



January 12, 2007

TO: Academic Deans

FROM: Patrick Farrell, Provost

RE: Review of Grading Patterns Within Undergraduate Courses
Response Requested by February 16, 2007

During the UAPC's and Deans' reviews of grading practices in 1999, some of you indicated that it would be helpful for the office of Academic Planning and Analysis to periodically provide information comparing the distribution of grades among primary sections of the same course. You may recall receiving information in recent years for lower division courses having multiple primary sections in fall semesters.

The attached document provides an updated analysis based on courses taught in Fall 2006. These charts show the distribution of undergraduate letter grades in courses numbered below 400 that have multiple primary sections of at least 30 undergraduates in each section. Cross-listed courses are included in the primary department and are indicated by the "[XL]" symbol appended to the course title. Variable credit courses are excluded. Data for all schools/colleges are included to provide you with an overview of grading patterns in this type of course. If you have questions regarding the content presented in the attached charts, please contact Bruce Beck at 263-4240 or bdbeck@wisc.edu.

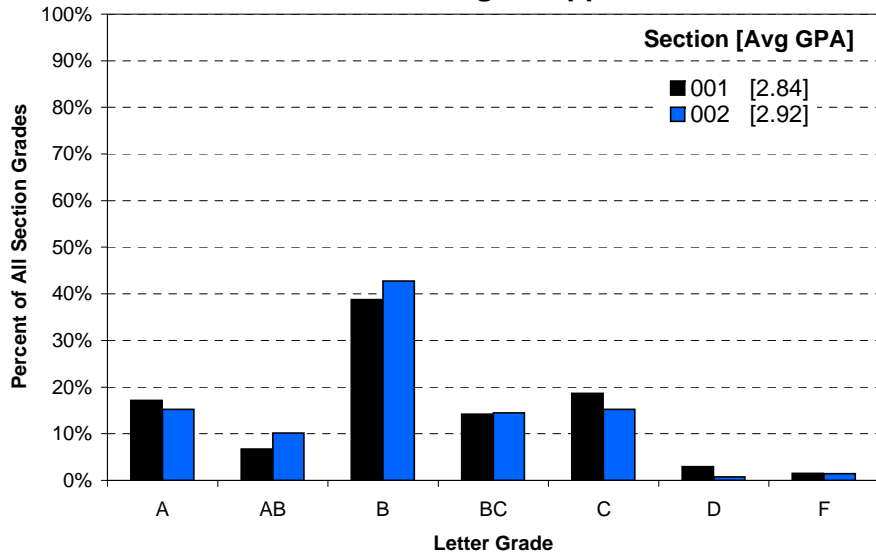
In many of the courses shown in the charts, the grade distributions of the multiple sections are similar. In some other courses, the distribution of grades varies considerably between sections of the same course. Real differences in student abilities may account for some of this variation. However, another possible source of variation between sections may be differences in instructor grading practices. Please identify and review those courses where you think differences between section grade distributions are significant.

This is the seventh year we have distributed this report to the academic deans. I would appreciate your comments on whether this information is useful to you. A description of how you have used this information would be appreciated. Please send your response to Jocelyn Milner (jlmilner@vc.wisc.edu) by February 16.

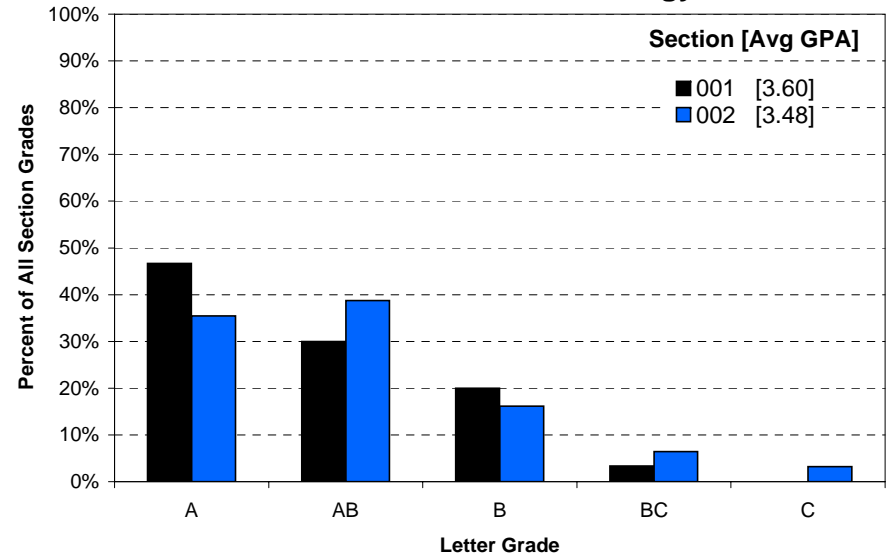
Attachment
xc: Jocelyn Milner

**Distribution of Fall 2006-07 Undergraduate Letter Grades in
Courses Numbered Below 400 Having Multiple Classes of at Least 30 Undergraduates
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences**

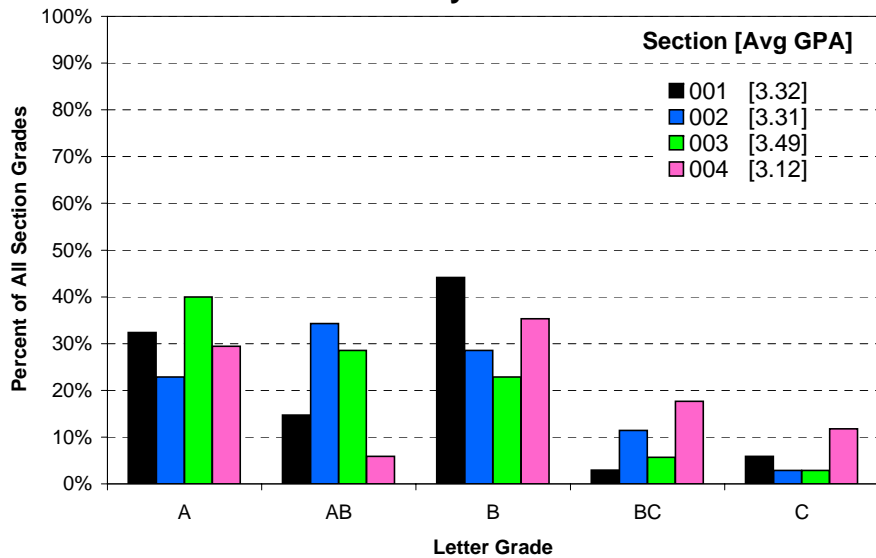
A A E 215 Intro to Agr & Applied Econ



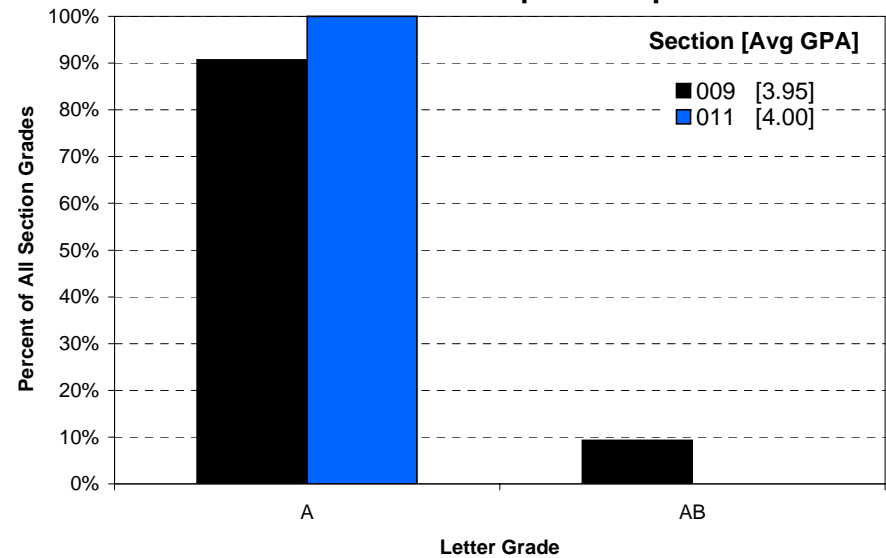
BACT 102 General Microbiology Lab



BACT 304 Procaroytic Microbiol Lab

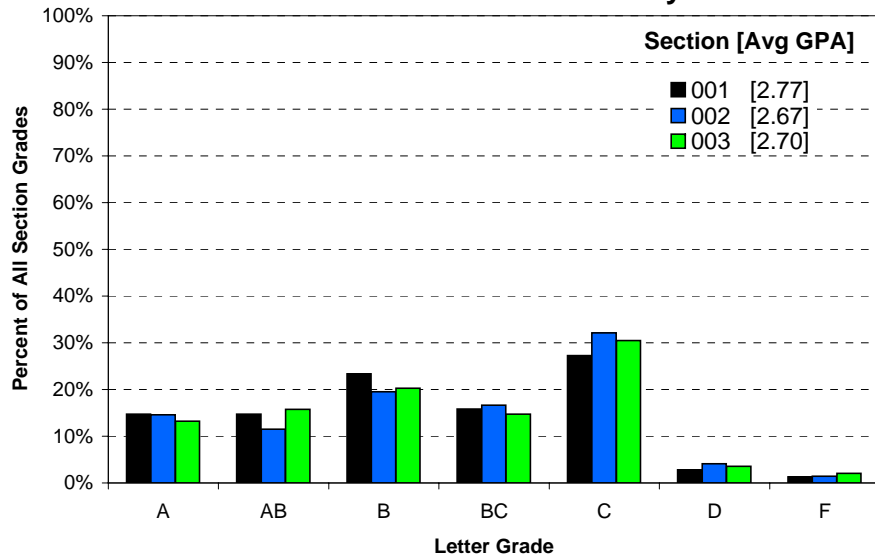


GENETICS 375 Special Topics



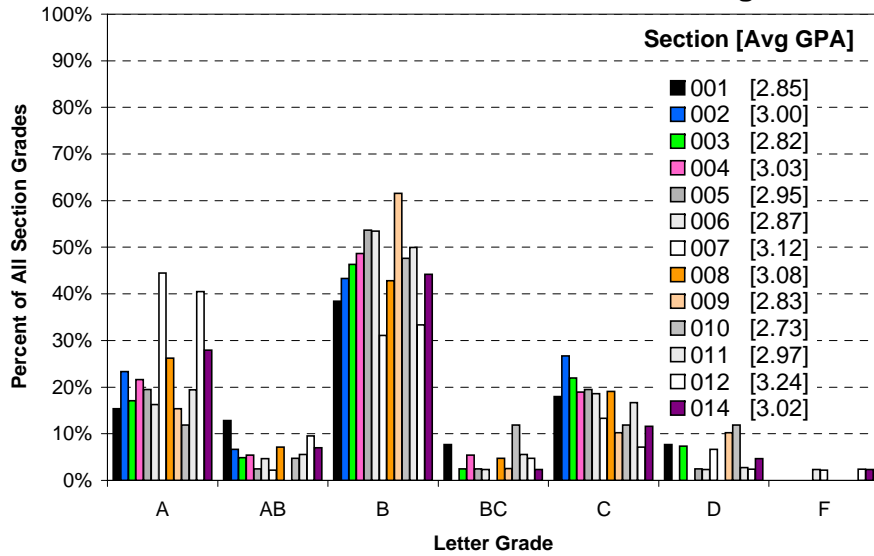
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NUTR SCI 132 Nutrition Today

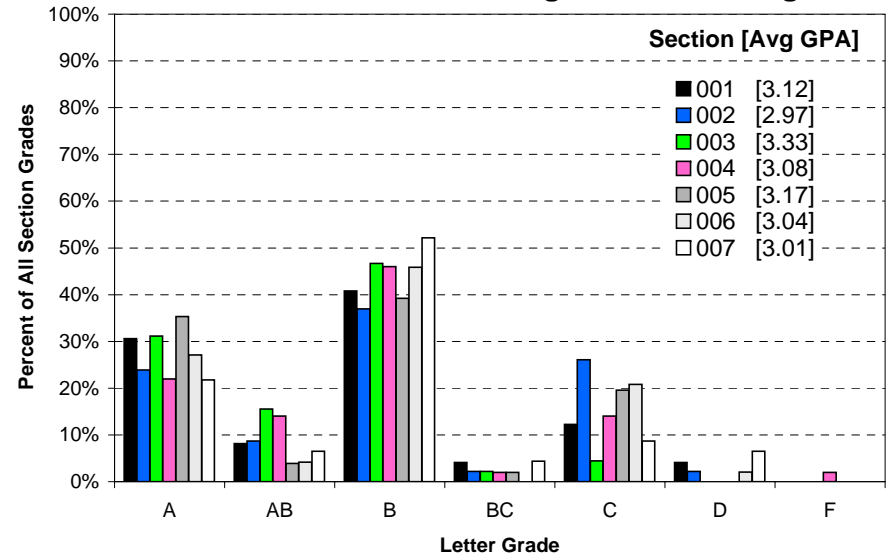


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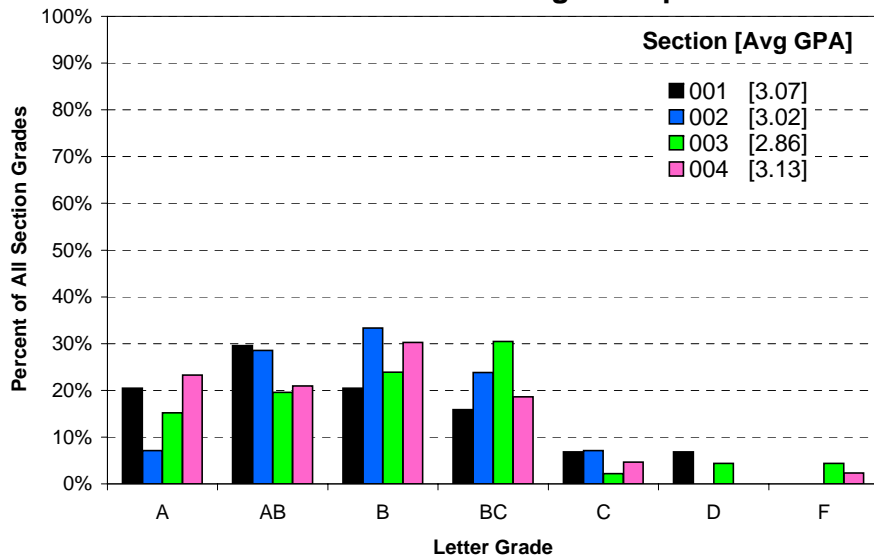
ACCT I S 100 Intro Financial Accounting



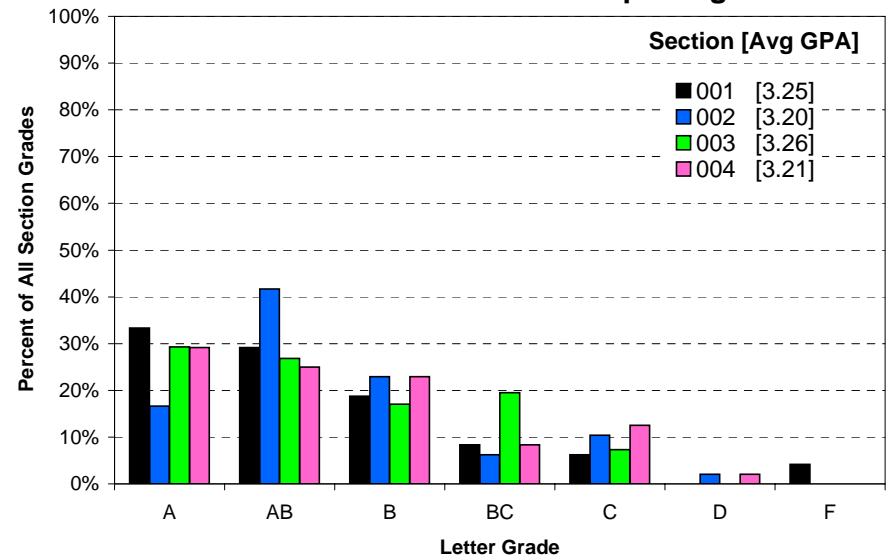
ACCT I S 211 Intro Managerial Accounting



ACCT I S 300 Accounting Principles

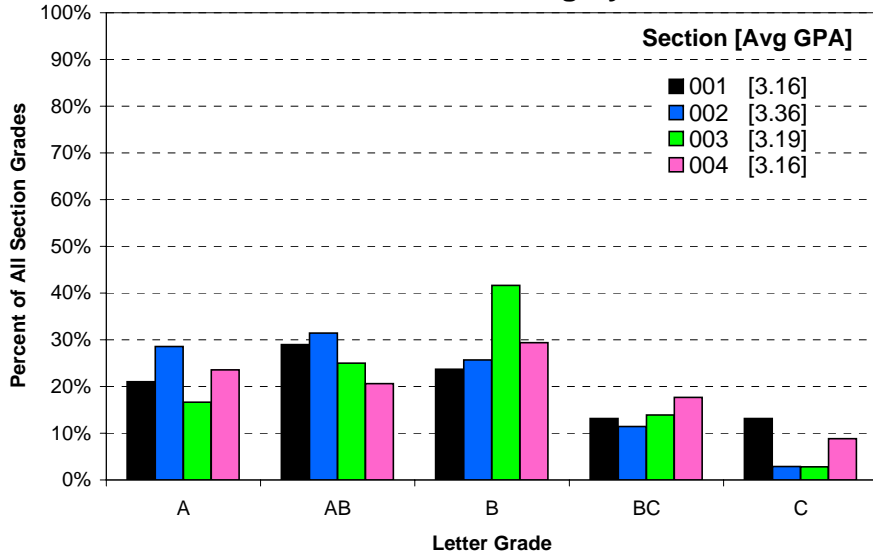


ACCT I S 301 Financial Reporting I

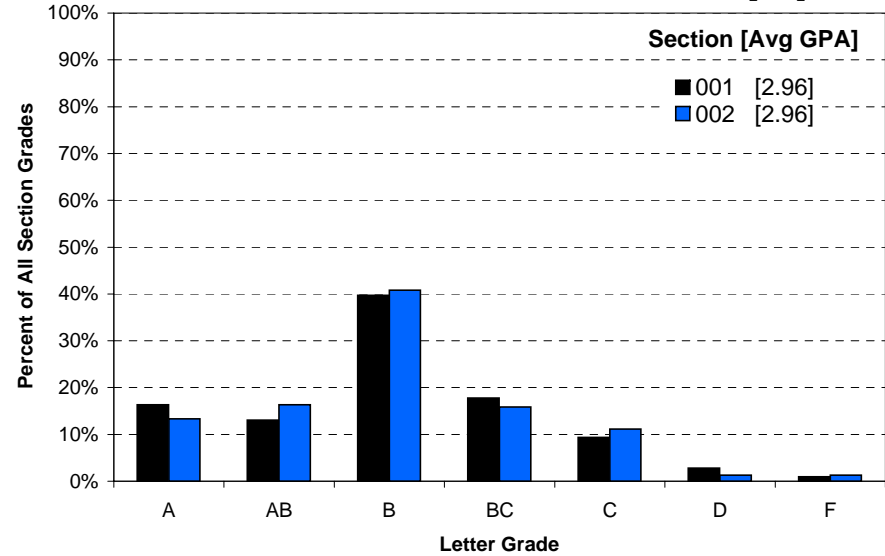


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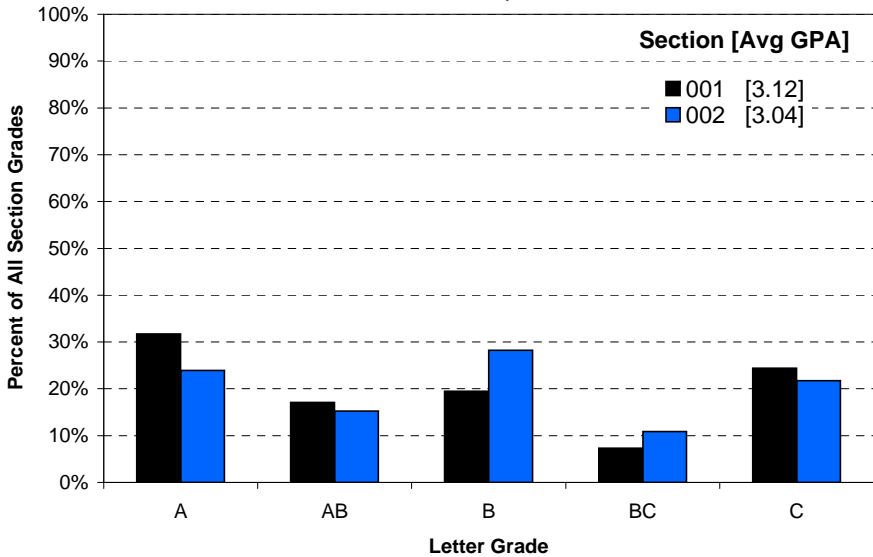
ACCT I S 340 Accounting Systems



