, see the **Query Guide for The Education Edge**.

6. In the **Teacher** field, enter the teacher name. You can click the binoculars to search for the teacher. After you select a teacher, you can use the arrow buttons to scroll through the teachers in the group selected in the **Enter for** field.

7. In the **Class** field, select a class for which to enter grades and skill ratings. Students enrolled in the selected class for the term or terms selected in the **Term** field appear in the **Grades** grid.

8. In the **Show** field, select the columns to show within each marking column. Columns can include **Grade**, **Attempted Credits**, **Awarded Credits**, **Use in Calculations**, **Print Grade on Transcripts**, **Print Grade on Report Cards**, **Comment**, **Print Comment on Transcripts**, and **Print Comment on Report Cards**.

9. In the **Sort by** field, you can sort the students in the grid by last name, first name, or student ID.

10. In the **Grade** column, select the grade or enter the numeric value for the class.

11. In the **Attempted Credits** and **Awarded Credits** columns, you can view the credit values and edit the values if necessary. The values and the marking columns in which credits are attempted and awarded are defined on the course record.

12. After you enter a grade, the **Use in Calculations** column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a grade from being used to calculate GPAs and honors, unmark the checkbox.

13. After you enter a grade, the **Print Grade on Transcripts** column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a grade from being included on transcripts, unmark the checkbox.

14. After you enter a grade, the **Print Grade on Report Cards** column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a grade from being included on report cards, unmark the checkbox.

15. In the **Comment** column, you can either enter a free-form comment or select a default comment. For more information about comments, see “Adding Comments” on page 22.
You may be restricted to selecting default comments only. How you can enter comments depends on the grade comments entry setting for the academic year.

16. After you enter a comment, the Print Comment on Transcripts column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a comment from being included on transcripts, unmark the checkbox.

17. After you enter a comment, the Print Comment on Report Cards column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a comment from being included on report cards, unmark the checkbox.

18. To enter skill ratings, select the Skills tab.

19. In the Skills category field, you can limit the skills shown in the Skills grid to a selected category.

20. In the Sort by field, you can sort the students in the grid by last name, first name, or student ID.

21. In each skill column, select a skill rating.

22. To enter grades and skill ratings for another class, select a different class in the Class field or a different teacher in the Teacher field.

23. To close the screen and return to the Grades page, click Save and Close.

### Entering Grades by Course

You can click Enter grades by course on the Grades page to open the Enter grades by course screen. On this screen, you can enter the grades for classes of a specific course, regardless of who teaches each class. You enter grades and skill ratings for one class at a time.

- **Entering grades by course**
  1. On the Grades page, in the School, Academic Year, and Session fields, select the school, year, and session for which you are entering grades and skill ratings.
  2. In the marking column box on the Grades page, mark the checkboxes for the marking columns to show on the Enter grades by course screen.
3. Click **Enter grades by course.** The Enter grades by course screen appears.

4. In the **Term** field, select the term for which you are entering grades and skill ratings or select “<All Terms>”.

5. In the **Enter for** field, select a group of courses. You can select all courses or a query group. For information about creating queries, see the *Query Guide* for *The Education Edge*.

6. In the **Course** field, enter the course name. You can click the binoculars to search for the course.

   After you select a course, you can use the arrow buttons to scroll through the courses in the group selected in the **Enter for** field.

7. In the **Class** field, select a class for which to enter grades and skill ratings.

   Students enrolled in the selected class for the term or terms selected in the **Term** field appear in the **Grades** grid.

8. In the **Show** field, select the columns to show within each marking column.

   Columns can include **Grade**, **Attempted Credits**, **Awarded Credits**, **Use in Calculations**, **Print Grade on Transcripts**, **Print Grade on Report Cards**, **Comment**, **Print Comment on Transcripts**, and **Print Comment on Report Cards**.

