



February 14, 2008

TO: Academic Deans, Selected Department Chairs

FROM: Patrick Farrell, Provost

RE: Review of Grading Patterns Within Undergraduate Courses

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.

The attached document provides an updated analysis based on courses taught in Fall 2007 for lower division courses having multiple primary sections in fall semesters. 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.

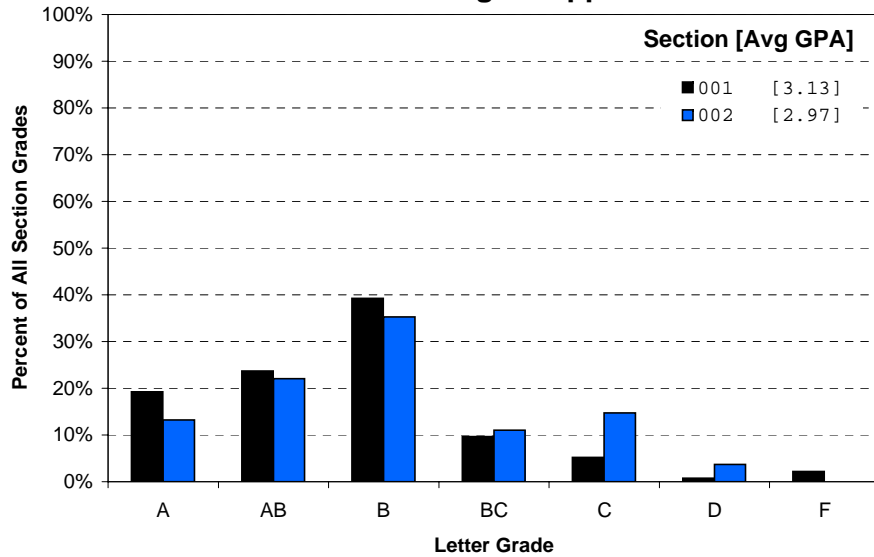
In many of the courses shown in the charts, the grade distributions of the multiple sections are similar. In some other courses, the distribution of grades varies considerably between sections of the same course. Real differences in student abilities may account for some of this variation. However, another 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.**

Deans may recall receiving similar information in recent years. At the recommendation of the UAPC (March 2007) to make this information more widely available, we are now sharing it with applicable department chairs. It is also posted online at apa.wisc.edu/degrees_grades.html.

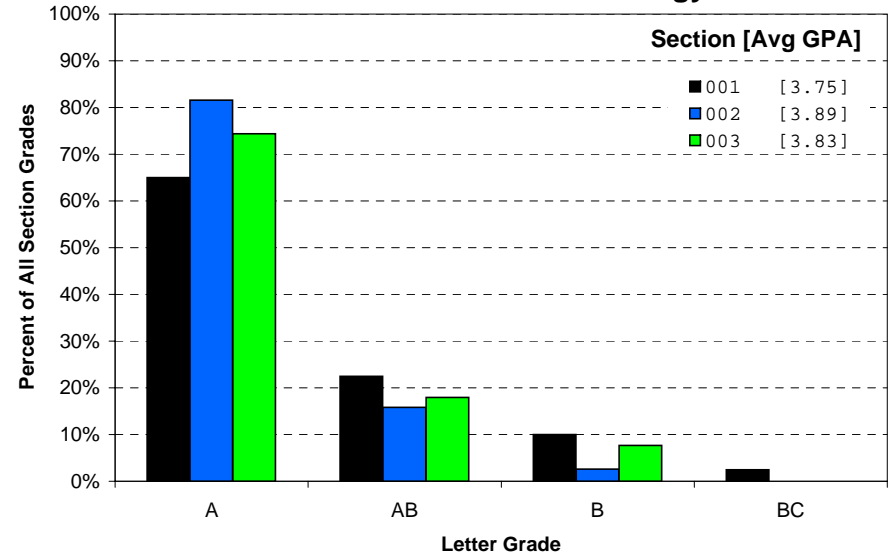
Attachment
xc: Jocelyn Milner

**Distribution of Fall 2007-08 Undergraduate Letter Grades in
Courses Numbered Below 400 Having Multiple Classes of at Least 30 Undergraduates
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences**