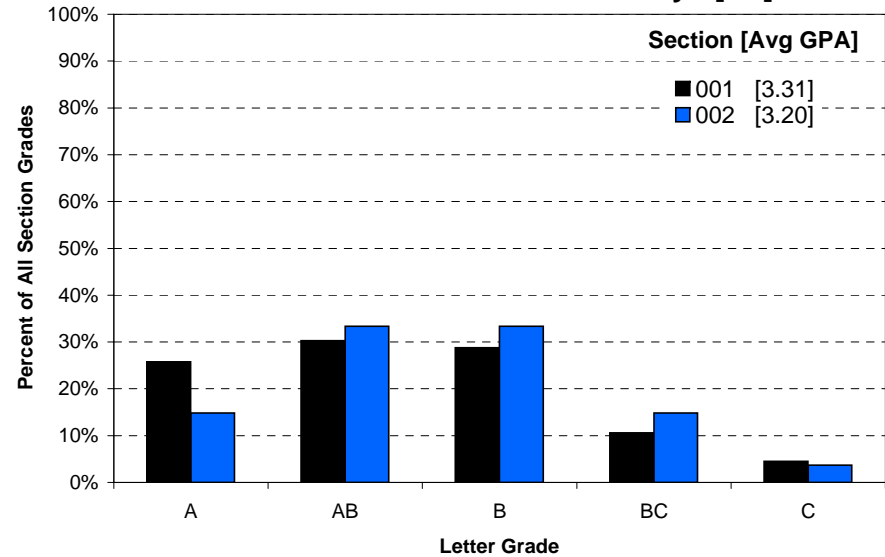
FINANCE 300 Introduction to Finance [XL]



FINANCE 305 Finc Mrkts,Instns&Econ Actv

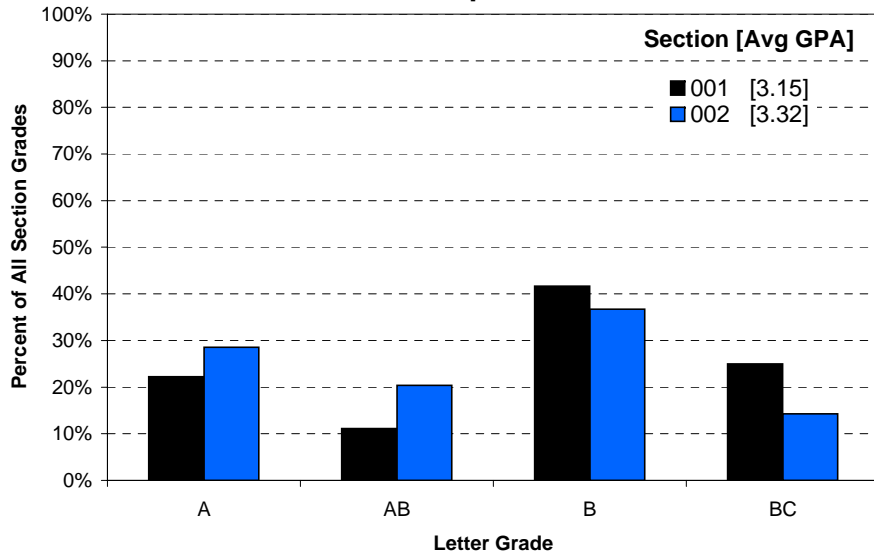


FINANCE 320 Investment Theory [XL]

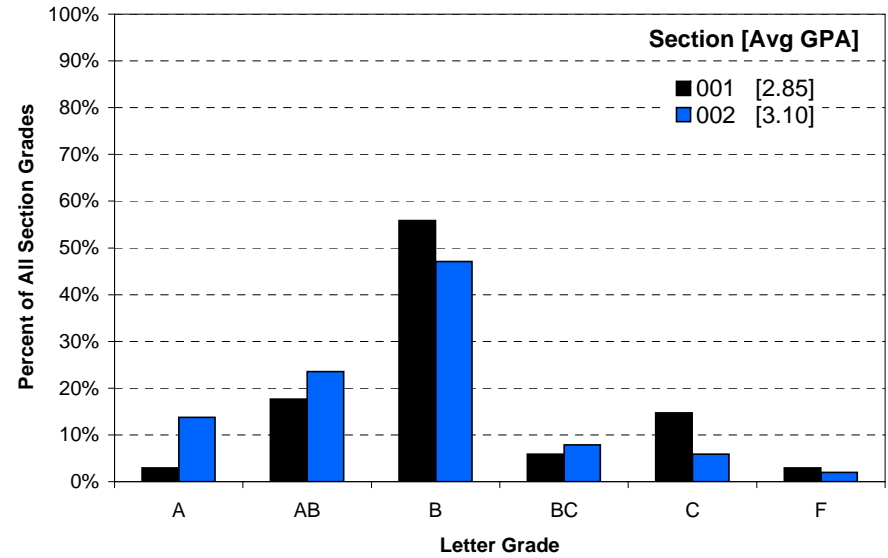


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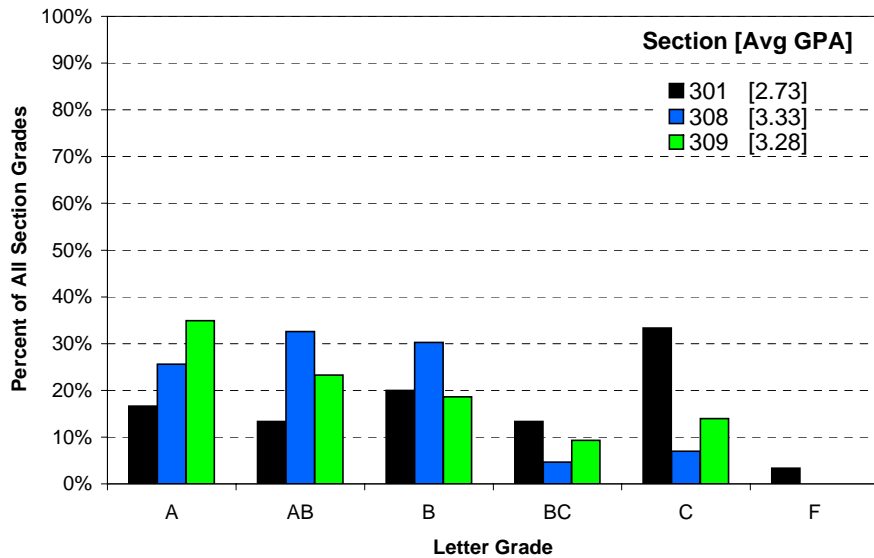
FINANCE 325 Corporation Finance



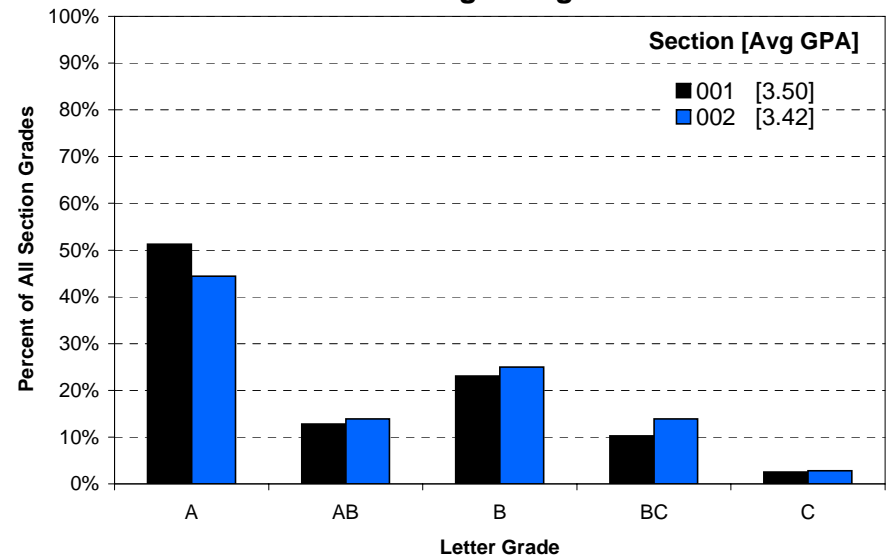
FINANCE 330 Derivative Securities



GEN BUS 301 Business Law

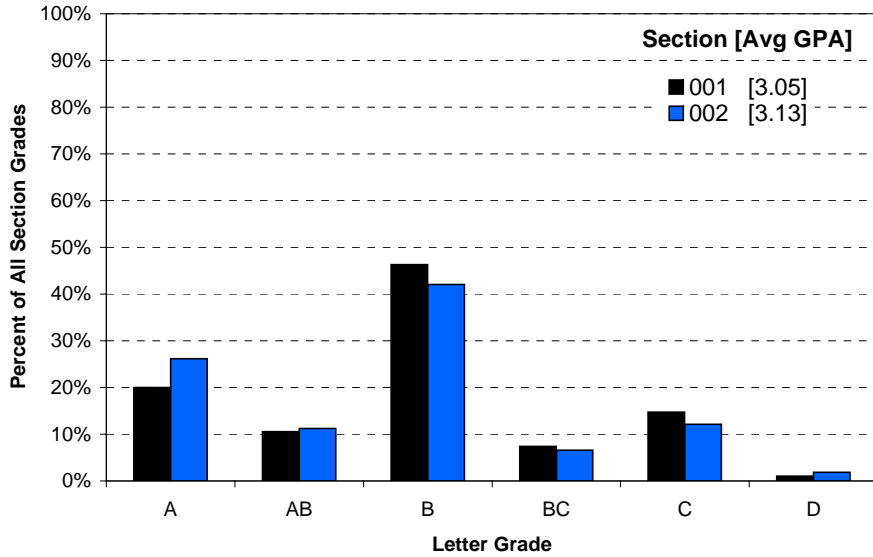


GEN BUS 302 Bus Orgs&Negotiable Instrumnts

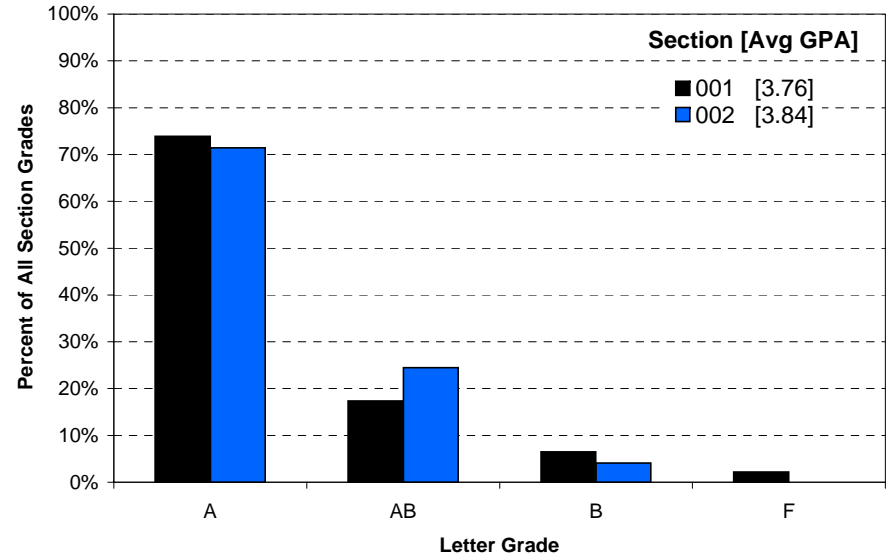


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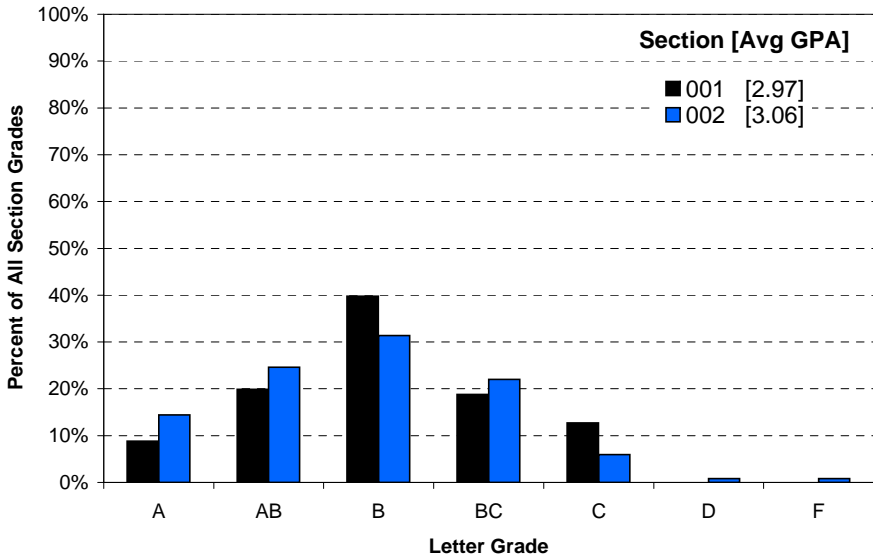
GEN BUS 303 Business Statistics