9. In the **Sort by** field, you can sort the students in the grid by last name, first name, or student ID.

10. In the **Grade** column, select the grade or enter the numeric value for the class.

11. In the **Attempted Credits** and **Awarded Credits** columns, you can view the credit values and edit the values if necessary. The values and the marking columns in which credits are attempted and awarded are defined on the course record.

12. After you enter a grade, the **Use in Calculations** column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a grade from being used to calculate GPAs and honors, unmark the checkbox.

13. After you enter a grade, the **Print Grade on Transcripts** column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a grade from being included on transcripts, unmark the checkbox.

14. After you enter a grade, the **Print Grade on Report Cards** column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a grade from being included on report cards, unmark the checkbox.

15. In the **Comment** column, you can either enter a free-form comment or select a default comment. For more information about comments, see “Adding Comments” on page 22.
You may be restricted to selecting default comments only. How you can enter comments depends on the grade comments entry setting for the academic year.

16. After you enter a comment, the **Print Comment on Transcripts** column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a comment from being included on transcripts, unmark the checkbox.

17. After you enter a comment, the **Print Comment on Report Cards** column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a comment from being included on report cards, unmark the checkbox.

**Note:** Make sure when entering skill ratings that you first select the correct student in the **Grades** grid.

18. In the **Grades** grid, select the student for whom you want to enter skill ratings in the **Skills** grid.

19. In the **Skills** grid, you can limit the skills that appear by selecting a category in the **Skills category** field.

20. In the **Skills** grid, select a skill rating for each skill and marking column.

21. To enter grades and skill ratings for another class, select a different class in the **Class** field or select a different course in the **Course** field.

22. To close the screen and return to the Grades page, click **Save and Close**.

**Entering Grades by Student**

**Note:** When you enter grades by student for a student who has courses from more than one school, if the schools do not use the same marking columns, you can enter grades for only the school selected in the **School** field. Use the Enter grades by course screen to enter grades for the other schools.

You can click **Enter grades by student** on the Grades page to open the Enter grades by student screen. On this screen, you can enter grades, skill ratings, and comments for all classes in which selected students are enrolled.

You can also enter GPAs, performance levels, and rankings for each student. However you can generate these automatically using calculations. For more information, see “Running Calculations” on page 28.

The Enter grades by student screen is the only screen on which you can enter Other Courses. For more information, see “Add Other Courses” on page 15.

- **Entering grades by student**
  1. On the Grades page, in the **School**, **Academic Year**, and **Session** fields, select the school, year, and session for which to enter grades and skill ratings.
  2. In the marking column box on the Grades page, mark the checkboxes for the marking columns to show on the Enter grades by student screen.
3. Click **Enter grades by student**. The Enter grades by student screen appears.

![Enter grades by student screen](image)

4. In the **Term** field, select the term for which you are entering grades and skill ratings or select “<All Terms>”.

5. In the **Enter for** field, select a group of students. You can select all students or a query group. For information about creating queries, see the *Query Guide* for *The Education Edge*.

6. In the **Student** field, enter the student name. You can click the binoculars to search for the student. After you select a student, you can use the arrow buttons to scroll through the students in the group selected in the **Enter for** field.

7. In the **Show** field, select the marking columns to show.

Columns can include **Grade**, **Attempted Credits**, **Awarded Credits**, **Use in Calculations**, **Print Grade on Transcripts**, **Print Grade on Report Cards**, **Comment**, **Print Comment on Transcripts**, and **Print Comment on Report Cards**.

8. In the **Display** field, select “Grades”, “Other Courses”, or “Grades and Other Courses”. For more information about Other Courses, see “Add Other Courses” on page 15.

9. In the **Sort by** field, select how to sort the classes for the selected student.

10. In the **Grade** column, select the grade or enter the numeric value for the class.

11. In the **Attempted Credits** and **Awarded Credits** columns, you can view the credit values and edit the values if necessary. The values and the marking columns in which credits are attempted and awarded are defined on the course record.

12. After you enter a grade, the **Use in Calculations** column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a grade from being used to calculate GPAs and honors, unmark the checkbox.