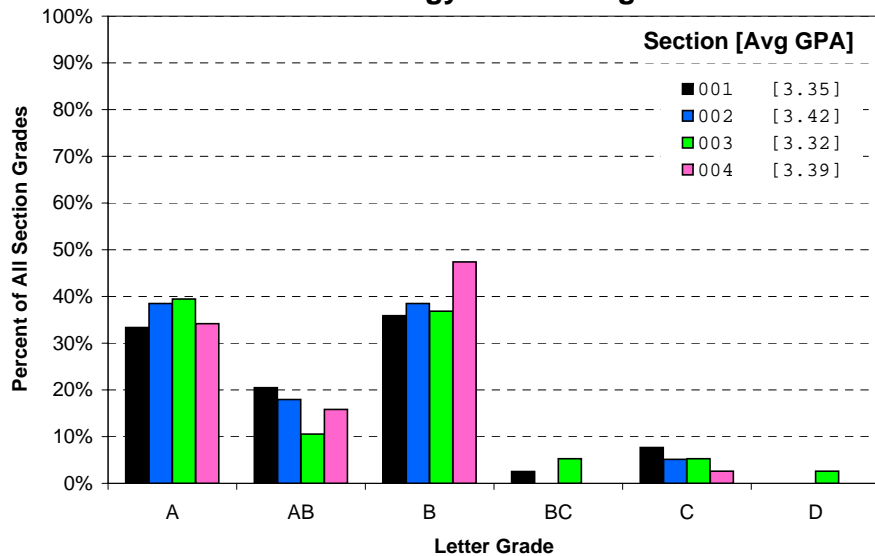
A A E 215 Intro to Agr & Applied Econ



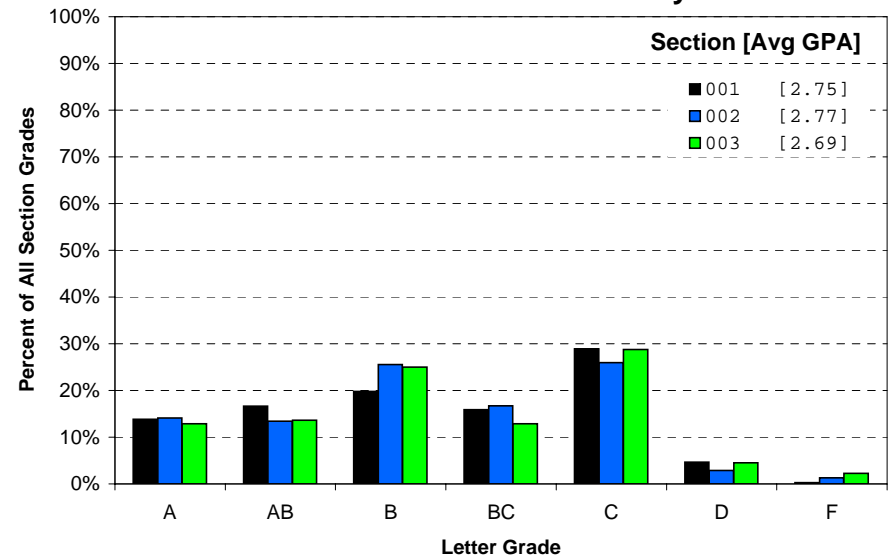
MICROBIO 102 General Microbiology Lab



MICROBIO 304 Biology of Microorganisms Lab

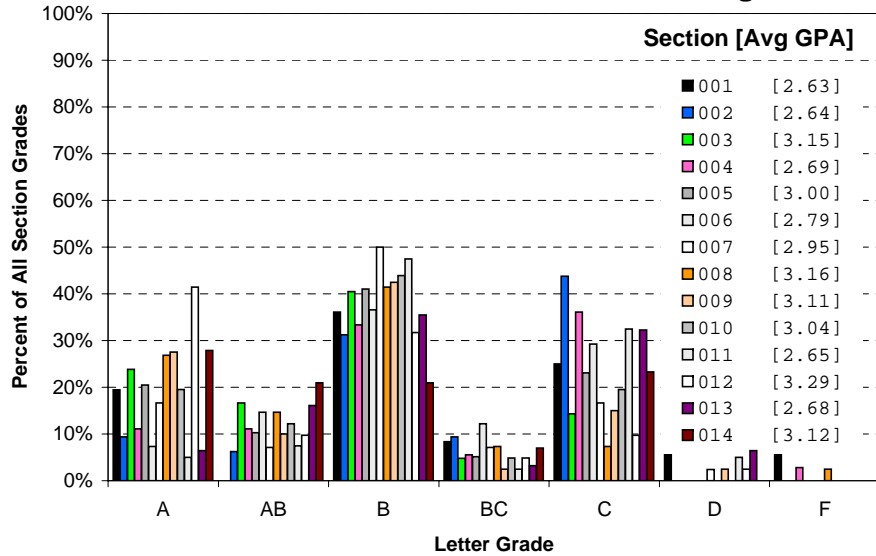


NUTR SCI 132 Nutrition Today