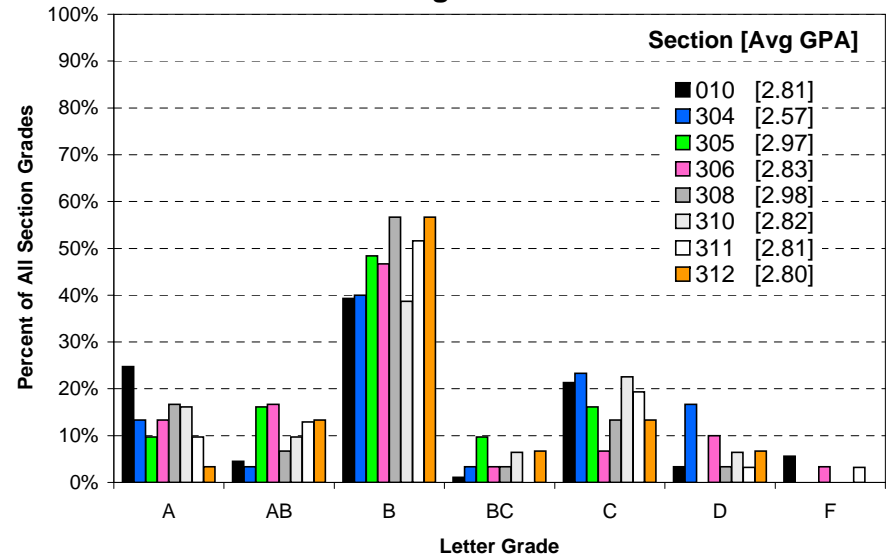
GEN BUS 304 Intermediate Bus Statistics



INTL BUS 200 International Business

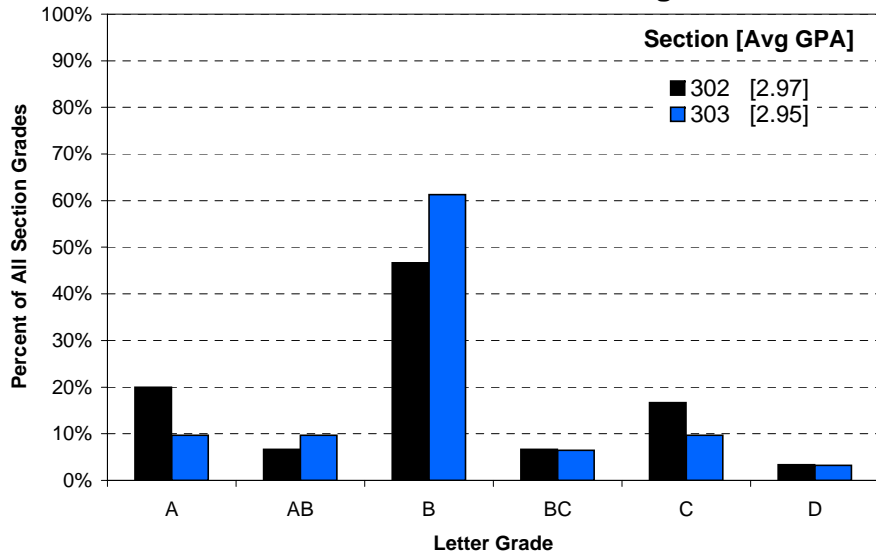


M H R 300 Organizational Behavior

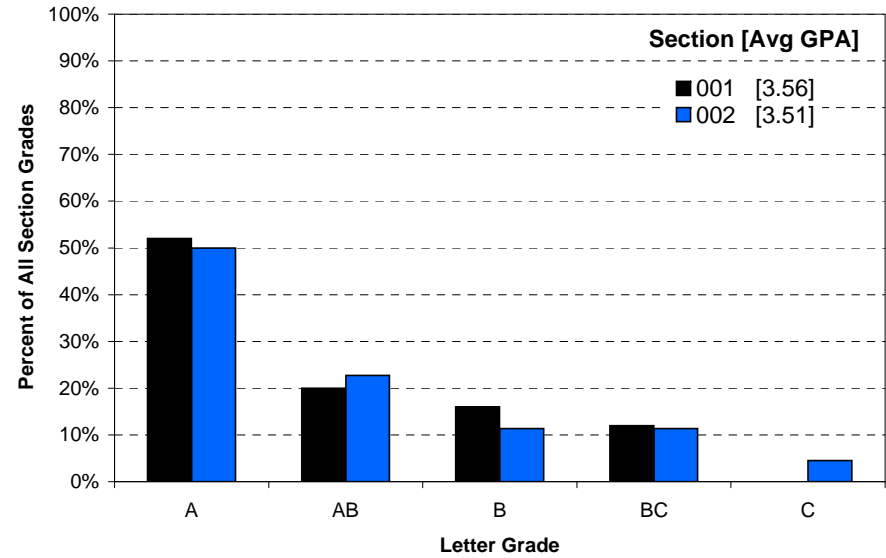


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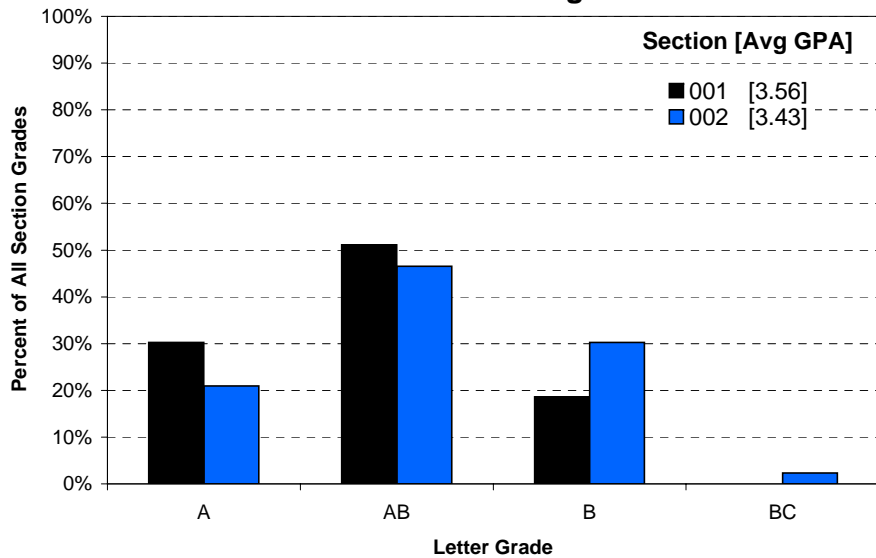
M H R 305 Human Resource Management



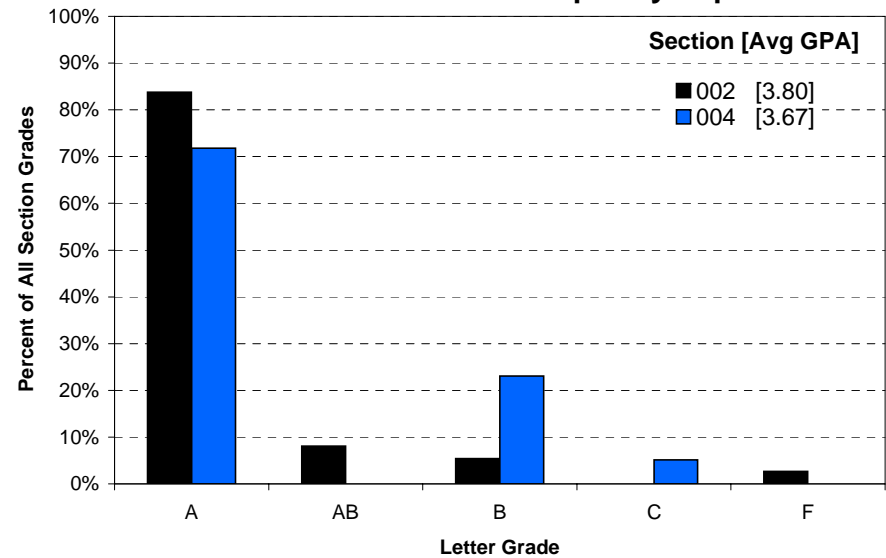
MARKETNG 305 Consumer Behavior



MARKETNG 310 Marketing Research

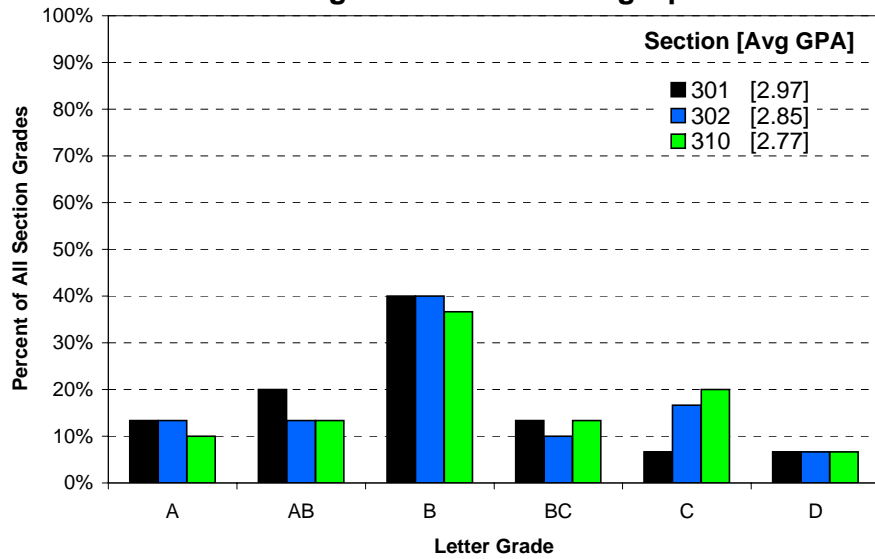


MARKETNG 365 Contemporary Topics



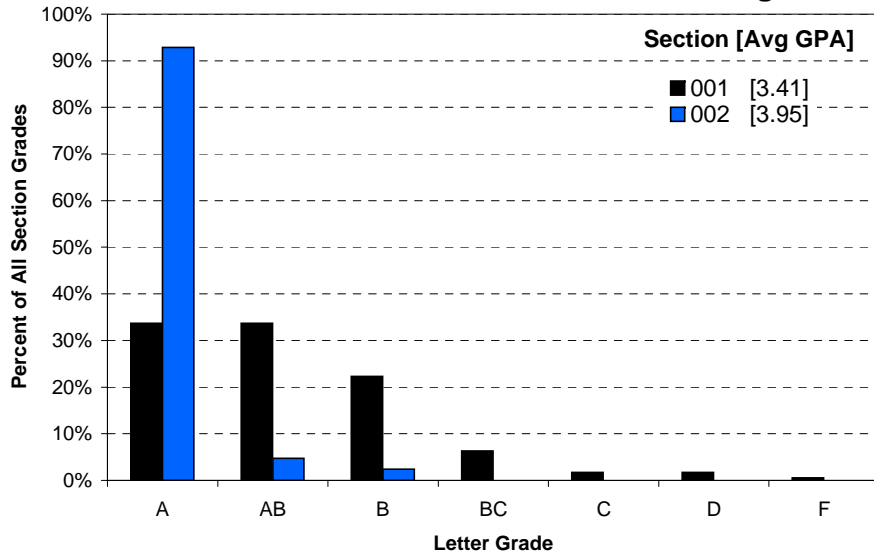
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OTM 350 Mgmt-Serv&Manufctng Operatn

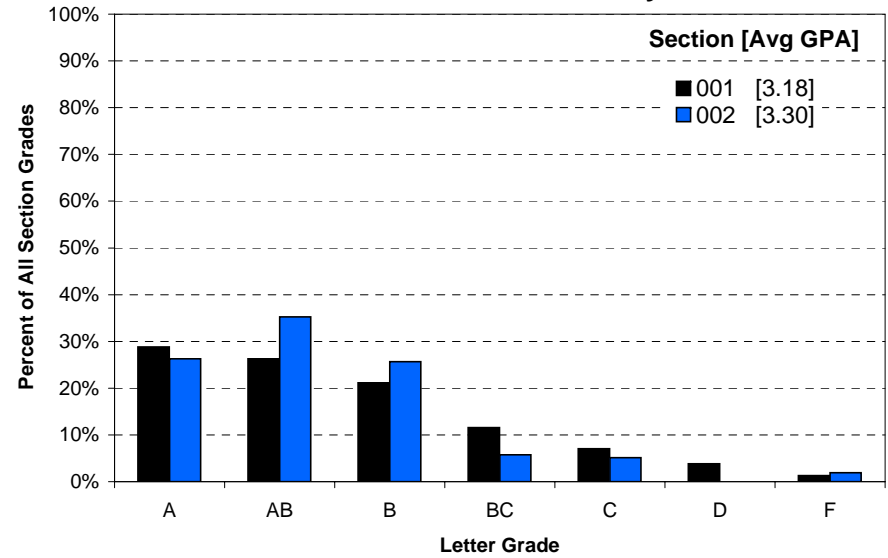


**Distribution of Fall 2006-07 Undergraduate Letter Grades in
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School of Education**

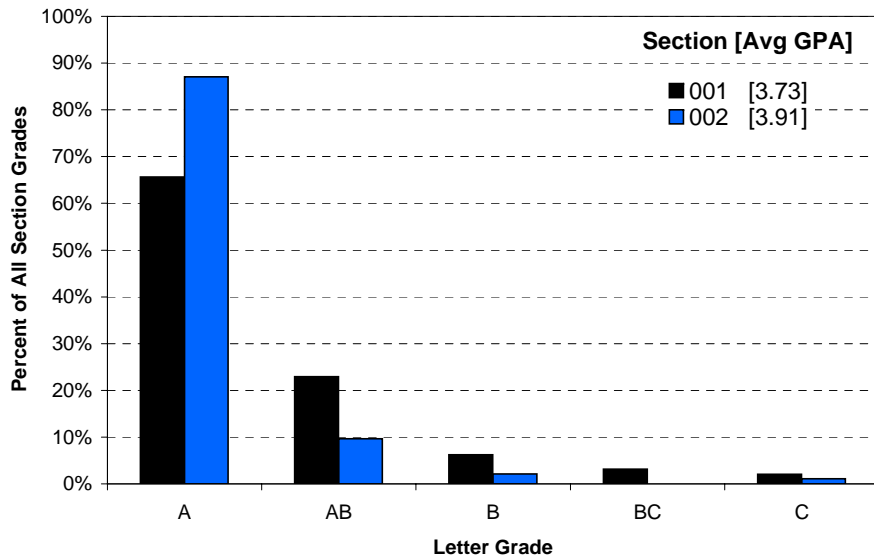
ED PSYCH 301 Human Abilities & Learning



ED PSYCH 320 Human Dev-Infancy&Childhood

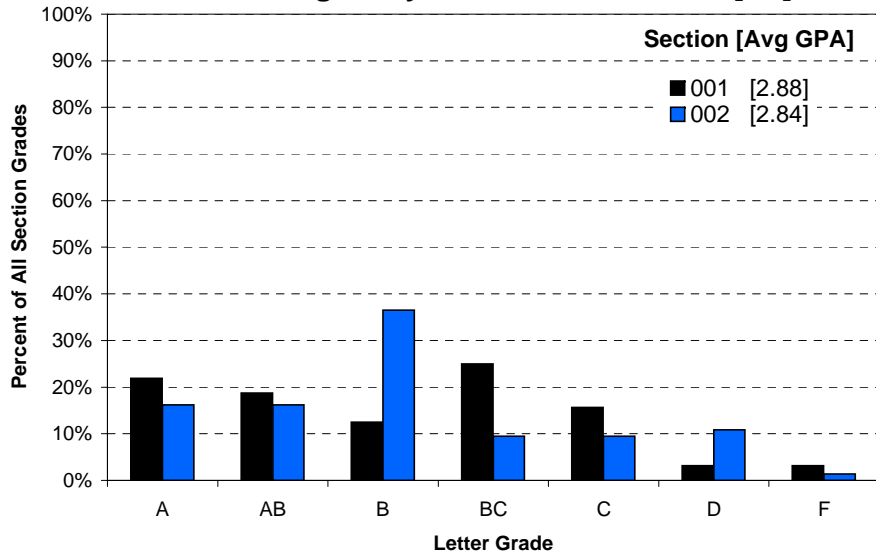


RP & SE 300 Individls with Disabilities

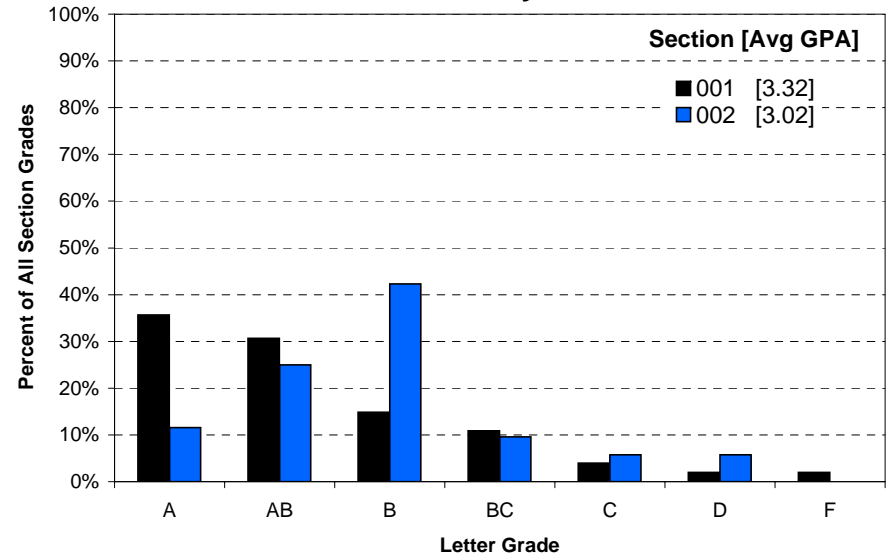


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College of Engineering**

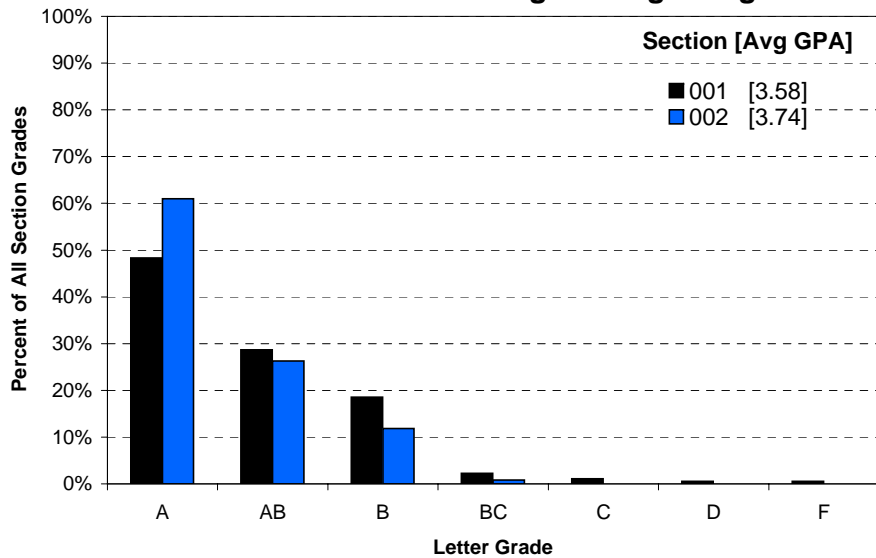
E C E 352 Digital System Fundamentals [XL]