13. After you enter a grade, the **Print Grade on Transcripts** column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a grade from being included on transcripts, unmark the checkbox.

14. After you enter a grade, the **Print Grade on Report Cards** column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a grade from being included on report cards, unmark the checkbox.

15. In the **Comment** column, you can either enter a free-form comment or select a default comment. For more information about comments, see “Adding Comments” on page 22.
You may be restricted to selecting default comments only. How you can enter comments depends on the grade comments entry setting for the academic year.

16. After you enter a comment, the Print Comment on Transcripts column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a comment from being included on transcripts, unmark the checkbox.

17. After you enter a comment, the Print Comment on Report Cards column is enabled and the checkbox marked by default. To prevent a comment from being included on report cards, unmark the checkbox.

18. If the Skills/Calculations grid is not visible on the screen, select View, Skills/Calculations from the menu bar.

19. Select the Skills tab. The skill categories associated with the course selected in the Class grid appear.

20. To filter the skill categories that appear on this tab, select a category in the Skill category field.

**Note:** The skills displayed on the Skills tab correspond to the course selected in the Grades grid. To enter skill ratings for a course, select the course in the Grades grid.

21. In the Skills grid, enter skill ratings for the course selected in the grading grid above the Skills tab.
22. Select the GPA tab.

![GPA tab screenshot](image)

**Note:** You can automatically generate GPAs based on grades. For more information about automatically generating GPAs, see “Running Calculations” on page 28.

23. In the **GPA Calculation** column, select the GPA calculation for which to enter values.

24. To enter GPA data from another school, select a school in the **Other School** column.

25. In the **GPA**, **YTD**, and **Cumulative** columns for each marking column, enter the GPA for the marking column, the year-to-date, and for all classes taken, respectively.

26. Select the Performance tab.

![Performance tab screenshot](image)
27. In the **Performance Category** column, select the performance category for which to enter levels.
28. To enter performance levels for another school, select a school in the **Other School** column.
29. Select a performance level for each marking column.
30. Select the **Ranking** tab.

![Image of grading interface]

**Note:** You can automatically generate rankings based on grades. For more information about automatically generating rankings, see “Running Calculations” on page 28.

31. In the **Ranking Calculation** column, select the rank calculation to enter.
32. The **Type** column displays the method used to calculate ranks.
33. To enter rankings for another school, select a school in the **Other School** column.
34. If you selected a straight ranking method, enter the rank and total number of students in the **Rank** and **Out of** columns.
   
   If you selected an interval ranking method, select an interval in the **Interval** column.
35. To close the screen and return to the Grades page, click **Save and Close**.

**Add Other Courses**

You can add a course as an Other Course on a student record to enter grade information for a course that will not be scheduled. For example, you can enter grades for years that predate the installation of *The Education Edge* and add grades for courses transferred from other schools.

Before you begin to enter grades for courses from other schools, we recommend you determine what courses you want to copy. You may find that no course record exists that you want to copy. In these situations, we recommend you create a template course to use for new other courses.

**Note:** You can add only Standard and Transfer courses as Other Courses.
Before you can add an Other Course to a student record for a previous academic year, the student must have a student progression entry for that year. If the student does not have a student progression entry for the year, a message appears asking you to create one. For more information about student progression entries, see the Students chapter of the Records Guide for Registrar’s Office.

The marking columns selected for use on a standard course record may not encompass all the marking columns used for the course as an Other Course. On grading information on the course record, you can mark the Allow historical entry for all marking columns available in this session checkbox to activate all marking columns only when the course is added as an Other Course.

To create a new other course for student grades, see “Create a new course to add as an other course for student grades” on page 16.

To create a new other course for grades based on an existing course, see “Add a new other course for student grades based on an existing course” on page 18.

To add an existing other course to a student record for grades, see “Add an existing other course to a student record” on page 20.