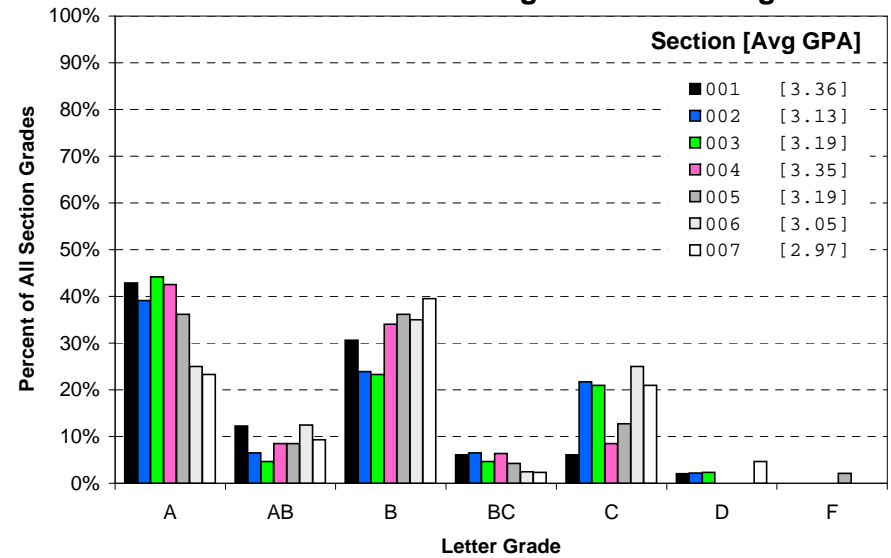


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School of Business**

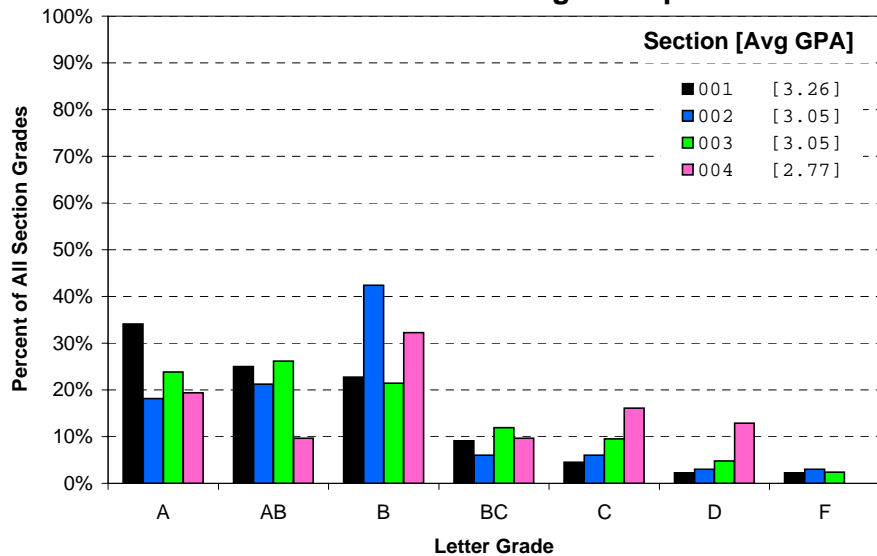
ACCT I S 100 Intro Financial Accounting



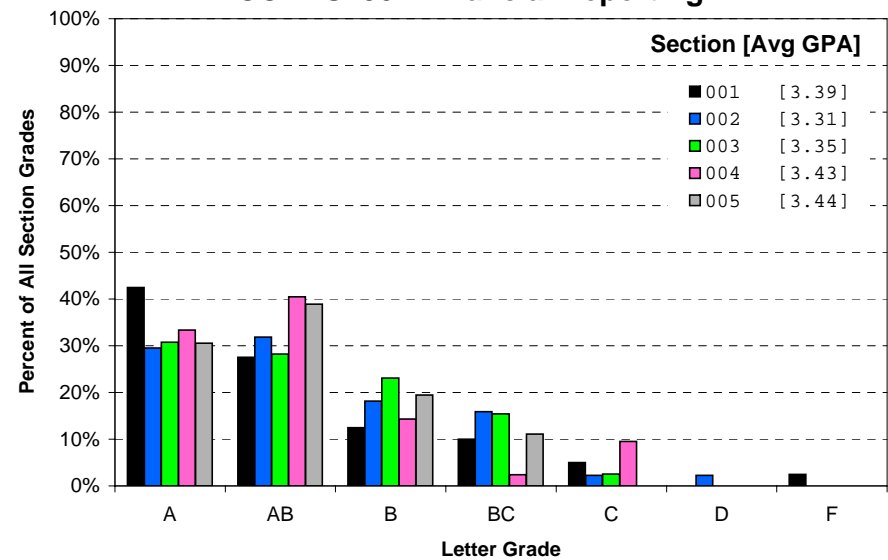
ACCT I S 211 Intro Managerial Accounting