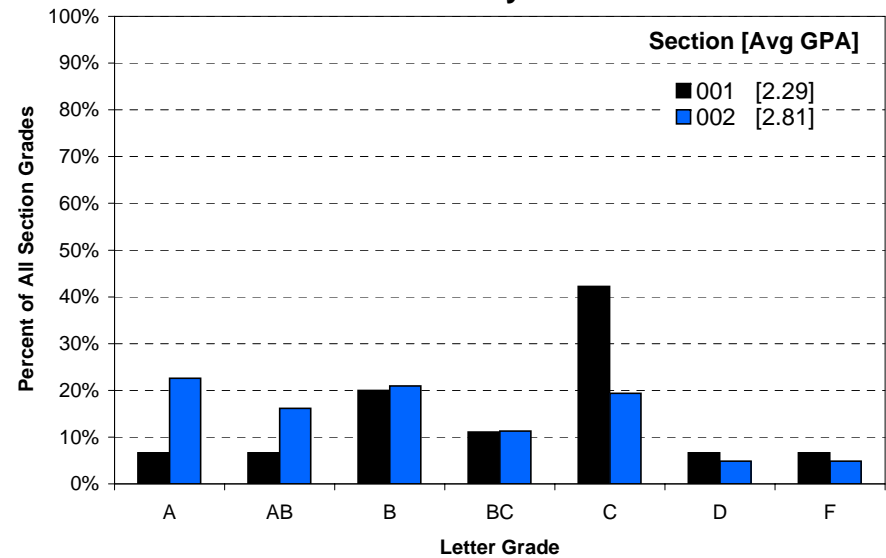
E M A 202 Dynamics



INTEREGR 160 Intro to Engineering Design

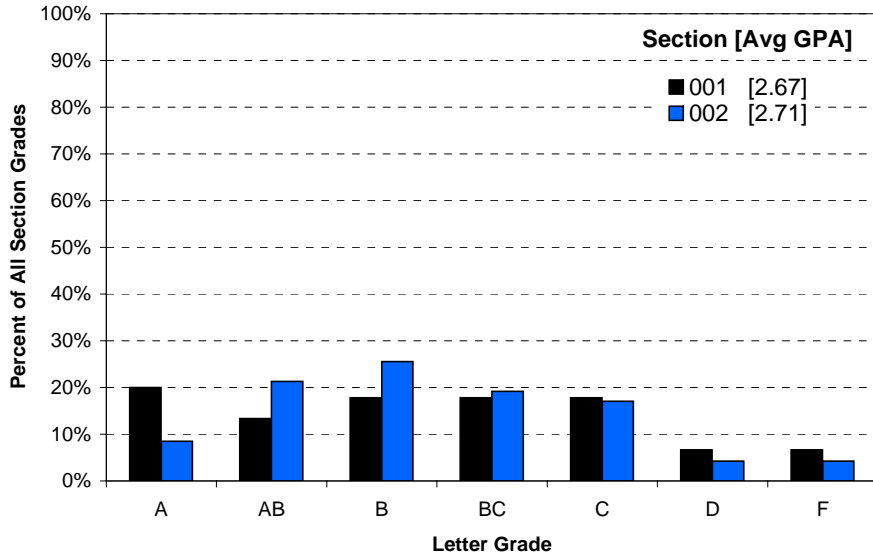


M E 240 Dynamics

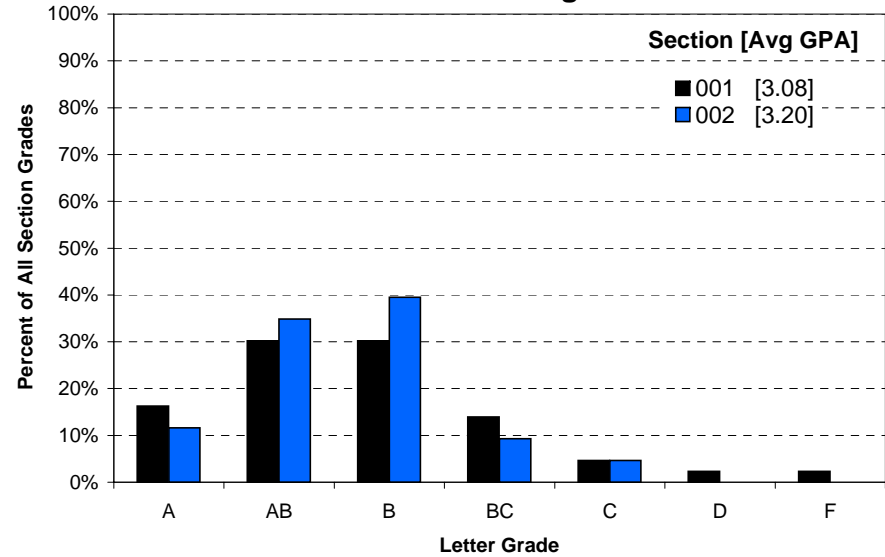


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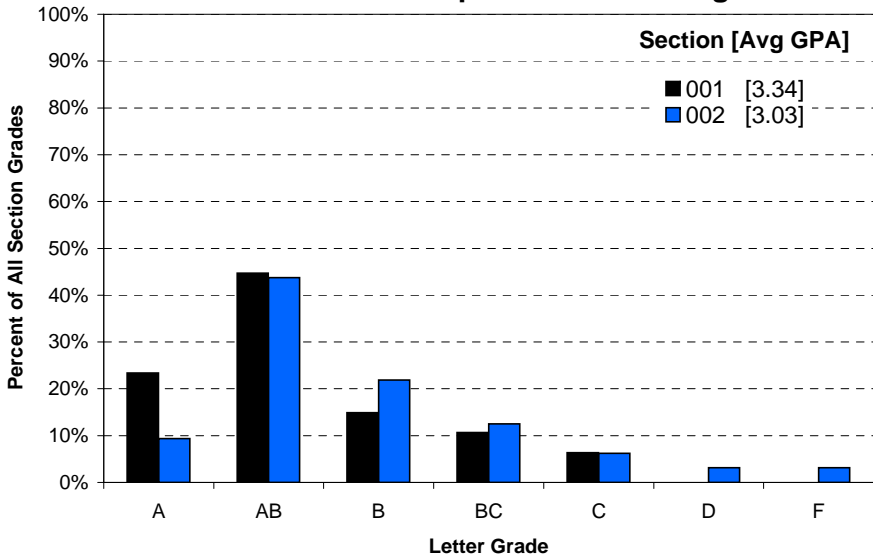
M E 306 Mechanics of Materials



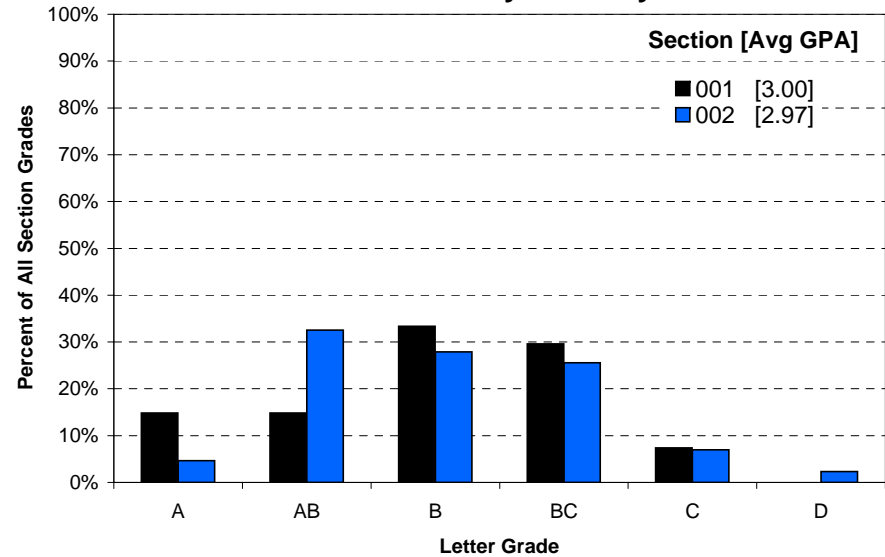
M E 313 Manufacturing Processes



M E 314 Intro-Competitiv Manufacturing

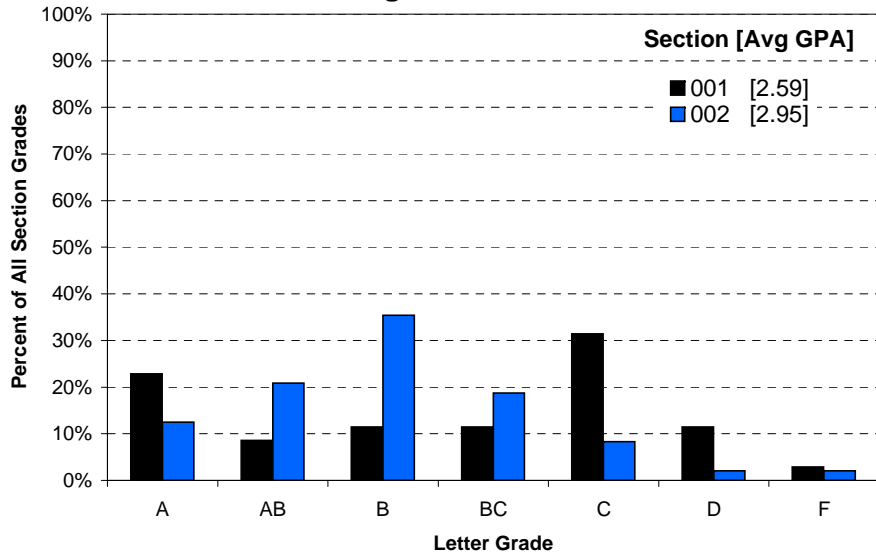


M E 340 Intro to Dynamic Systems

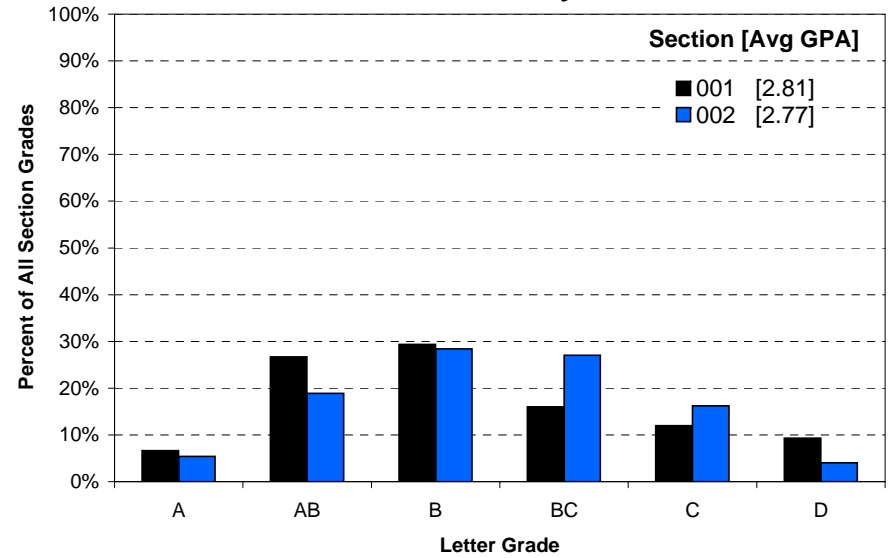


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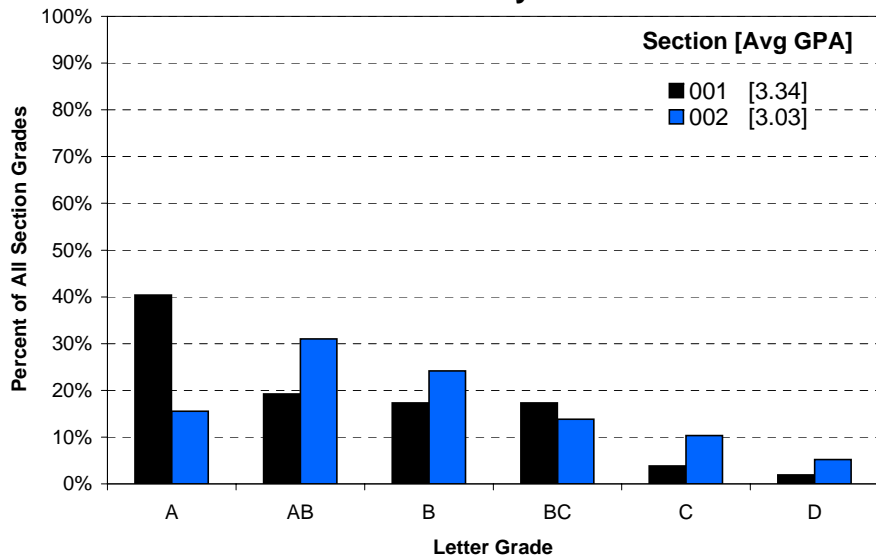
M E 342 Design of Machine Elements



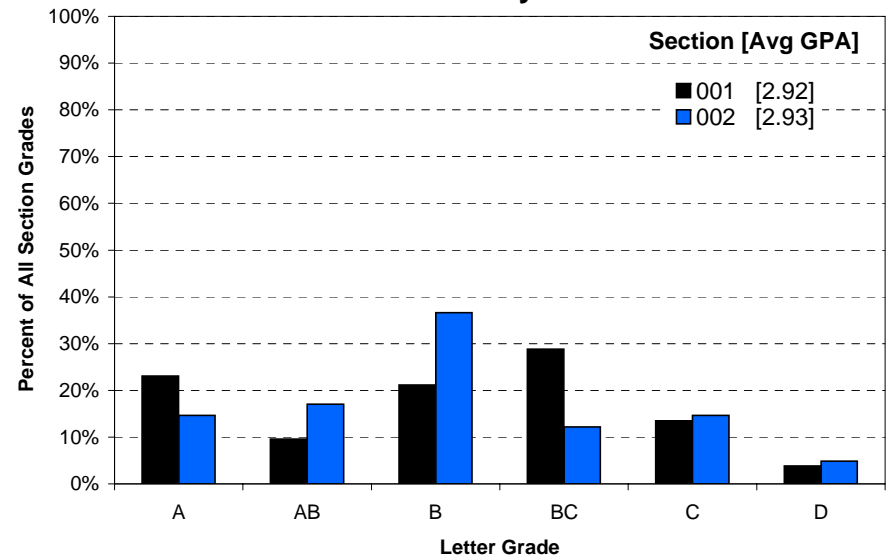
M E 361 Thermodynamics



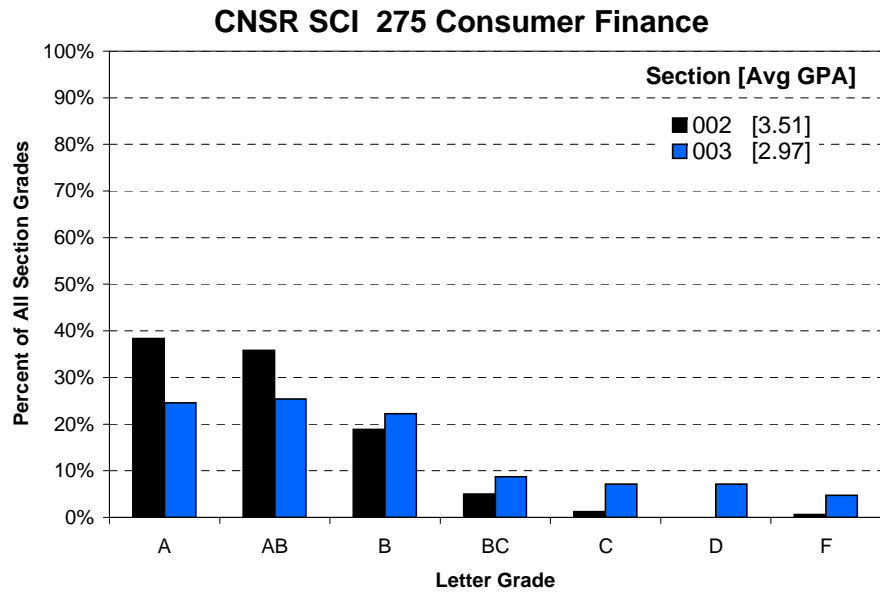
M E 363 Fluid Dynamics



M E 364 Elementary Heat Transfer

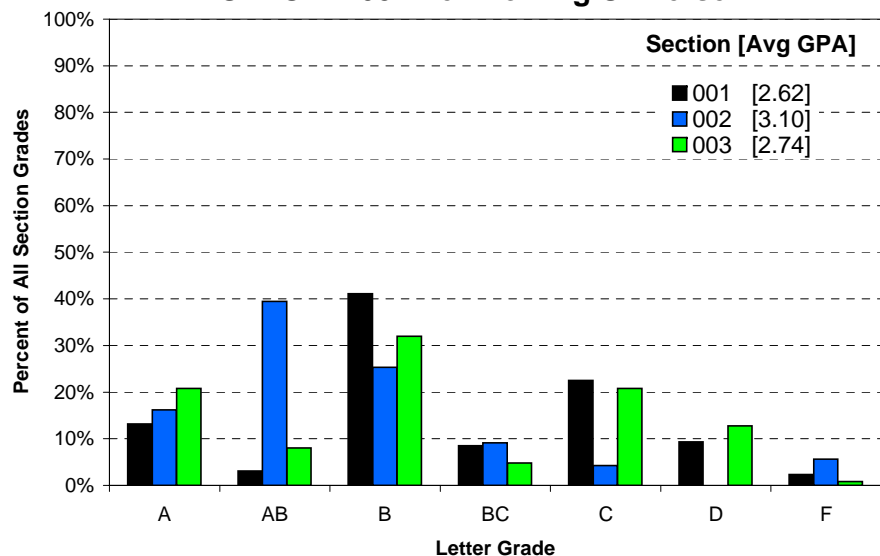


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School of Human Ecology**

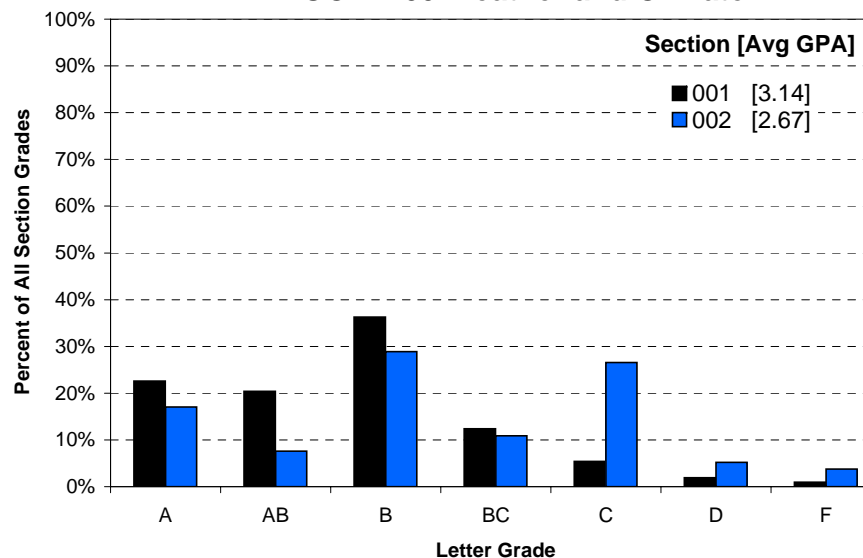


**Distribution of Fall 2006-07 Undergraduate Letter Grades in
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College of Letters and Science**