Create a new course to add as an other course for student grades

**Tip:** If you are entering historic grades and skill ratings for more than one student, click the binoculars on the Enter for field and create a query of students for which to enter data. For more information about running a query, see the Query Guide for The Education Edge.

To add Other Courses to student records, you can create a new course.

1. On the Grades page, click Enter grades by student. The Enter grades by student screen appears.

2. In the Student field, click the binoculars to search for and select a student.

3. In the Display field, select “Grades and Other Courses” or “Other Courses”.
4. Click **Add Other Course** on the action bar above the **Grades** grid. The Add other course screen appears.

![Add other course screenshot]

5. By default, the **Create a new course** option is selected.
   
   In the **Course ID** and **Course name** fields, enter the course identification number and name. These must be unique within each school.

6. In the **Course description** field, enter a description for the course. You can use this description in course catalogs. For more information, see the Course/Class Reports chapter of the *Reports Guide for Registrar’s Office*.

7. In the **Grading Information** frame, in the **Translation table** field, select an active translation table to use for translating grades.

8. In the **Attempt** field, enter the number of credits the course can earn.

9. In the **credit(s) with a grade of** field, you can enter a grade and select a marking column. The values available depend on the translation table you selected.

   You do not have to enter a grade in this field. If you want to enter multiple grades for the student, you can enter them after you create the new course and return to the Enter grades by student screen.
10. In the Requirements frame, in the Substitute for the requirement field, if the other course satisfies a requirement for the student, select a requirement and enter the number of credits the course substitutes.

![Add other course for Jennifer Lynn Andrews](image)

What do you want to do?

- Search for an existing course
- Create a new course for Peppersworth Upper School for 2007-2008, Regular

Course Information

- Course ID: Span 101 - T
- Course name: Spanish 101 - Transfer
- Course description: Beginning Spanish course from another school

Grading Information

- Translation table: Standard Translation
- Attempt: Credit(s) with a grade of A in SEM 1

Requirements

- Substitute for the requirement: No Requirement
- Substitute requirement using: Credit(s)

Save and New  Save and Close  Cancel

**Note:** If you do not have the appropriate security rights, you cannot create an Other Course.

11. To save the record and return to the Enter grades by student screen, click **Save and Close**. To save the record and create a new other course, click **Save and New**.

- **Add a new other course for student grades based on an existing course**

**Tip:** If you are entering historic grades and skill ratings for more than one student, click the binoculars on the Enter for field and create a query of students for which to enter data. For more information about running a query, see the **Query Guide** for **The Education Edge**.
You can add an Other Course to a student record based on an existing course.

1. On the Grades page, click Enter grades by student. The Enter grades by student screen appears.

2. In the Student field, click the binoculars to search for and select a student.

3. In the Display field, select “Grades and Other Courses” or “Other Courses”.

4. Click Add Other Course on the action bar above the Grades grid. The Add other course screen appears.

5. By default, the Create a new course option is selected.
In the **Copy from** field, click the binoculars. The Open screen appears.

![Image of Open screen]

6. Search for and select a course, and then click **Open**. Information from the existing course defaults into the **Course Information** and **Grading Information** frames as available.

7. In the **Course ID** and **Course name** fields, enter the course identification number and name. These must be unique within each school.

   If needed, enter **Grading Information** for the course.

   a. In the **Grading Information** frame, in the **Translation table** field, select an active translation table to use for translating grades.

   b. In the **Attempt** field, enter the number of credits the course can earn.

   c. In the **credit(s) with a grade of** field, you can enter a grade and select a marking column. The values available depend on the translation table you selected.

      You do not have to enter a grade in this field. If you want to enter multiple grades for the student, you can enter them after you create the new course and return to the Enter grades by student screen.

8. In the **Requirements** frame, in the **Substitute for the requirement** field, if the other course satisfies a requirement for the student, select a requirement and enter the number of credits the course substitutes.

9. To save the record and return to the Enter grades by student screen, click **Save and Close**. To save the record and add a new other course, click **Save and New**.