ACCT I S 300 Accounting Principles

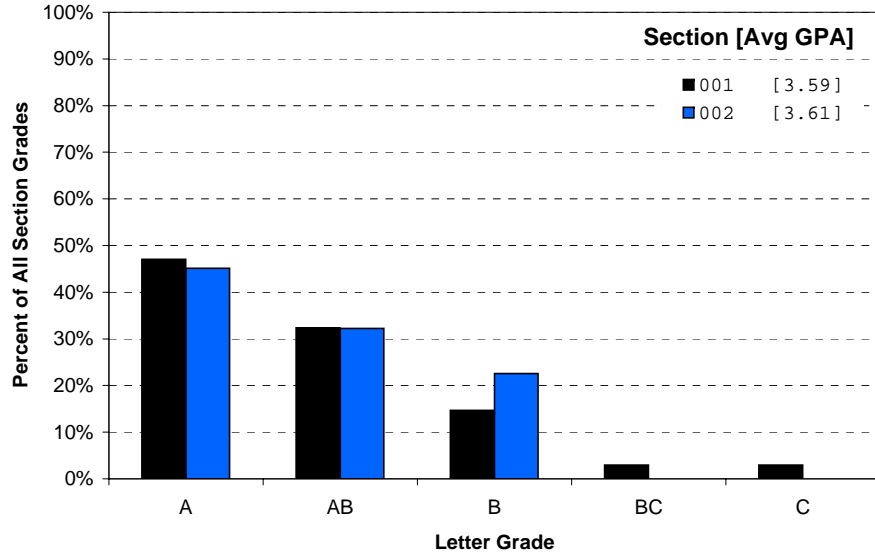


ACCT I S 301 Financial Reporting I

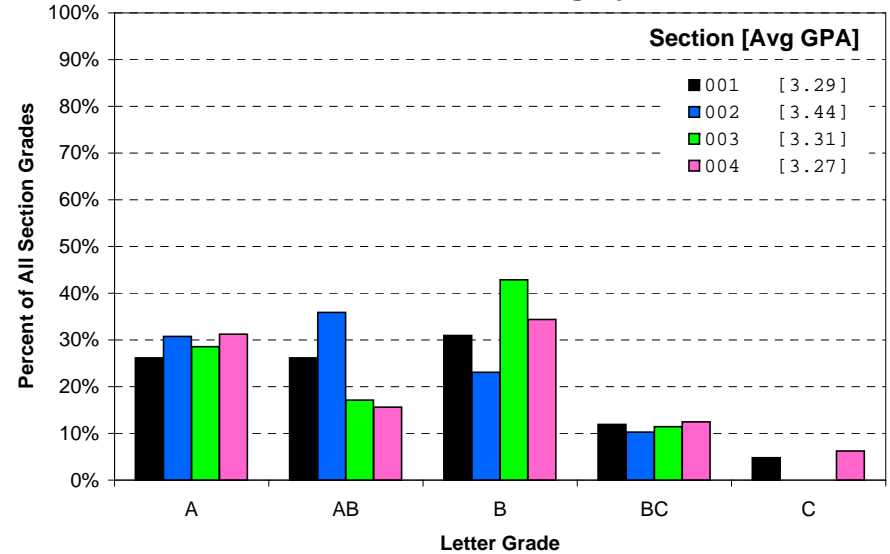


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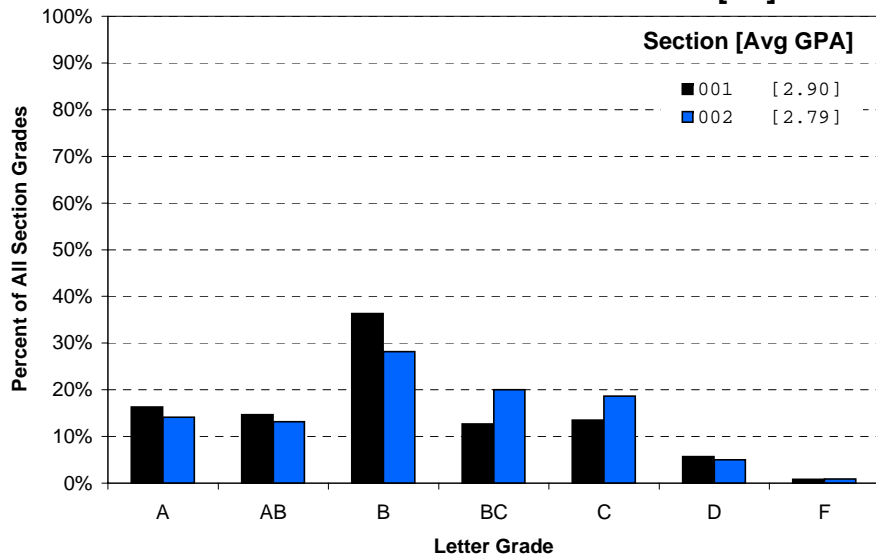
ACCT I S 310 Cost Management Systems



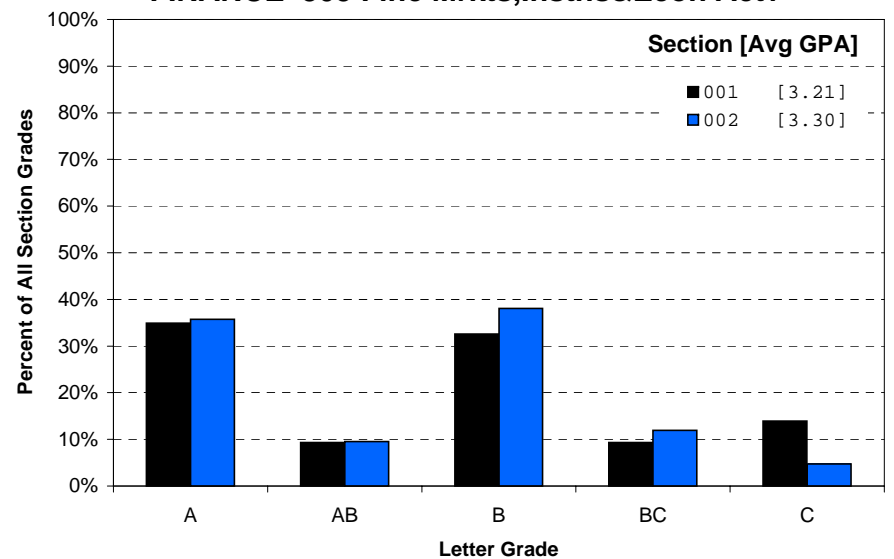
ACCT I S 340 Accounting Systems



FINANCE 300 Introduction to Finance [XL]