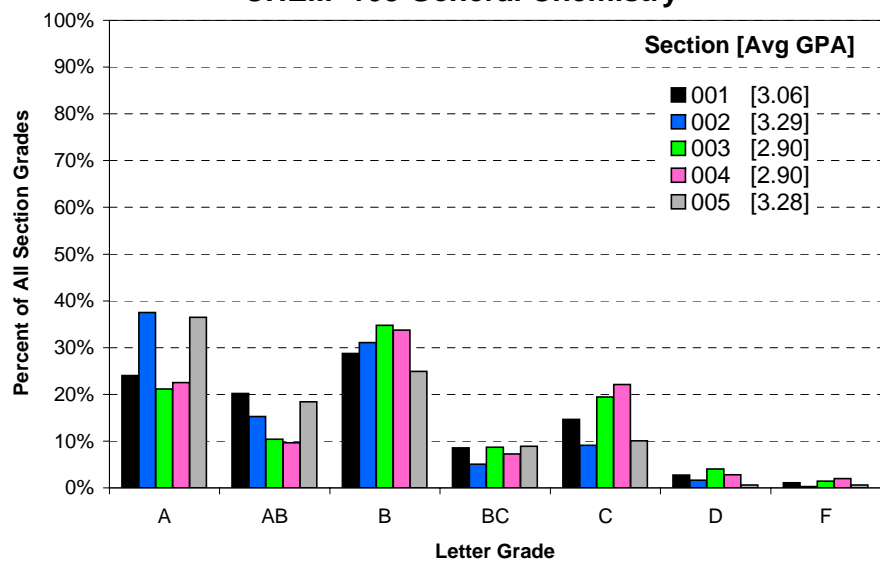
ASTRON 103 The Evolving Universe



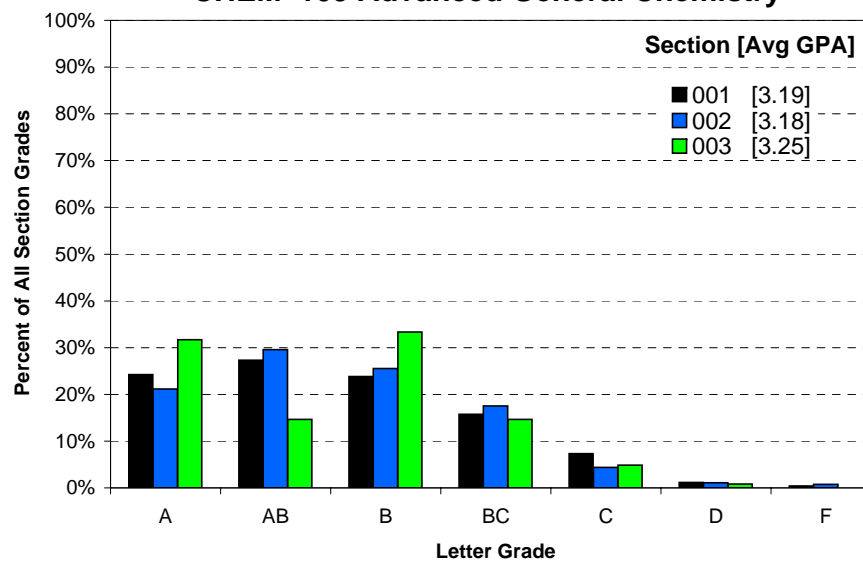
ATM OCN 100 Weather and Climate



CHEM 103 General Chemistry

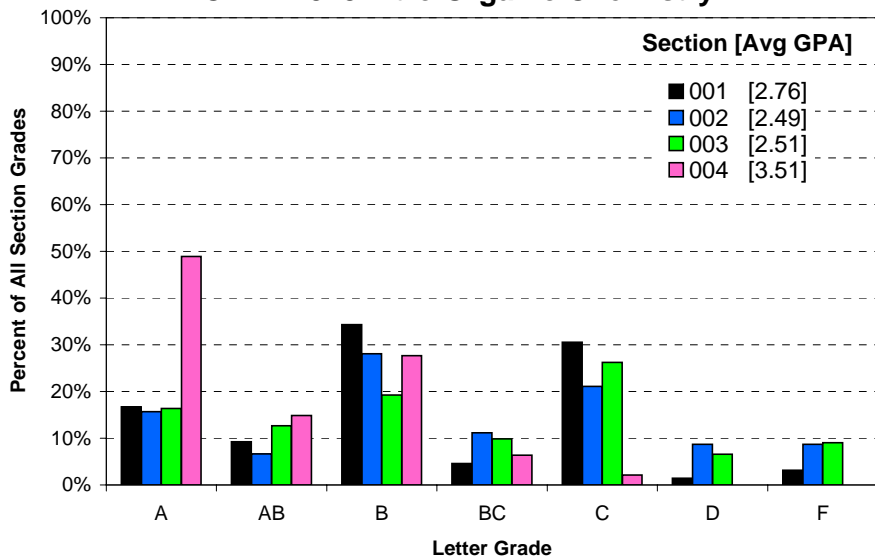


CHEM 109 Advanced General Chemistry

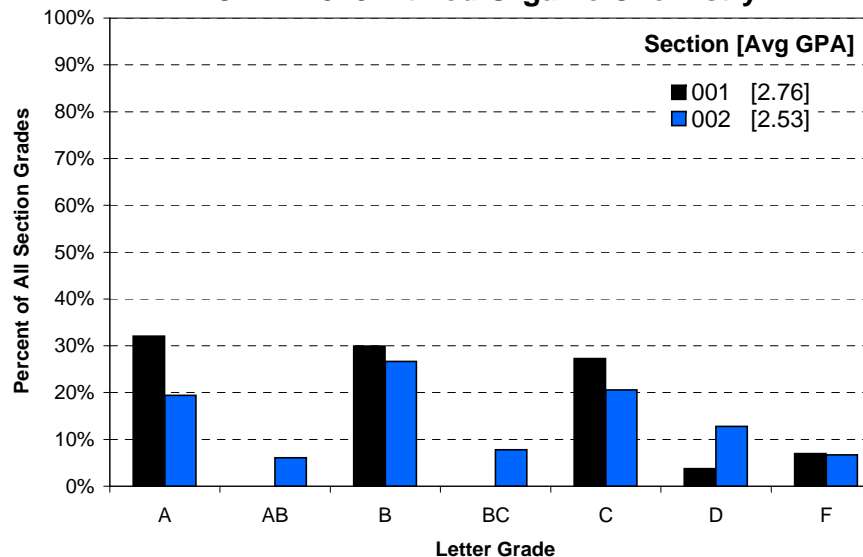


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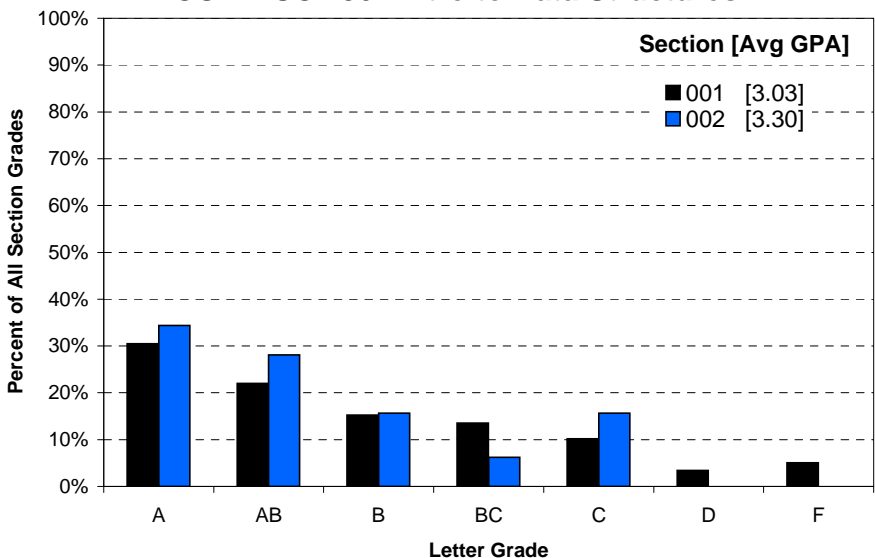
CHEM 343 Intro Organic Chemistry



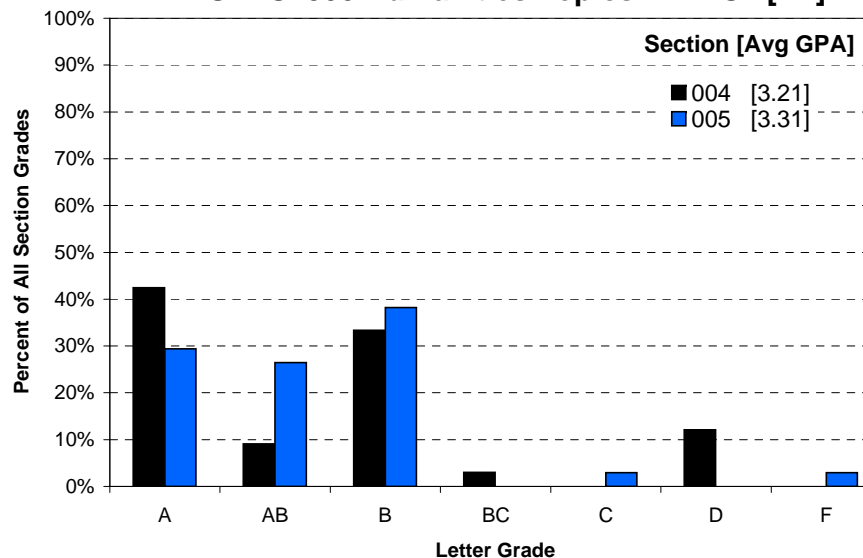
CHEM 345 Intmed Organic Chemistry



COMP SCI 367 Intro to Data Structures

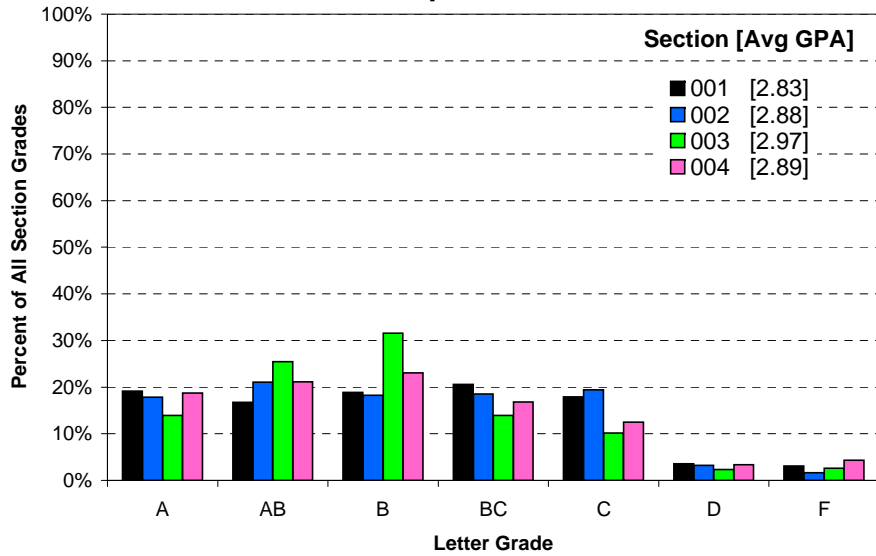


E A STDS 300 Humanities Topics in EAS [XL]

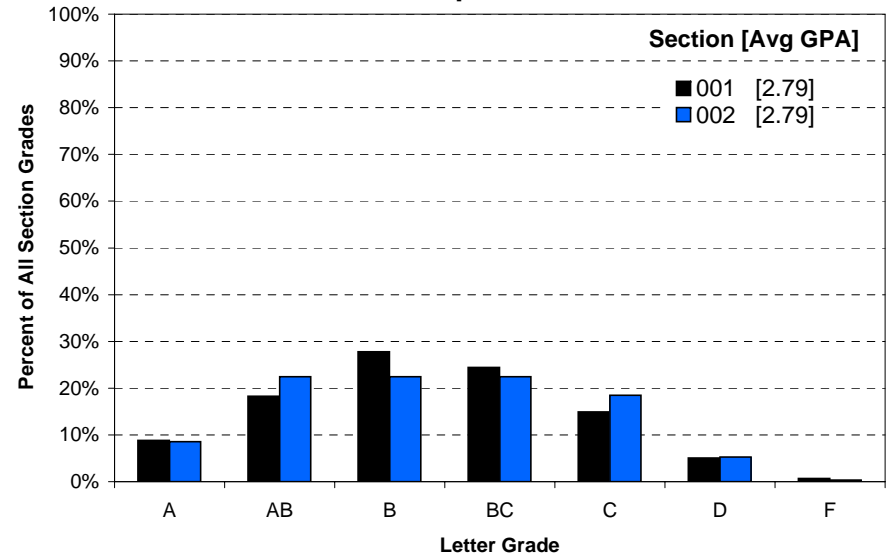


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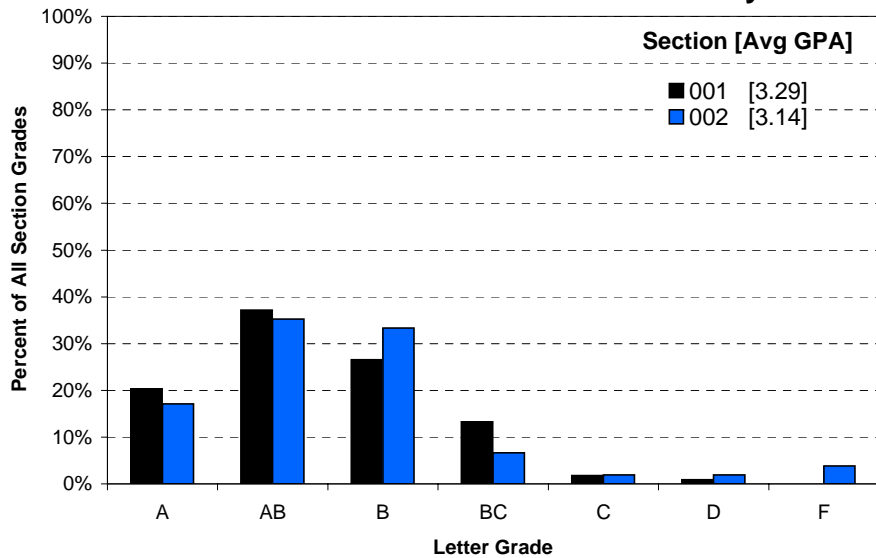
ECON 101 Principles-Microeconomics



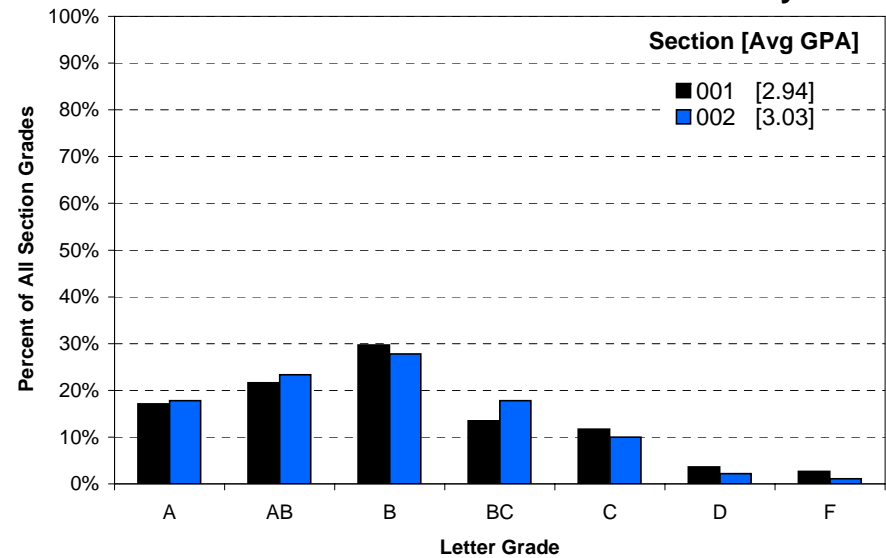
ECON 102 Principles-Macroeconomics



ECON 301 Intmed Microeconomic Theory

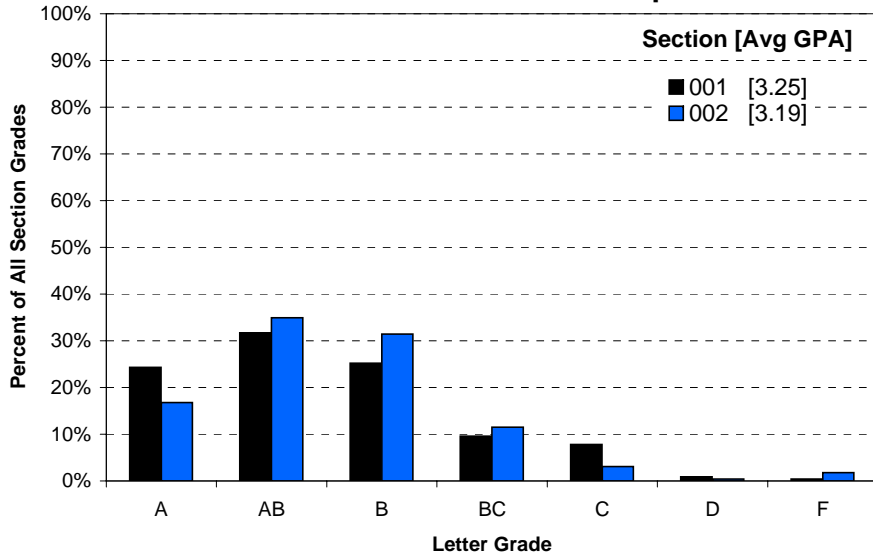


ECON 302 Intmed Macroeconomic Theory

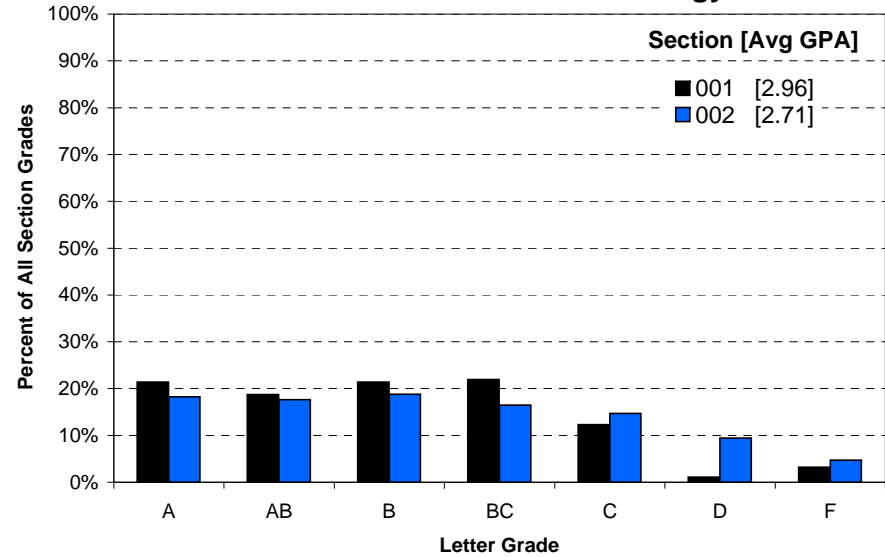


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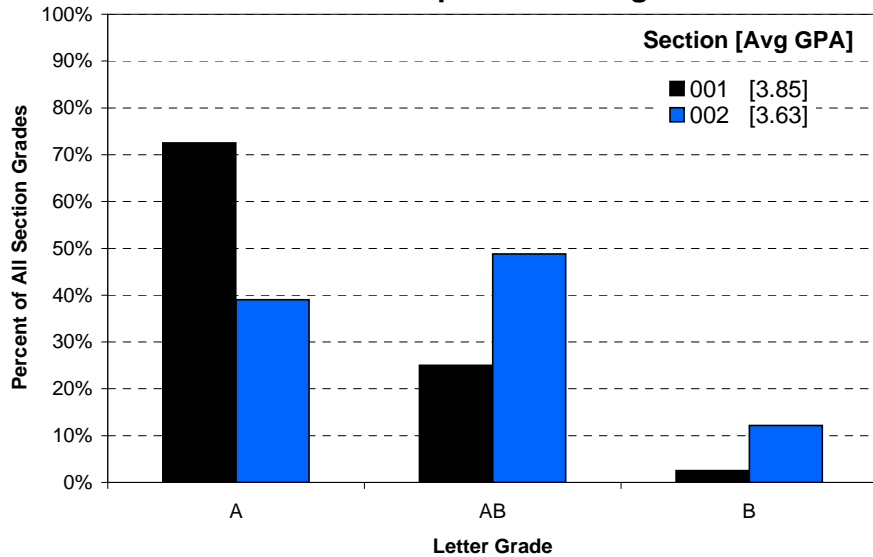
ENGLISH 167 Intro-Brit & Amer Lit pre-1914