   ▶ **Add an existing other course to a student record**

   **Note:** By default, the **Category** field on the Open screen is set to Transfer Course. To add a standard course as an Other Course, select “Standard” instead.

   **Tip:** If you are entering historic grades and skill ratings for more than one student, click the binoculars on the **Enter for** field and create a query of students for which to enter data. For more information about running a query, see the **Query Guide for The Education Edge**.
You can add Other Courses to student records from existing courses.

1. On the Grades page, click **Enter grades by student**. The Enter grades by student screen appears.

![Enter grades by student](image)

2. In the **Student** field, click the binoculars to search for and select a student.
3. In the **Display** field, select “Grades and Other Courses” or “Other Courses”.
4. Click **Add Other Course** on the action bar above the **Grades** grid. The Add other course screen appears.

![Add other course](image)

5. By default, the **Create a new course** option is selected. Select **Search for an existing course** instead.
6. Click OK. The Open screen appears.

![Open screen](image)

**Note:** By default, the Category field on the Open screen is set to Transfer Course. To add a standard course as an Other Course, select “Standard” instead.

7. Search for and select a course, and then click Open. You return to the Enter grades by student screen.

8. To select the school at which the student took the selected course, click the binoculars in the School or Teacher/School column. The Open screen appears.

9. Search for and select the school, and then click Open.

**Note:** You can set a user option to display Other Courses in a different color in the grid.

10. Enter grade information for the course. For information about the values to enter in the columns, see “Entering Grades by Student” on page 11.

11. To view the other course and update information, such as whether to include the course in GPAs, whether to include the course in performance categories, and whether to print the course on report cards and transcripts, select the course, right click the course name, and select Go to, Course. The Course appears.

   Make any changes neccessary and click Save and Close. You return to the Enter grades by screen.

12. To save the record and return to the Grades page, click Save and Close.

**Adding Comments**

In Registrar Setup in Configuration, you can define default comments to use in Grades. Depending on how you set up the academic year in Configuration, you can select default comments or enter free-form text. For more information about configuring academic years, see the Configuration Guide for Registrar’s Office.

When an academic year is set up for numeric comments, you can enter default comments only. For more information, see “Adding comments by comment number” on page 23.
When an academic year is set up for free-form comments, you can either enter default comments or enter free-form text. For free-form comments, you can enter up to 7,700 characters unless you define a different comment character limit when you create your academic year. For more information, see “Adding free-form comments” on page 24.

- **Adding comments by comment number**
  These steps show you how to add grade comments when the corresponding academic year is set up for numeric comment entry.
  1. On a grade entry screen, in the Show field, select “Grade and Comment columns”, “Comments columns only”, or “All columns”.
  2. Click in a comment cell. A binoculars button appears.
  3. Click the binoculars button. The Comment screen appears.
  4. If you have not yet awarded a grade to the student for the class, you can enter or select a grade in the **Grade Awarded** field.
  5. If you know the numbers of the comments to add, select them in the **Comment Number** column. The corresponding comment text appears in the **Comment** column.
  6. If you do not know the number for the comments to add, click **Select**. The Default Comments screen appears.
  7. Select one or more default comments from the grid. To select more than one comment, press **CTRL** while selecting rows.
  8. Click **Select**.
9. The comments print in the order they appear on the Comments screen. To change the order, you can select a comment row and click Up or Down.

10. To include the comment on the student’s transcript, mark Print comment on transcripts. This is the same as if you marked the checkbox in the Print Comment on Transcripts column on a grade entry screen.

11. To include the comment on the student’s report card, mark Print comment on report cards. This is the same as if you marked the checkbox in the Print Comment on Report Cards column on a grade entry screen.

Note: How comments are separated is set up in Grades Business Rules in Configuration, for example, by a carriage return or period.