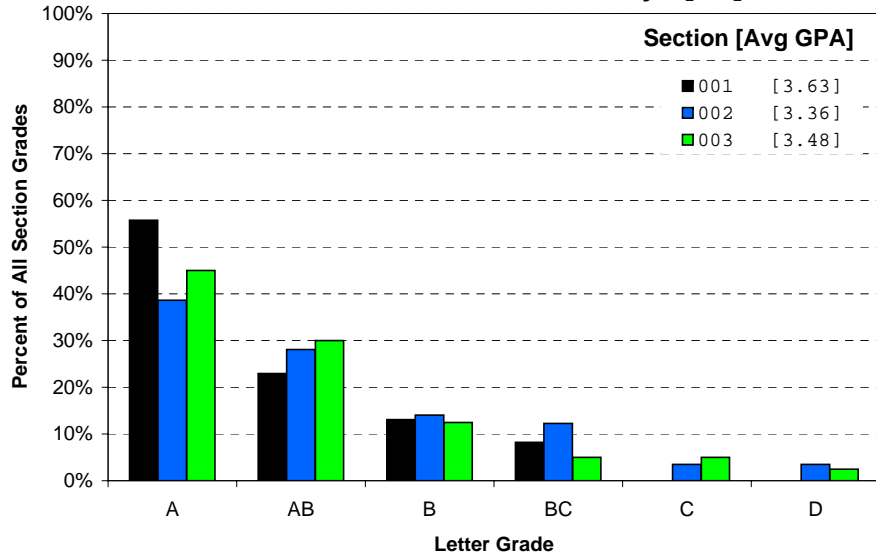


FINANCE 305 Finc Mrkts,Instns&Econ Actv

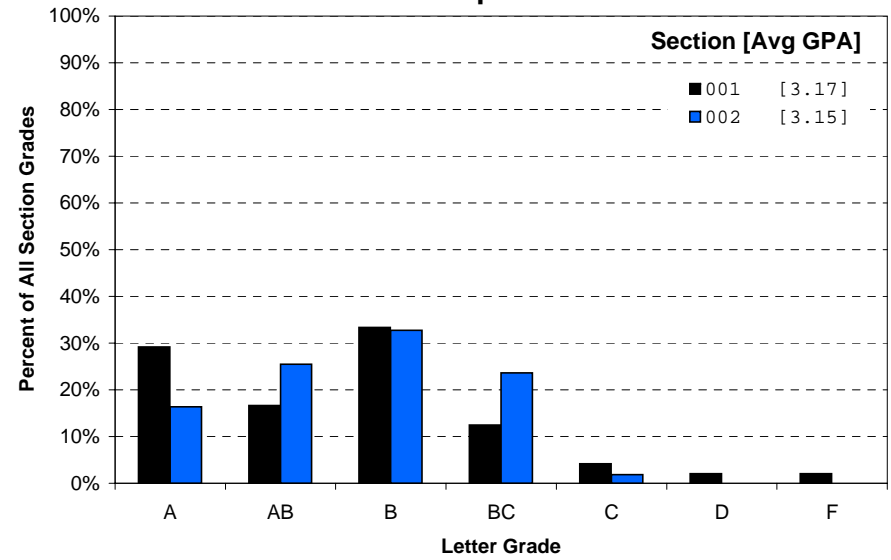


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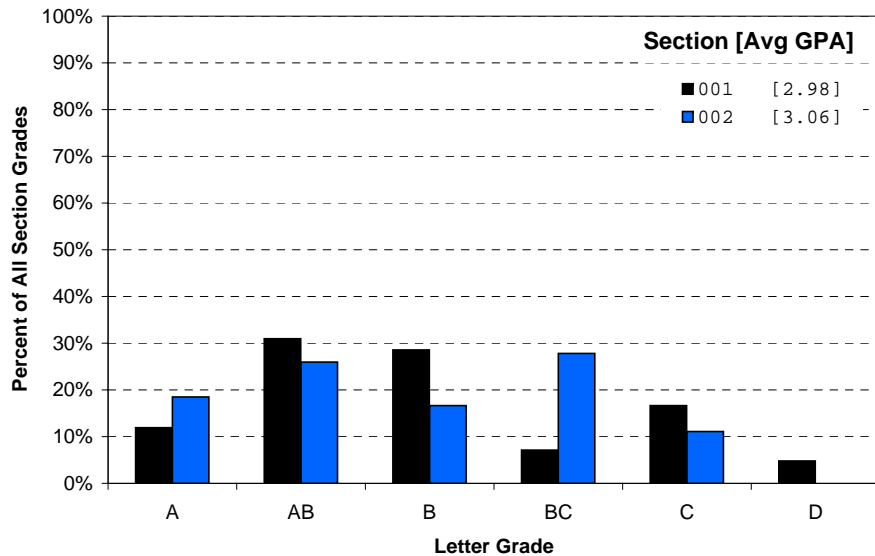
FINANCE 320 Investment Theory [XL]