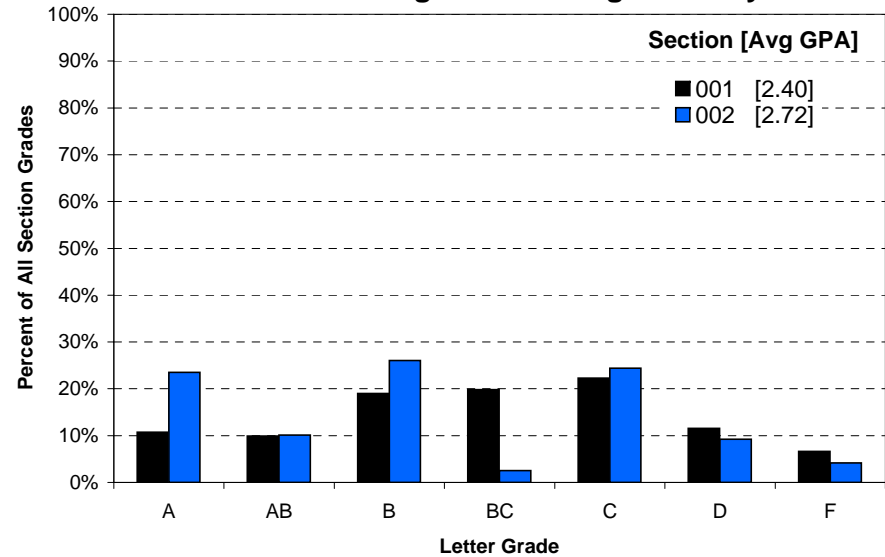
GEOLOGY 100 General Geology



JOURN 345 Principles of Strategic Com

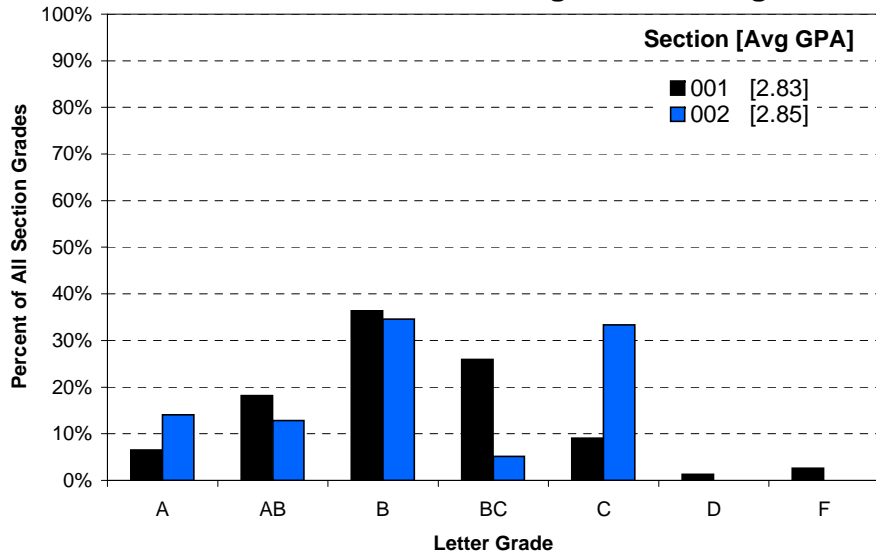


MATH 114 Algebra and Trigonometry

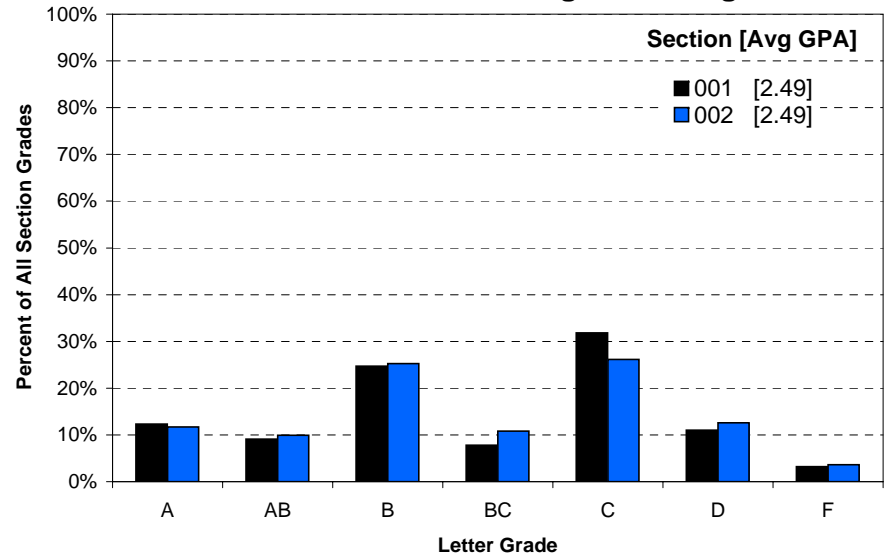


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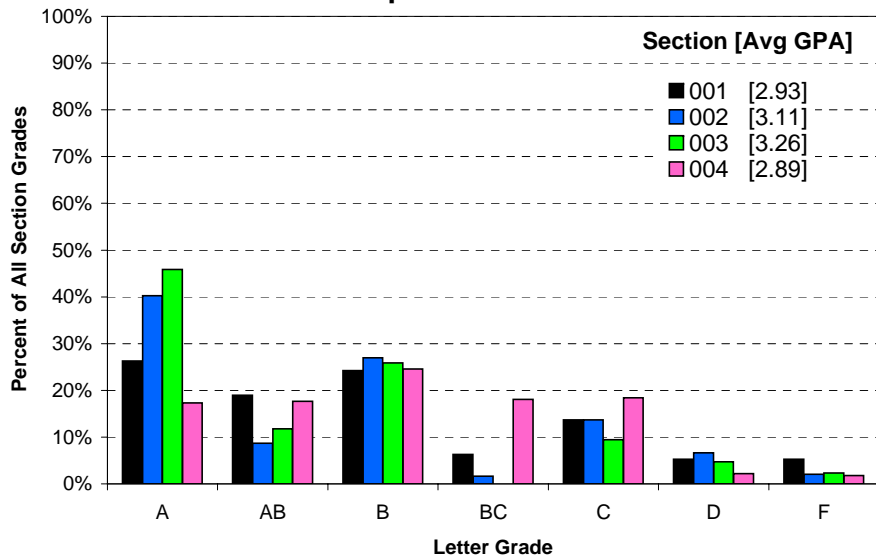
MATH 141 Quant Reasoning&Prob Solvng



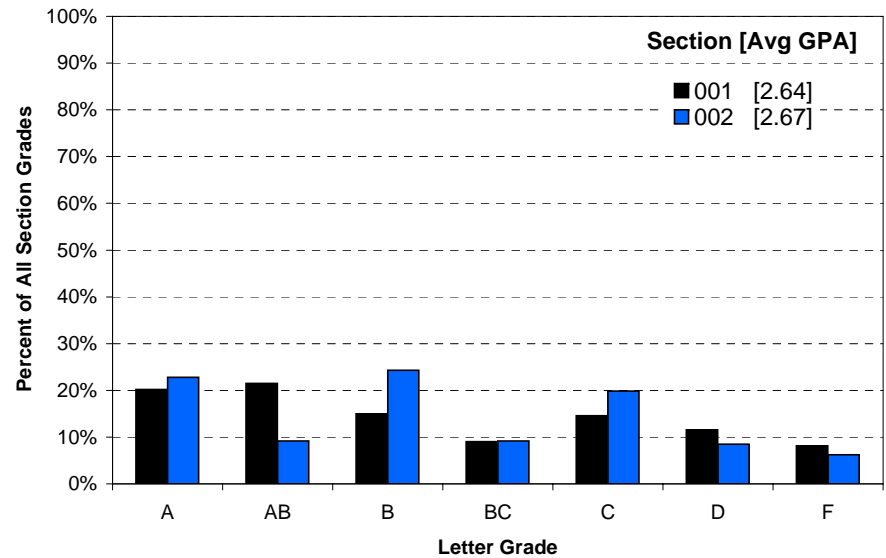
MATH 171 Calc with Algebra & Trig I



MATH 210 Topics-Finite Mathematics

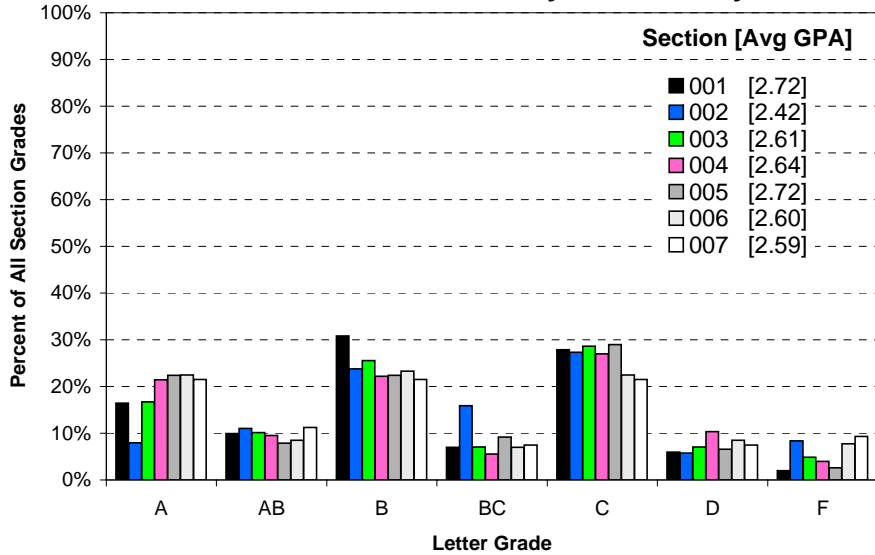


MATH 211 Calculus

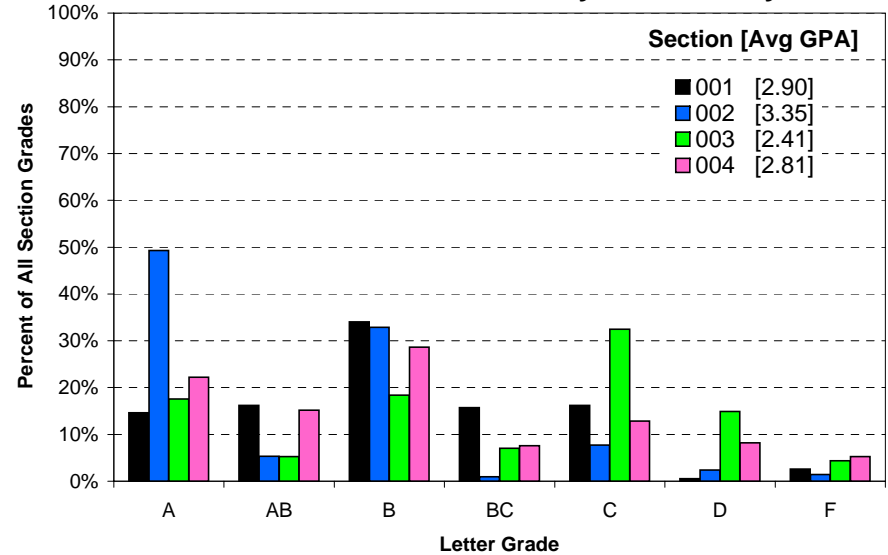


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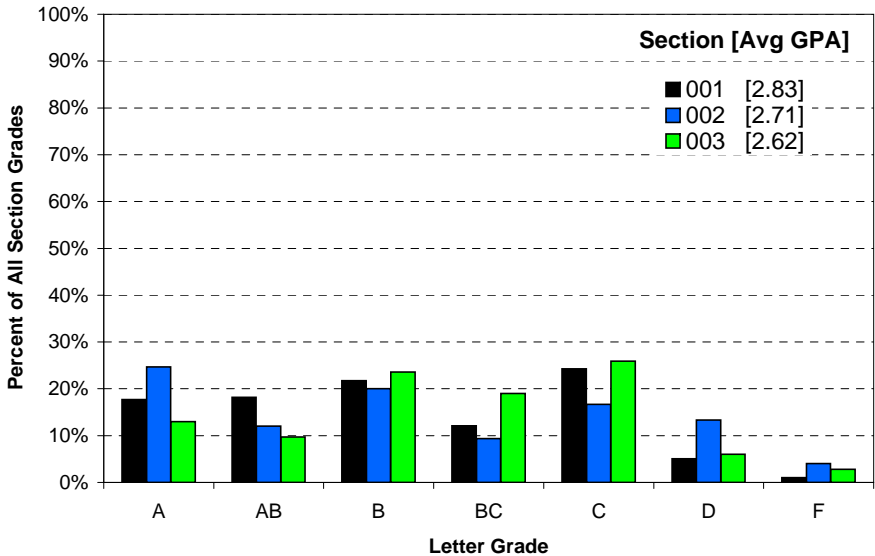
MATH 221 Calculus&Analytic Geometry



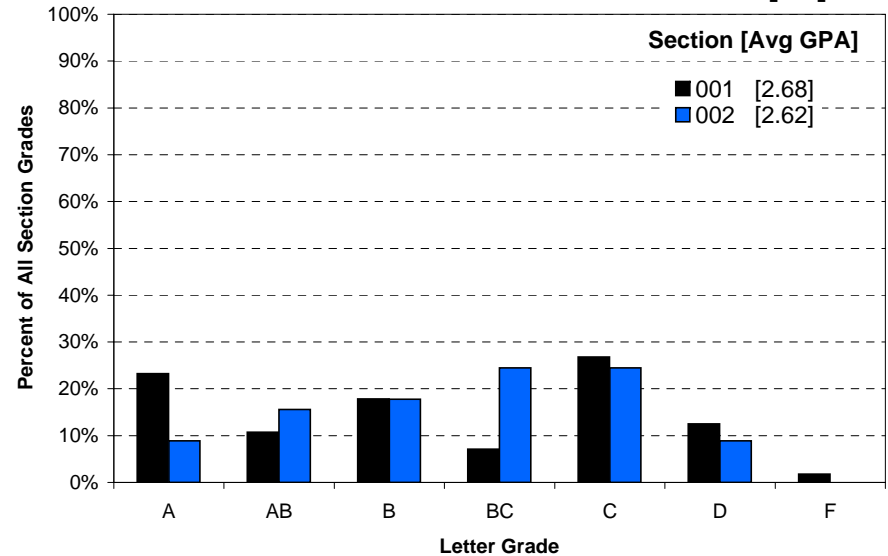
MATH 222 Calculus&Analytic Geometry



MATH 234 Calc--Functns of Variables

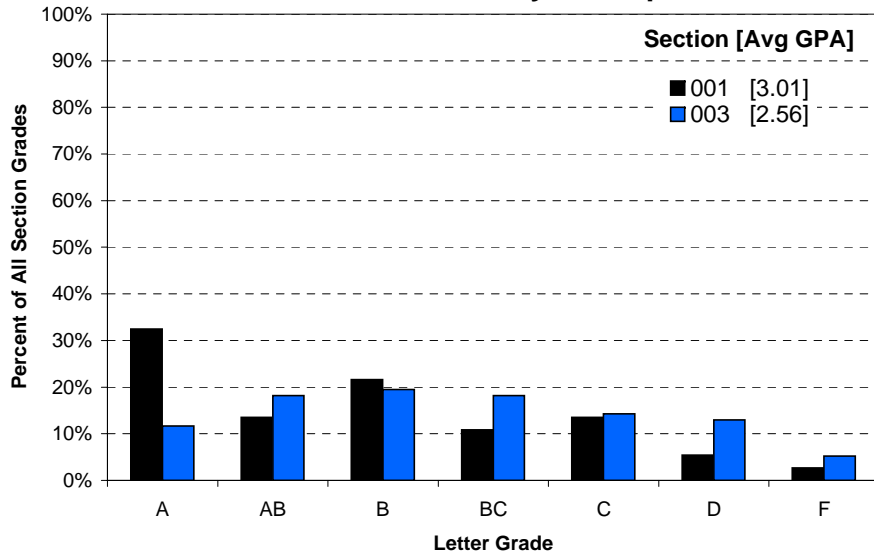


MATH 240 Intro to Discrete Mathematics [XL]

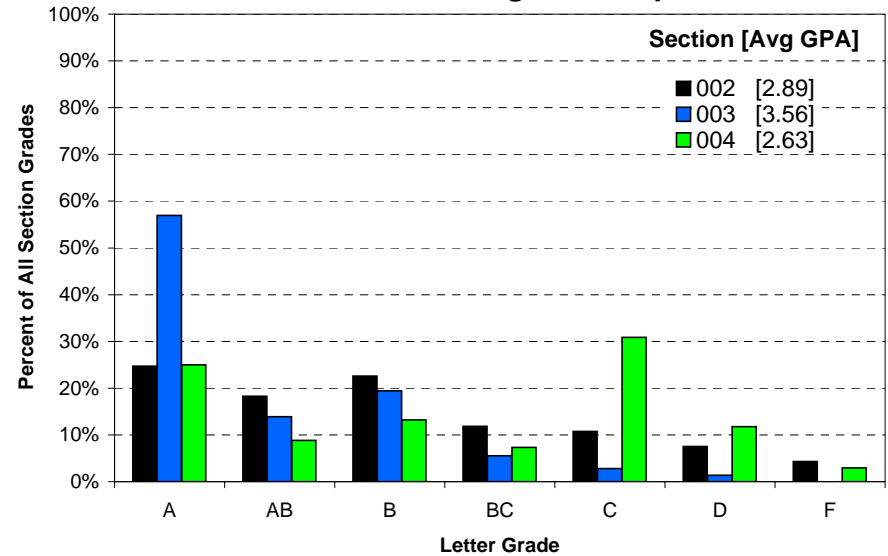


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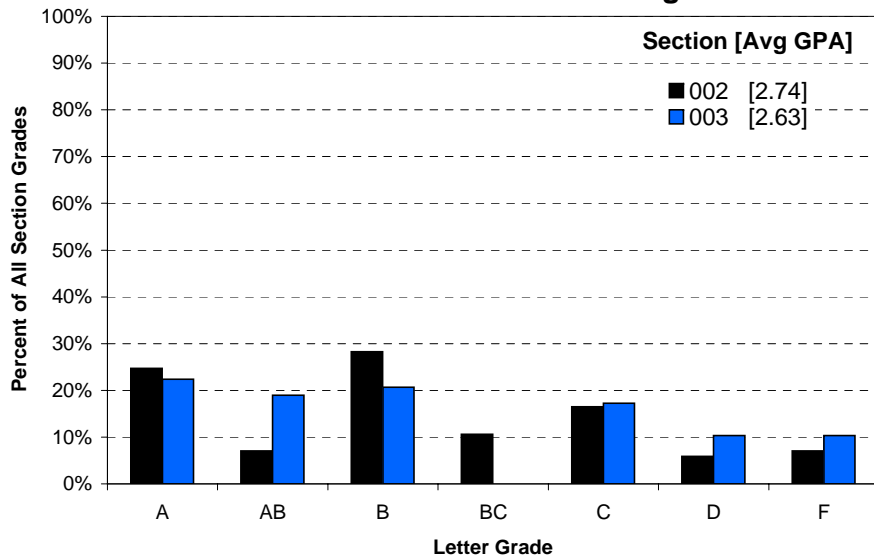
MATH 319 Tech-Ordinary Diff Equation