12. To see how the comments will appear on the student’s report card or transcript, click Preview.

13. To add the comments for the grade and return to the grade entry screen, click OK.

Adding free-form comments

These steps show you how to add grade comments when the corresponding academic year is set up for free-form comment entry.

1. On a grade entry screen, in the Show field, select “Grade and Comment columns”, “Comments columns only”, or “All columns”.

2. Click in a comment cell. A down arrow button and binoculars button appear.

3. To add a default comment to the marking column, click the down arrow button and select a comment from the list.

4. To open the Comment screen, click the binoculars.

Note: Default comments are defined in Registrar Setup in Configuration.

5. If you have not yet awarded a grade to the student for the class, you can enter or select a grade in the Grade Awarded field.

Note: To prevent formatting errors on report cards, do not copy and paste a comment into Grades unless its formatting is available in Grades. For example, do not paste comments with tables, superscripts, bulleted lists, or numbered lists.

6. Click inside the box and enter your comments. You can enter up to 7,700 characters.
7. To add a time stamp to the box, from the menu bar, select Comment, Insert Time Stamp. The date, time, and your login ID are added to the comment editing area.

8. You can also access default comments from this screen. From the menu bar, select Comment, Insert default comment. The Default Comments screen appears.

![Default Comments](image)

9. Select one or more default comments from the grid. To select more than one comment, press CTRL while selecting rows.

10. Click Select.

11. To spell check the comments you entered, select Tools, Spelling from the menu bar.

12. To search for a better word, select the word to replace and select Tools, Thesaurus from the menu bar.

13. To enter a comment for the next class taken by the selected student, click the right arrow button on the action bar. The title bar displays the name of the student and the class.

14. To include the comment on the student’s transcript, mark Print comment on transcripts. This is the same as if you marked the checkbox in the Print Comment on Transcripts column on a grade entry screen.

15. To include the comment on the student’s report card, mark Print comment on report cards. This is the same as if you marked the checkbox in the Print Comment on Report Cards column on a grade entry screen.

16. To add the comments for the grade and return to the grade entry screen, click OK.

Adding Class Notes

You can enter notes about each class for each marking column, for example, providing detail about what students worked on in the class during that marking column. These class notes can be included on report cards and transcripts.

You enter class notes on the Notes tab of class records in Scheduling or in the gradebook in Faculty Access for the Web. For more information about class records, see the Class Scheduling chapter of the Scheduling Guide. For more information about entering class notes in Faculty Access for the Web, see the User’s Guide for Faculty Access for the Web.

For information about including class notes on report cards and transcripts, see the Report Cards and Transcripts chapter of the Mail Guide for The Education Edge.
Viewing Grade Changes

Note: Grade changes are generated automatically.

From any of the grade entry screens, you can view changes to grade records. Any time Grade, Attempted Credits, or Awarded Credits are entered or changed and saved, an entry is generated on the Grade Changes screen. However, if you delete any grade record you are also deleting the history of grade changes. Grade changes are recorded for both enrolled classes and other courses. Grade change entries can come from grade entry screens, grade calculations, Post from FAWeb in Administration, Import, student education record academic summary, course grading information, translation tables, grade type fields, and Scheduling.

Grade change fields are included in Query and Export to help determine which records changed, who changed them, and why the record was changed. For example, if you want to notify students by email of grade changes, you can use Query to find any student with grade changes last week. Then, you can use Export to send their grades to a Netmail email.

› Viewing grade changes

Note: If you made a grade change and View grade changes is not enabled, click Save and try again.

1. On a grade entry screen, in the Grades grid, right-click on a grade in the Grade column that has been changed, and select View grade changes. The Grade Changes screen appears.

Note: The grade change reason can include up to 255 characters.

2. Review the student’s grade change information. In the Reason column, you can enter a reason for the grade change.
3. To close the Grade Changes screen, click OK. You return to the grade entry screen.

Viewing Details for Students

From any of the grade entry screens, you can view all grades and skill ratings for a class taken by a student, including classes from which the student has withdrawn.

