How to get points back on graded lab assignments in Dr. Tiernan’s CSE1325 class

The following policy applies to graded lab assignments in Dr T’s Java CSE 1325 class that have errors in them.  This means that if you lost points on a lab for an error in the coding, the output (coming up with wrong answers), or from a deduction (such as the lab crashing) then you can go talk to the GTA about your lab and the TA will give you points back on that lab assignment after you have had your discussion.  The calculation of how many points you get back is based on the policy below.

In summary, if you lose points on a lab due to an error, you can get some points back if you do the following:

1. Contact the TA within 7 days of grades being posted and set up a time to talk to them
2. Meet with the TA at the scheduled time and discuss the problems and issues with your lab assignment
3. After the meeting, the TA will use the policy below to give back some points on your assignment and will give the revised lab grades to me (Note that this does not require you to redo or resubmit the lab. It does require you to get an understanding of what kind of problems you had in your assignment and to get advice and suggestions from the TA.)

Lab Re-grading policy – CSE 1325, Dr. Tiernan

This policy has two parts – Regrading of the Coding and Output (the Subtotal) and Regrading of any Deductions.  In order for any regarding to occur the student must do the following:

1. Once a lab has been graded and the grade posted to Blackboard, the student has one week to either meet with the TA or to at least set up a meeting with the TA to discuss the lab.  [If the student has not contacted the TA within a week, then they will not be able to get their grade changed even if they do meet about the graded lab.]
2. During the meeting with the TA, the student and TA will go over the problem areas of the lab assignment and discuss solutions, or alternate approaches, or other aspects of changing and fixing the code for future use.
3. The TA will update the lab grades after each student visit and send an updated grade sheet to Dr. T one week after the grades were posted and then, if there are any further meetings to be held, a final updated grade sheet after the last scheduled meeting.

PART I: General Lab Re-grading Policy for score on Coding and Output, the SUBTOTAL:  Students who go talk to the TA about the errors, problems, or missing components of the lab submitted will be given a small grade increase which will be calculated as the original subtotal plus 20% of the error amount, i.e. 100 points – the subtotal = the error amount.  If the program also had error deductions, then this subtotal increase would be applied first and then the DEDUCTION policy changes would be applied.

With this clarification of the policy, if a student had a subtotal of 94 (50 on Parts I and II, 44 on Part III), AND had no Deductions taken, then their error amount on the subtotal was 6 points.  The TA takes 20% of 6 points (1pt roughly) and adds this to the original subtotal to get the new subtotal of 95.  If, for example they also had a late penalty, the TA would now recalculate that change using the subtotal of 95 instead of 94.

As a second example, if a student had a subtotal of 65 and an error deduction of 100 points (for a crash), then when they talk to the TA, the TA will recalculate as follows:

Grade on Coding and Output (the Subtotal) was 65 and error deduction of 100 gives a grade of 0.

Error amount = 100 – 65 = 35

20% of error amount = 35 \* .2 = 7

New subtotal = 65 + 7 = 72

Error deduction 100 points

Reduced deduction grade = 72 – 50 = 22

50% subtotal grade = 72 \* .5 = 36

So the best grade is the 36.  Thus, the student’s grade goes from 0 to 36 for the assignment.

PART II:  General Lab Re-grading Policy for errors in the program, i.e. the DEDUCTIONS:  Students who go talk to the TA about the errors, problems, or missing components of the lab submitted will have the error deduction reduced as defined below.

After this meeting is complete, the TA will reduce the amount of each deduction by 50% and recalculate the grade (I’ll call this the “reduced deduction grade”).  Also, the TA will calculate 50% of the user score before deductions, i.e. the subtotal of points.  (I’ll call this the “50% subtotal grade”.)  The student’s final grade on the lab assignment will be the higher of the reduced deduction grade or the 50% subtotal grade.

Example 1:

On Lab #1, a student didn’t submit the script file for Part III, originally he got 40 points out of 50 (which is the score of part III) and he got 50 out of 50 for Parts I and II for a grade of 50 points on Lab #1 (Parts I and II = 50 points and Part III got 0 points). Then he meets with the TA and talks about his code and issues. His deduction is cut in half (25 points instead of 50 points) so his score would be Part I and Part II = 50 points and Part III = 40 points minus 25 points = 15 points for a total of 65 points on Lab #1.  By the other scoring scheme he gets Part I and Part II = 50 points and 50% of the Part III score he made which was 40 points so this is 50 points plus 20 points = 70. Therefore the final score is 70.

Example 2:

To look at this with a grading example that will apply to future labs,  let’s say that student M had a subtotal of 80 points.  Now let’s consider two kinds of errors and how they would affect the grade.

If M gets a deduction of late points (say 35 points), then their grade works out as 45 (=80 – 35 ).  They come see the TA and then the TA calculates the two versions of the grade.

Reduced deduction : 50% of 35 points is 17 so grade works out as 80 – 17 or 63

50% subtotal: 50% of 80 points is 40

So best grade is 63

However, if M gets a deduction for using an exit (-100 points) then their grade is a 0 .  ).  They come see the TA and then the TA calculates the two versions of the grade.

Reduced deduction : 50% of 100 points is 50 so grade works out as 80 – 50 or 30

50% subtotal: 50% of 80 points is 40

So best grade in this case is 40 points