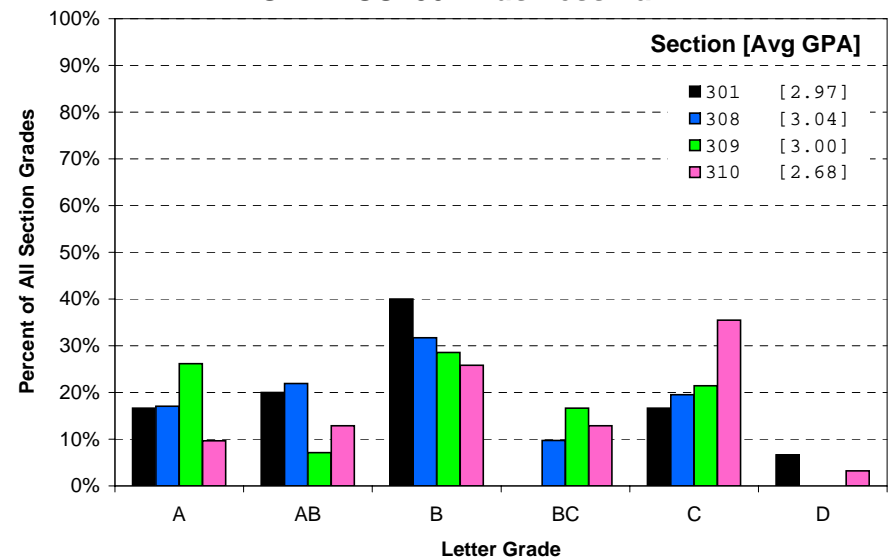
FINANCE 325 Corporation Finance



FINANCE 330 Derivative Securities

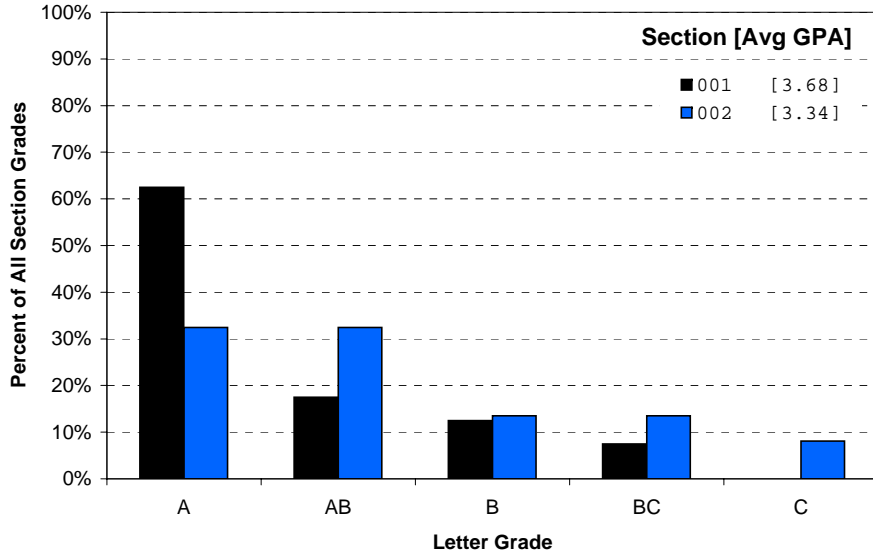


GEN BUS 301 Business Law

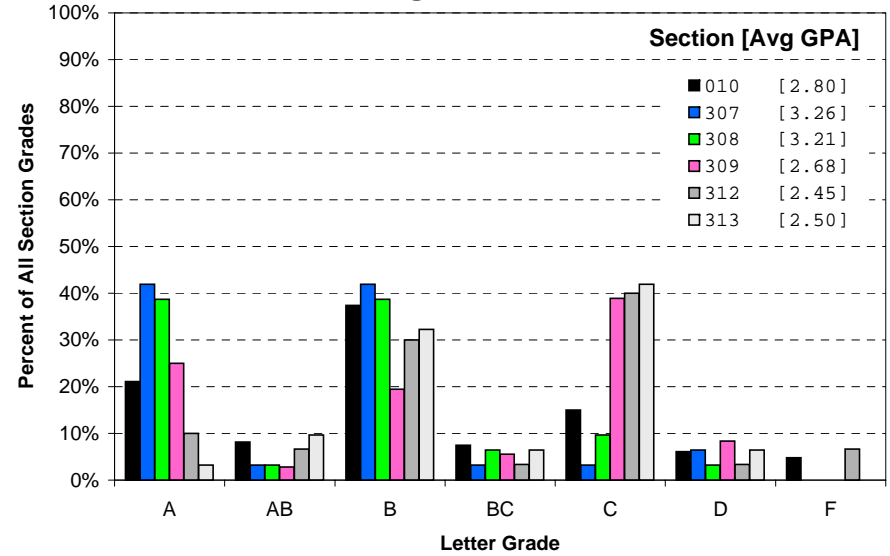


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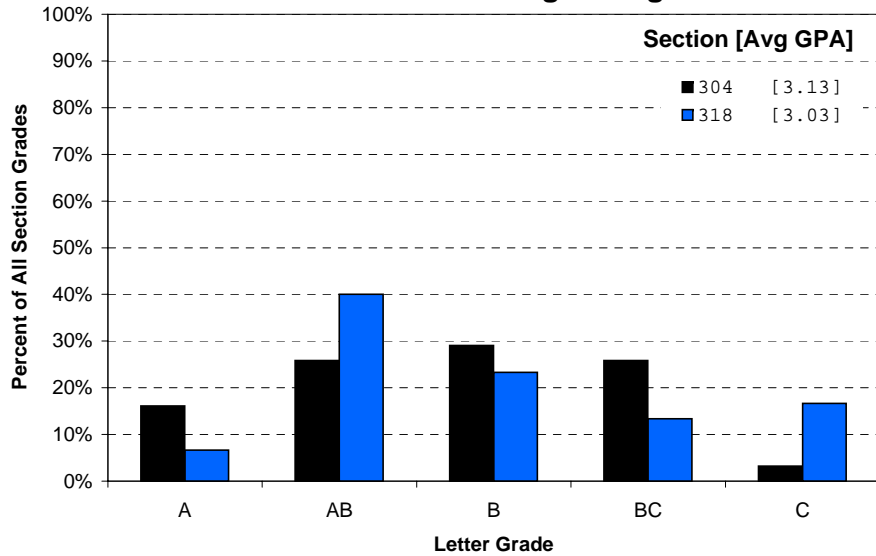
GEN BUS 302 Bus Orgs&Negotiable Instrumnts