› Viewing details

1. On a grade entry screen, right-click on a row in the Grades grid and select Details for student. The Details screen for the student appears.
2. To view grade properties, select a row and click View Properties.
3. To view the definition of a translation table, select a row and click View Translation Table.
4. To view the definition of a course average calculation, select a row and click View Course Average Calculation.
5. If skills exist, you can click the Skills tab to view skill information.
6. To close the Details screen, click OK.

Drops, Withdrawals, and Transfers

When you drop a student from a class, you delete all attendance, grades, and skill ratings for that student in that class. Any grades earned in the course do not affect the student’s GPA.

When you withdraw a student from a class, the student is marked as no longer enrolled in the class, but you retain all grades earned and skill ratings and attendance recorded. The grades earned can affect the student’s GPA and are printed on report cards and transcripts.

You can transfer a student from one section of a course to another section. When you transfer a student between sections, any grades and skill ratings recorded in the initial section remain with that section. Any new grades and skill ratings are recorded in the new section. On the grade entry screens, the Class column for the course displays both sections, separated by a comma. The grades and skill ratings for the classes appear in the same row, and any cumulative grades are calculated using grades from both sections.

You use Other Courses to record information about courses that a student transfers from another school. Any grades recorded for the course can affect the student’s GPA and are printed on report cards and transcripts. For more information about Other Courses, see “Add Other Courses” on page 15.

Hiding/Showing Marking Columns

Marking columns maintain and organize grade and skill ratings information. You can customize what marking columns appear by default on grade entry screens by marking and unmarking checkboxes in the box in the Grades Entry tasks section of the Grades page. You can also customize what marking columns appear by selecting Marking Columns, Marking Column, <column to hide or show> on the menu bar of the grade entry screens. If the column you select was hidden, this shows it; if it was showing, this hides it.
You can also select **Marking Columns, Show all marking columns** or **Marking Columns, Hide all marking columns** from the menu bar of the grade entry screens to show all or hide all marking columns.

## Running Calculations

Course average, GPA, performance, and rank calculations are defined in Registrar Setup in *Configuration*. You can run these in *Grades* by creating calculation parameter sets. A calculation parameter set contains information needed to run the calculation, such as the academic year, session, and marking column to which the calculation applies.

### Creating a calculation parameter set

1. On the Grades page, click **Run calculations**. The Run Calculations page appears.

2. On the action bar, click **New Calculation Parameter Set**. The Calculation Parameter Set screen appears.

3. In the **School**, **Academic year**, and **Session** fields, select the school, academic year, and session for which to define the calculation.

4. In the **Calculate** field, select the type of calculation to run. Your selection determines what appears in the grid in the **Include these calculations** frame.

5. In the **Marking column** field, select the marking column for which to run the calculation.

6. Mark the checkboxes in the **Calculate?** column for the calculations to include in this parameter set.
Calculations are defined in Registrar Setup in Configuration. For more information about defining calculations, see the Configuration Guide for Registrar’s Office.

7. In the Print report on field, select the printer on which to print the preprocessing and control reports.

8. To create an output query of all students included in the processing, mark Create an output query of students with returned results. This includes students with either calculated results or results returned by termination functionality.

9. If you are running a Course Average or GPA calculation, to create an output query of students with unsuccessful calculations, mark Create an output query of students with exceptions.

10. If you are running a Course Average or GPA calculation, to include the actual calculation used to calculate each student’s results on the reports, mark Show calculations for each student.

11. If you are running a GPA or Performance Categories calculation, you can mark Include historical grades.

12. If you are running a GPA or Performance Categories calculation, you can mark Include outside school grades.

13. If you are running a Ranks calculation, you can mark Rank by year.

14. Click Next. The Filters tab appears.

15. In the filters grid, you can filter the students to include. For more information about filtering, see the Program Basics Guide.

16. To review a preprocessing report before actually running the calculation, click Preprocessing Report. The report lists students whose calculations were performed successfully, those with exceptions, and a description of the exceptions.