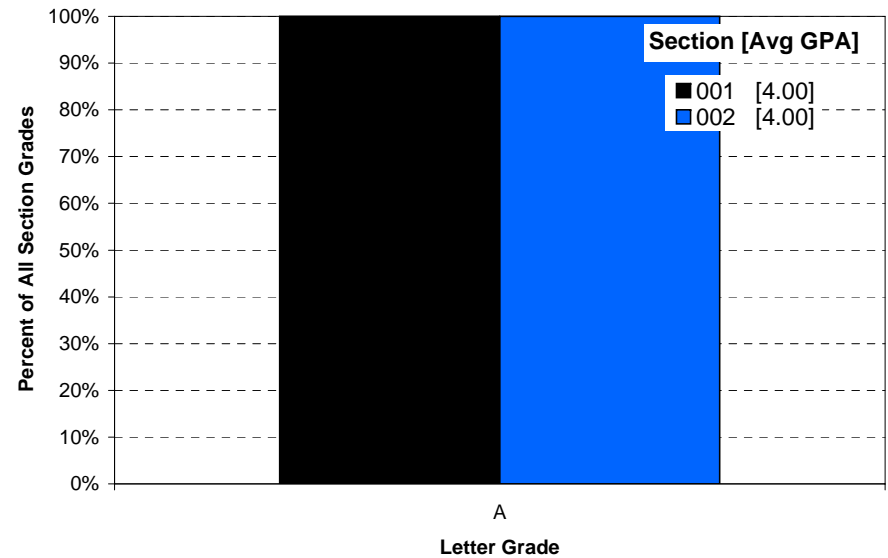
MATH 320 Linear Alg & Diff Equations



MATH 340 Elem Matrix&Linear Algebra

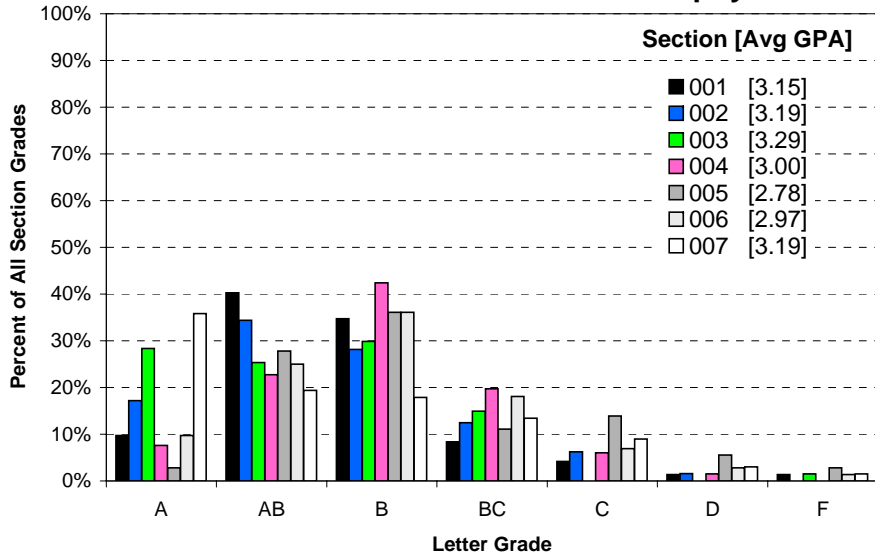


MUSIC 40 Wind Ensemble

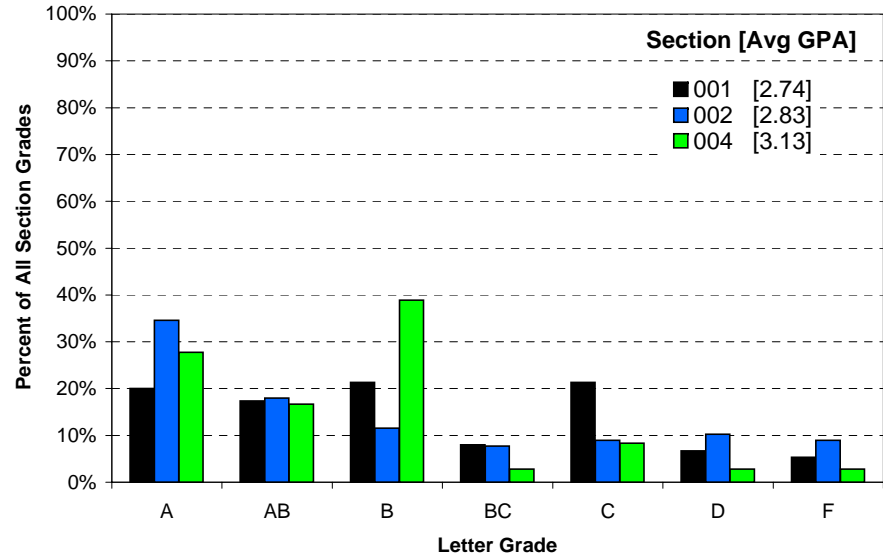


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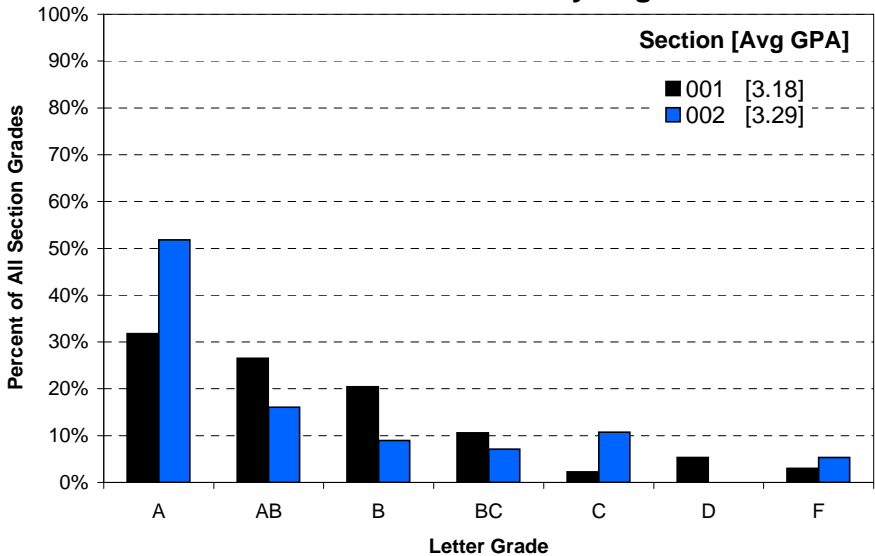
PHILOS 101 Introduction to Philosophy



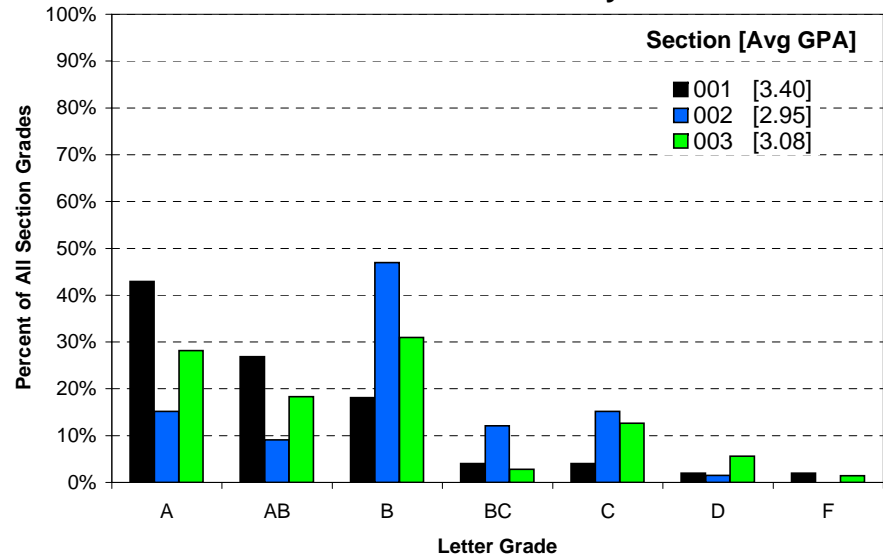
PHILOS 210 Reason in Communication



PHILOS 211 Elementary Logic

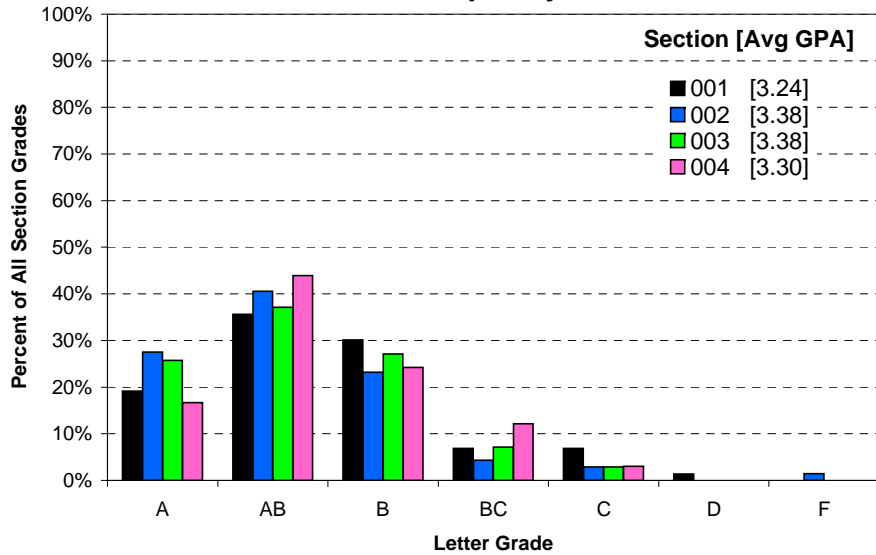


PHILOS 241 Introductory Ethics

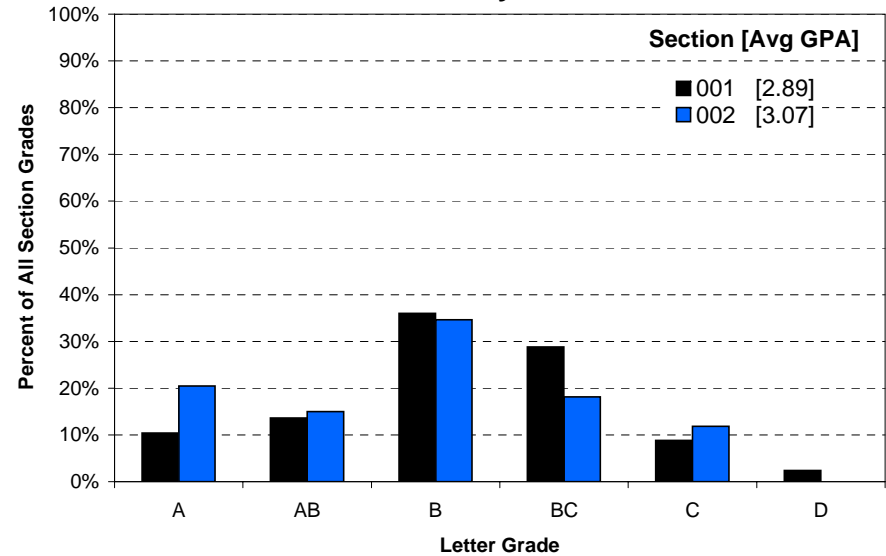


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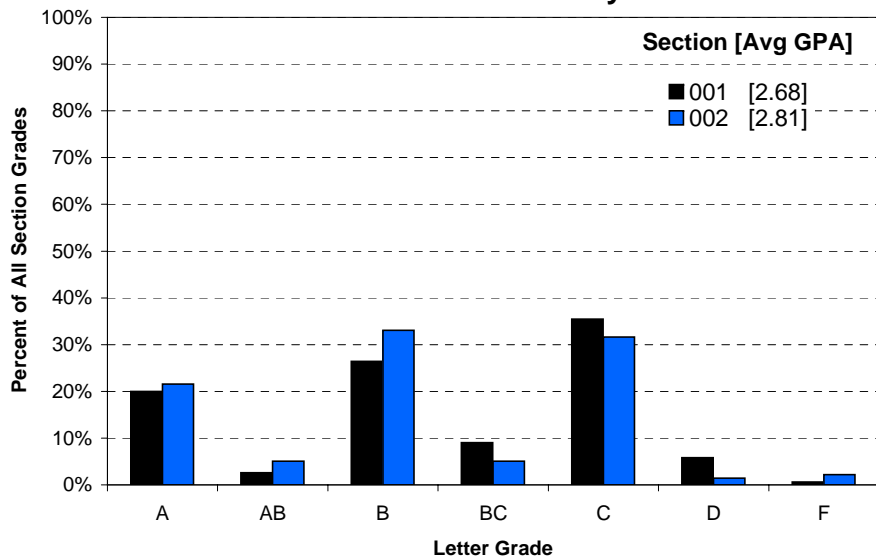
PHILOS 341 Contemporary Moral Issues



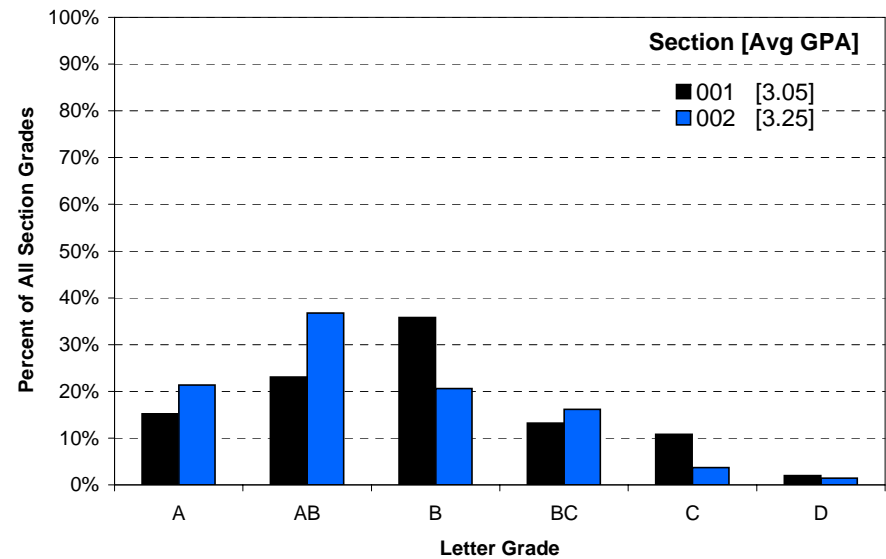
PHYSICS 109 Physics in the Arts



PHYSICS 202 General Physics

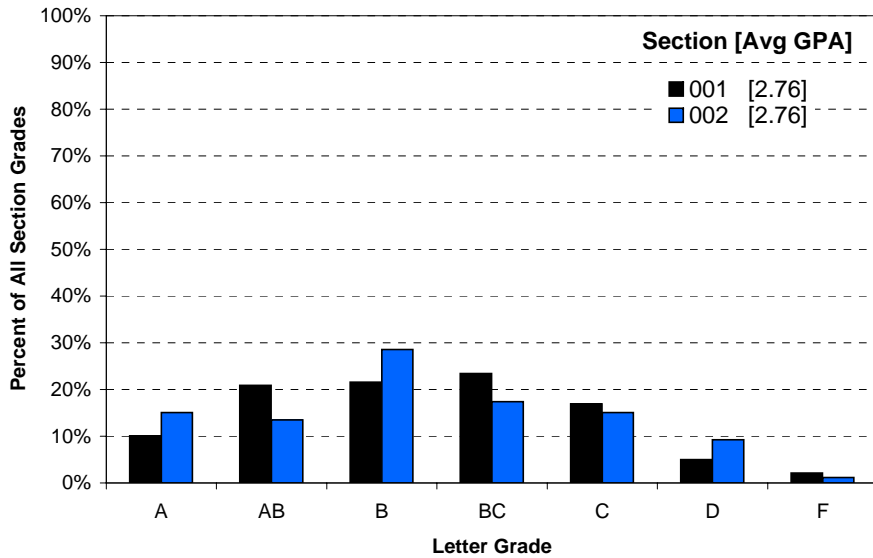


POLI SCI 103 Intro-Internatl Relations

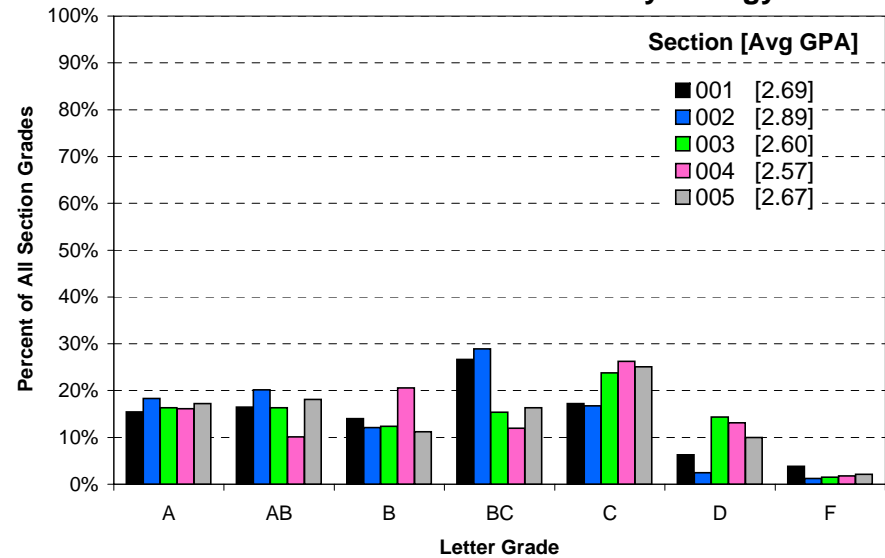


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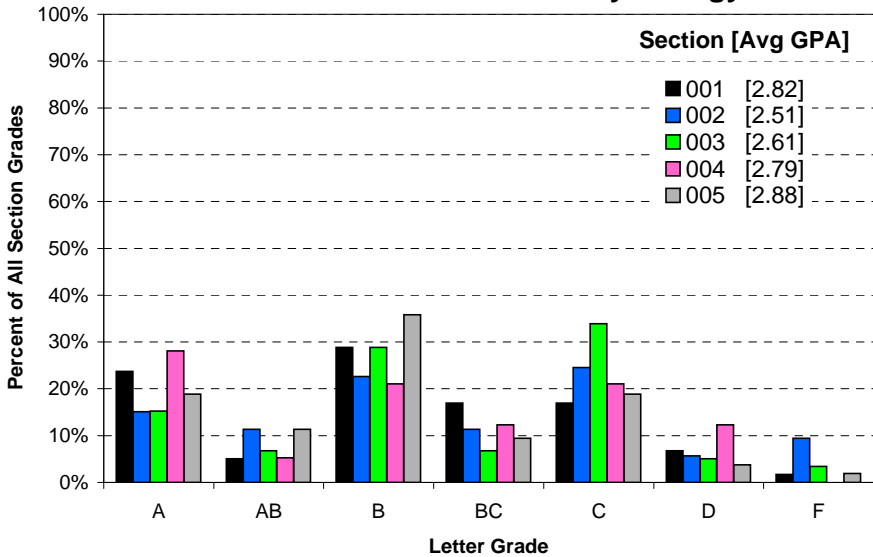
POLI SCI 104 Intro-Amer Politics&Governmnt