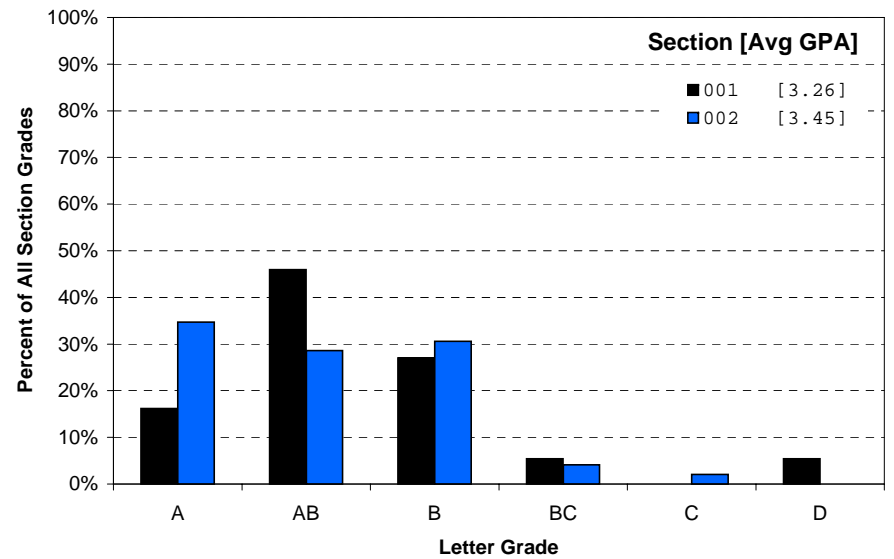
M H R 300 Organizational Behavior



MARKETNG 300 Marketing Management

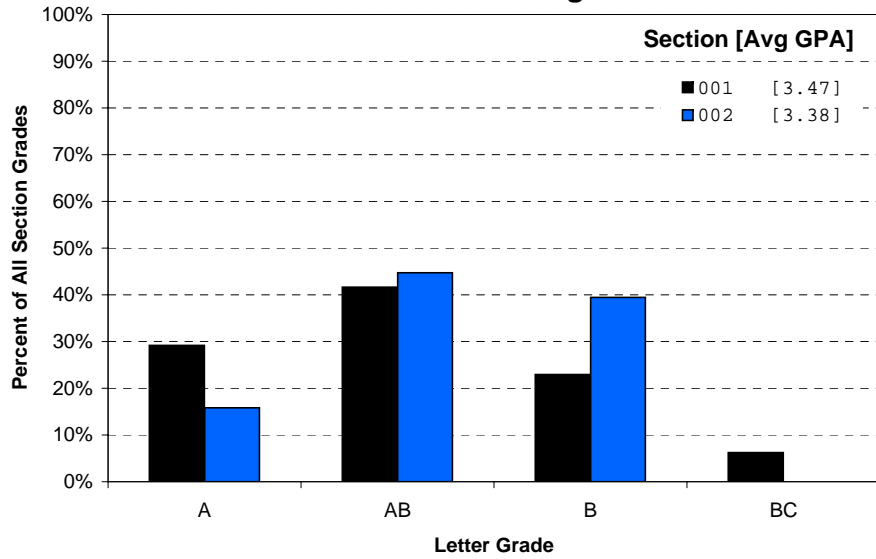


MARKETNG 305 Consumer Behavior

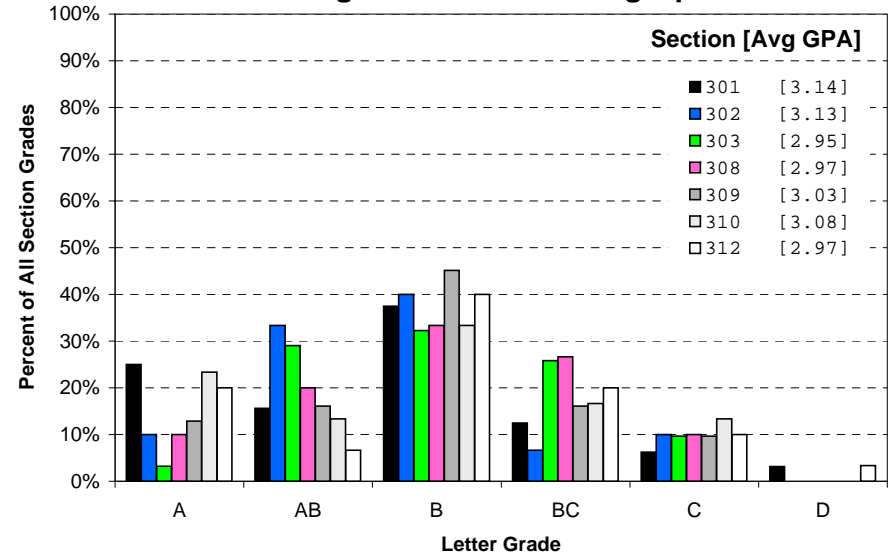


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School of Business**

MARKETNG 310 Marketing Research

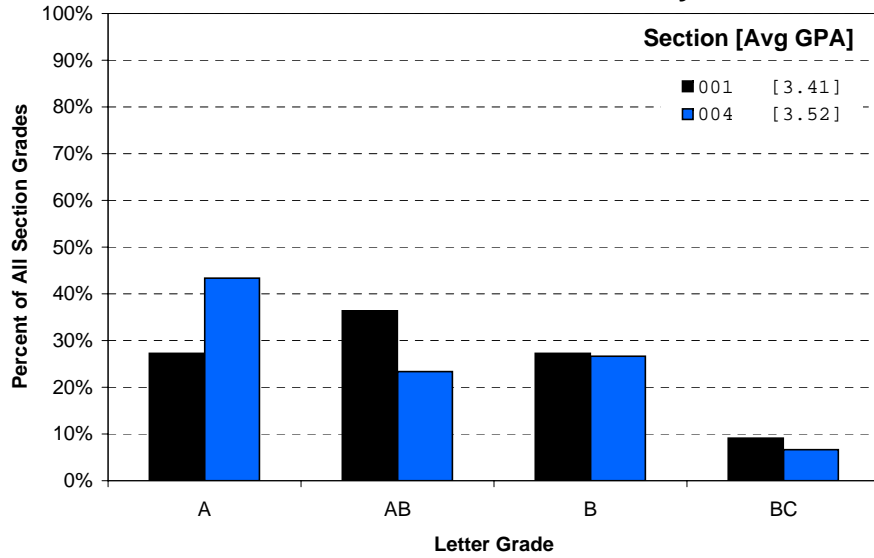


OTM 350 Mgmt-Serv&Manufctng Operatn

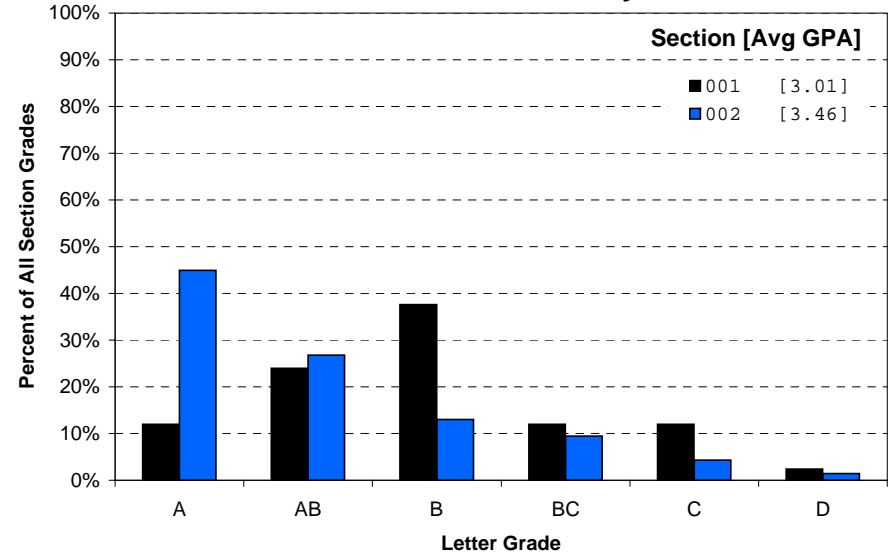