17. To run the calculation, click Calculate Now.

18. The Save Calculation Parameter Set as screen appear so you can enter a name and description for this set, and specify whether other users can run or modify it. Click Save.
19. A message appears confirming you want to run the calculations. Click Yes. A progress indicator appears, showing the progress of the calculations. A control report appears after the calculation process.

20. Click the print button to print the report to the printer selected on the General tab.
21. Close the control report.
22. Return to the calculation parameter set and click Save and Close.

- **Running calculations**

These steps show you how to run a calculation from the Run Calculations page. You can also run calculations by selecting Grades, Run calculations from the menu bar on any of the grade entry screens, or by clicking Calculate Now on an open calculation parameter set.

1. On the Grades page, click Run calculations. The Run Calculations page appears.

2. In the Calculate field, select the type of calculation to run. Defined calculation parameter sets appear in the grid.
3. To narrow calculation parameter sets to only those you created, mark Only show my calculations.
4. Select a calculation parameter set from the grid and click Run on the action bar.
5. A message appears confirming you want to run the calculations. Click Yes. A progress indicator appears, showing the progress of the calculations. A control report appears after the calculation process.

6. Click the print button to print the report to the printer selected on the General tab.

7. Close the control report.

Publishing Report Cards and Transcripts to the Web

If you have the optional module \textit{NetClassroom}, a link to publish report cards appears on the Grades page. Also, if you have the optional modules \textit{NetClassroom} or \textit{Faculty Access for the Web}, a link to publish transcripts to the web appears. By publishing, you export a PDF file that can be viewed in \textit{NetClassroom} or \textit{Faculty Access for the Web}. \textit{NetClassroom} users can view these report cards and transcripts if you enable the features when setting up \textit{NetClassroom} in Configuration. To view transcripts in \textit{Faculty Access for the Web}, you must have appropriate security rights to view grades in Registrar’s Office student records. For more information about granting rights to features in \textit{NetClassroom}, see the Configuration Guide for Registrar’s Office. For more information about granting security rights, see the Administration Guide for The Education Edge.

To avoid a processing error, do not publish report cards or transcripts while a user is accessing the information in \textit{NetClassroom}. To prevent this possibility, disable the feature, publish the information from \textit{Grades}, then enable the feature again.

From the Grades page, you can also remove published report cards and transcripts. You create report cards and transcripts in \textit{Mail}. For more information about creating report cards and transcripts, see the \textit{Mail Guide} for The Education Edge.
 Publish report cards to NetClassroom
1. On the Grades page, click Publish report cards to NetClassroom. The Select a Parameter File screen appears.

2. Select a report card and click Select.
3. The Publish screen appears, calculating the number of records to process.
4. When processing is complete, a screen appears showing the number of students with report cards published. Click OK.

 Publish transcripts to the web
1. On the Grades page, click Publish transcripts to the web. The Select a Parameter File screen appears.

2. Select a transcript and click Select.
3. The Publish screen appears, calculating the number of records to process.
4. When processing is complete, a screen appears showing the number of students with transcripts published. Click OK.
Remove published report cards
1. On the Grades page, click **Remove report cards from NetClassroom**. The Select a Parameter File screen appears.

    ![Select a Parameter File](image1)

    2. Select a report card and click **Select**.
    3. The Publish screen appears, calculating the number of records to process.
    4. When processing is complete, a screen appears showing the number of students selected in the report card parameter file, not necessarily the number of those students that had published report cards. Click **OK**.

Remove published transcripts
1. On the Grades page, click **Remove transcripts from the web**. The Select a Parameter File screen appears.

    ![Select a Parameter File](image2)

    2. Select a transcript and click **Select**.
    3. The Publish screen appears, calculating the number of records to process.
    4. When processing is complete, a screen appears showing the number of students selected in the transcript parameter file, not necessarily the number of those students that had published transcripts. Click **OK**.
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