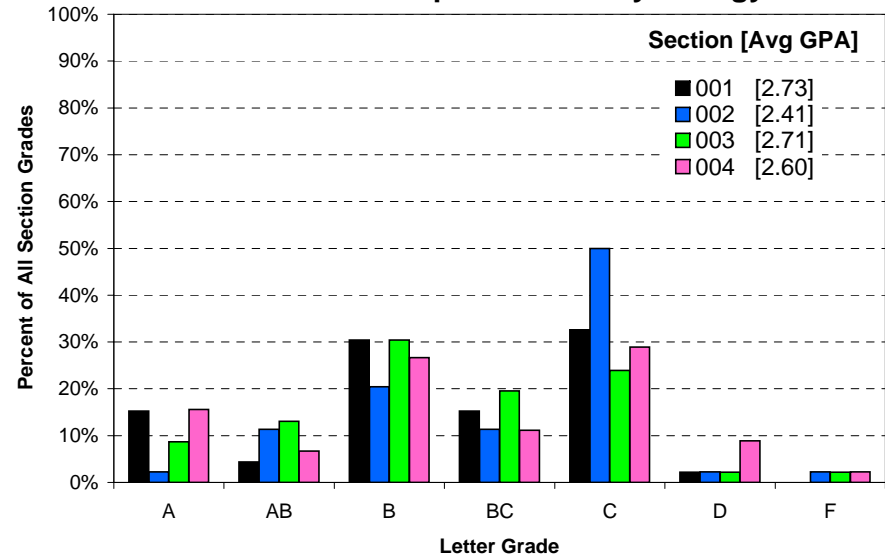
PSYCH 202 Introduction to Psychology



PSYCH 210 Basic Stats for Psychology

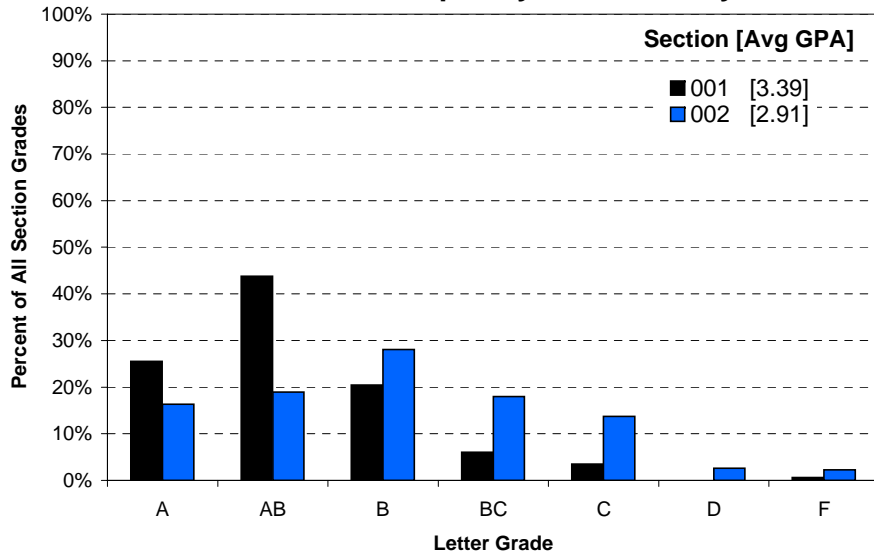


PSYCH 225 Experimental Psychology

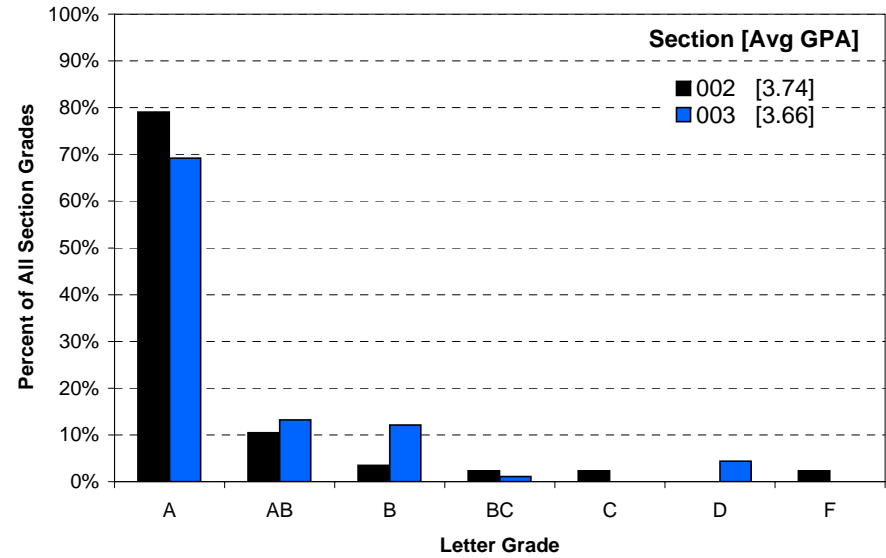


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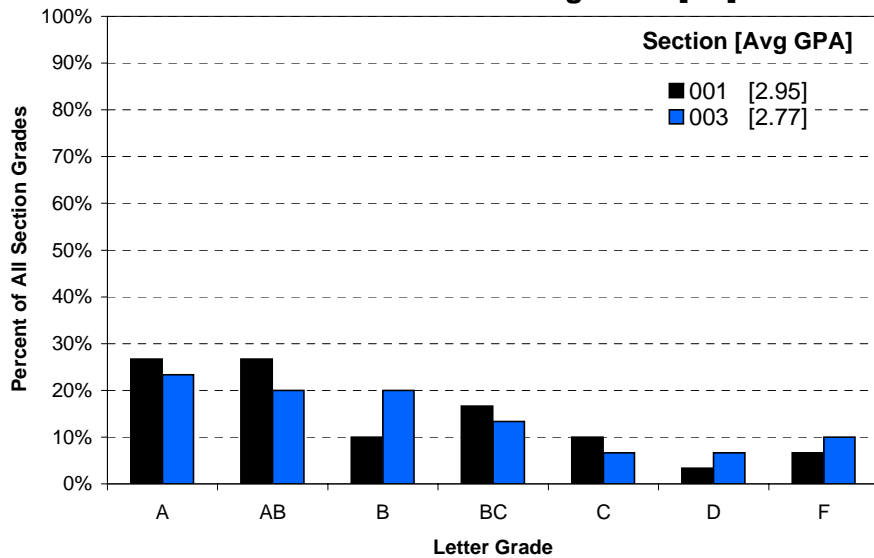
SOC 125 Contemporary Amer Society



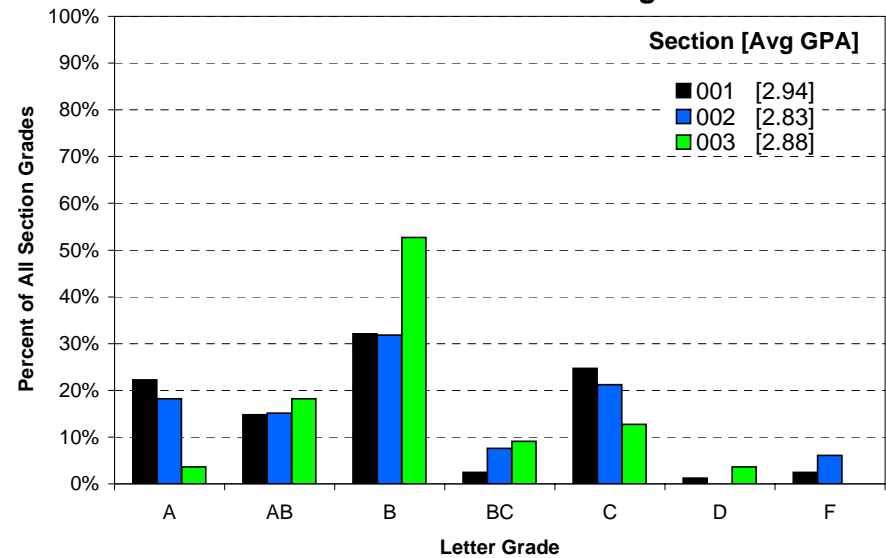
SOC 134 Am Racial&Ethnic Minorities



SOC 360 Stats for Sociologists I [XL]

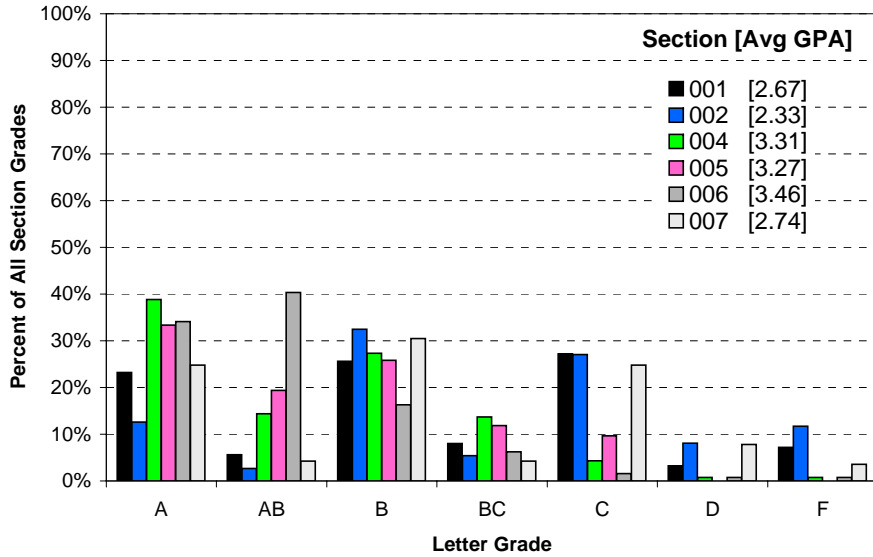


STAT 224 Intro Stats for Engineers

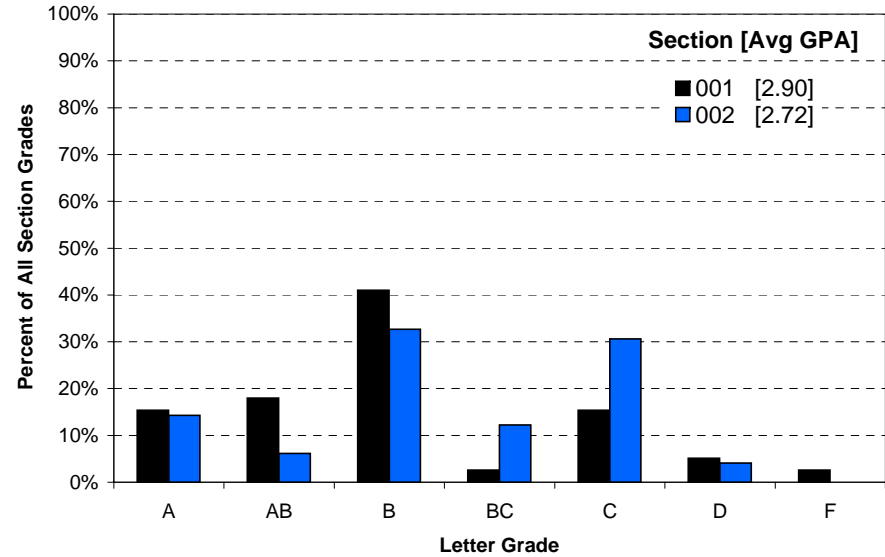


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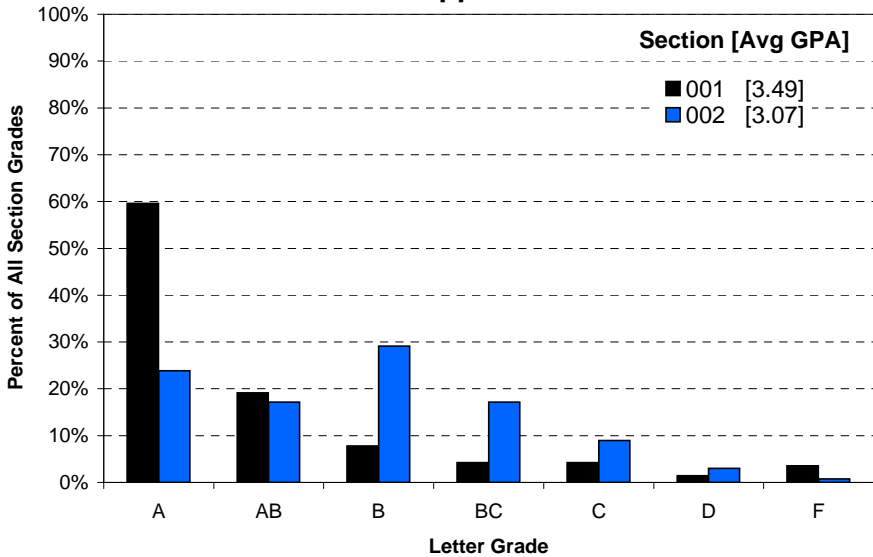
STAT 301 Intro-Statistical Methods



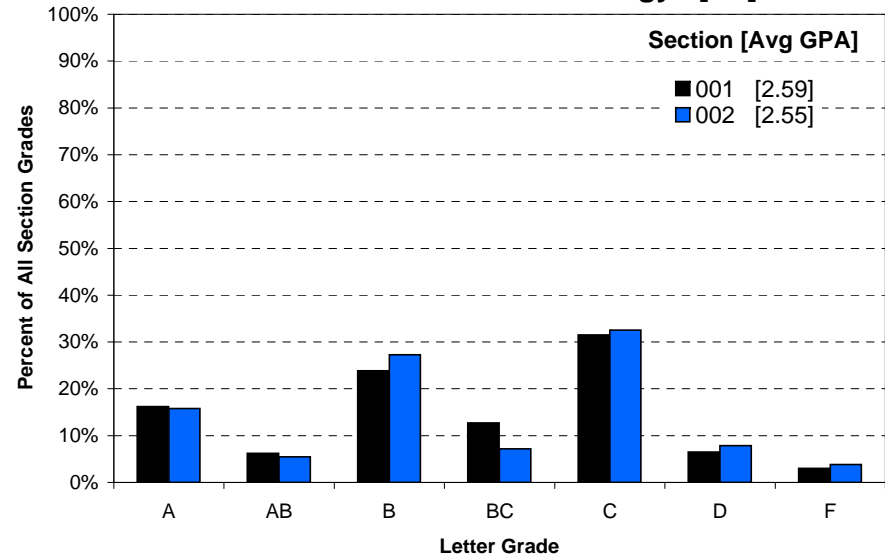
STAT 311 Intro to Mathematical Stat



STAT 371 Intro Applied Stats-Life Sci

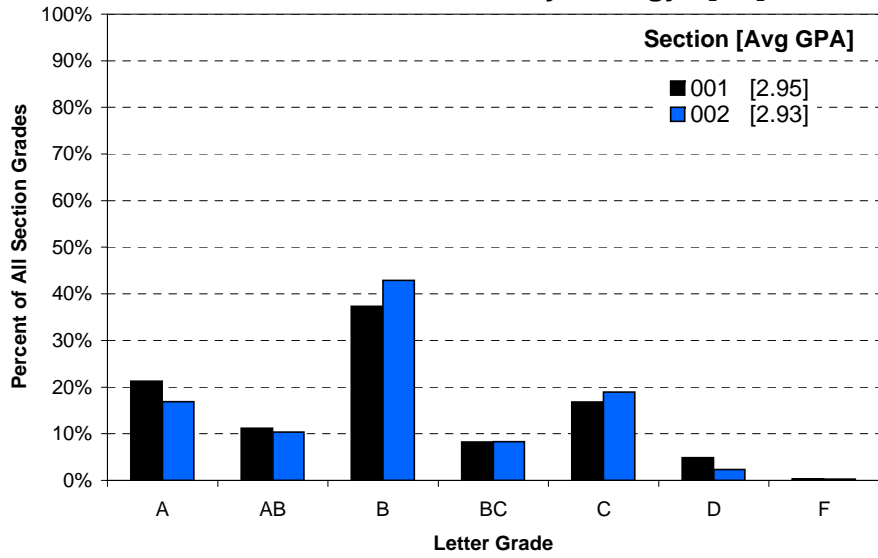


ZOOLOGY 101 Animal Biology [XL]



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ZOOLOGY 151 Introductory Biology [XL]



ZOOLOGY 152 Introductory Biology [XL]