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School of Education**

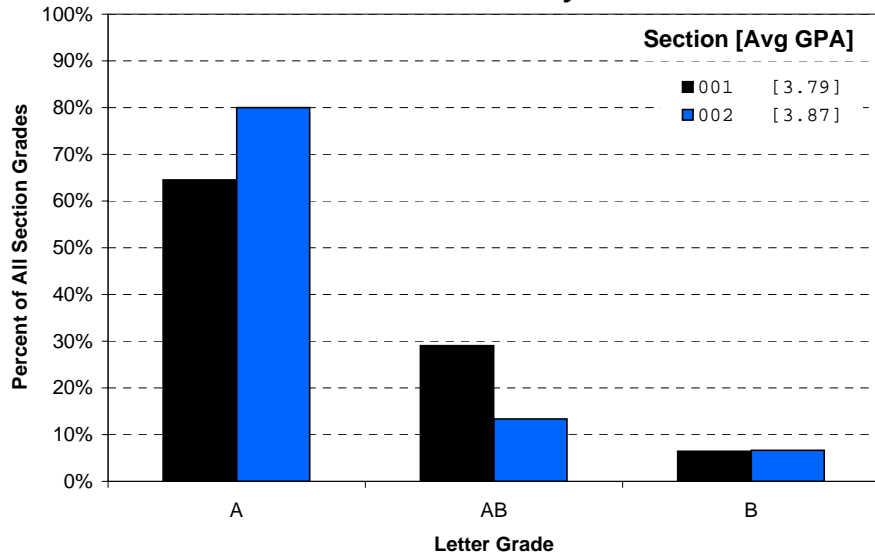
ED POL 300 School and Society



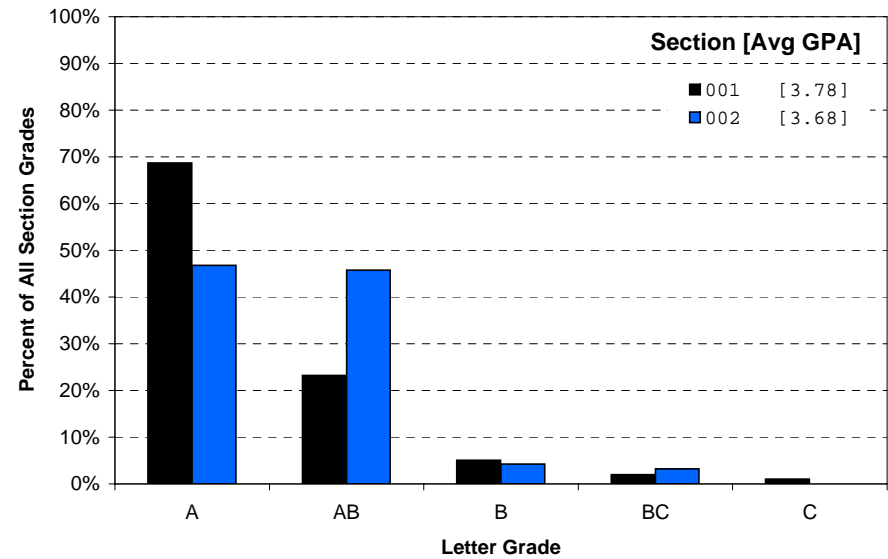
ED PSYCH 320 Human Dev-Infancy&Childhood



PE ACTIV 175 Volleyball I

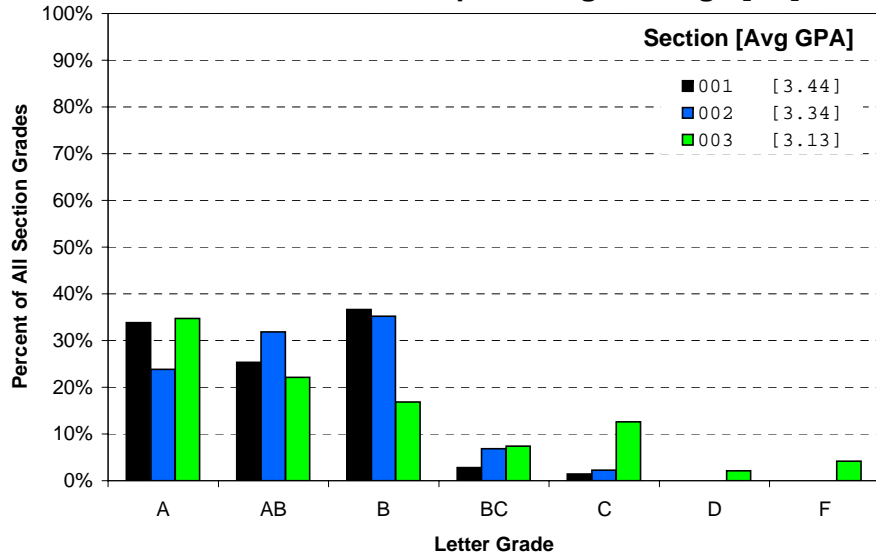


RP & SE 300 Individls with Disabilities

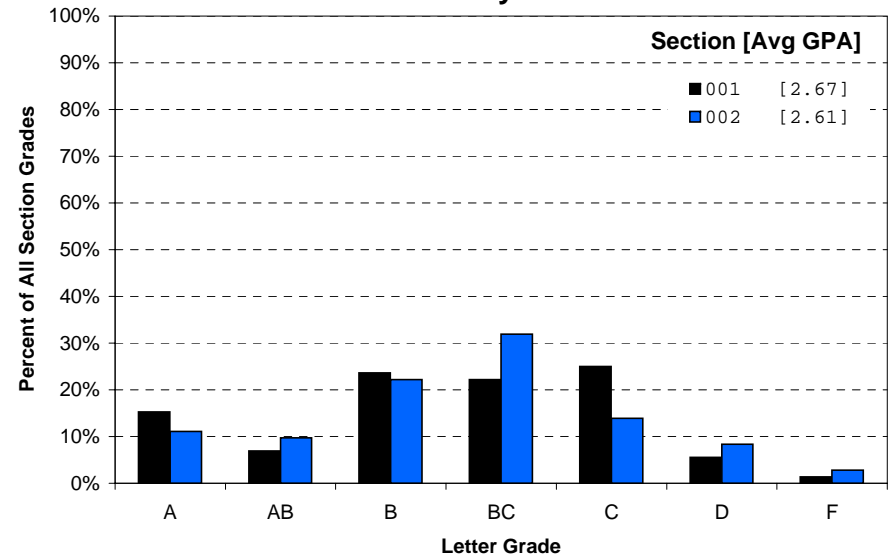


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College of Engineering**

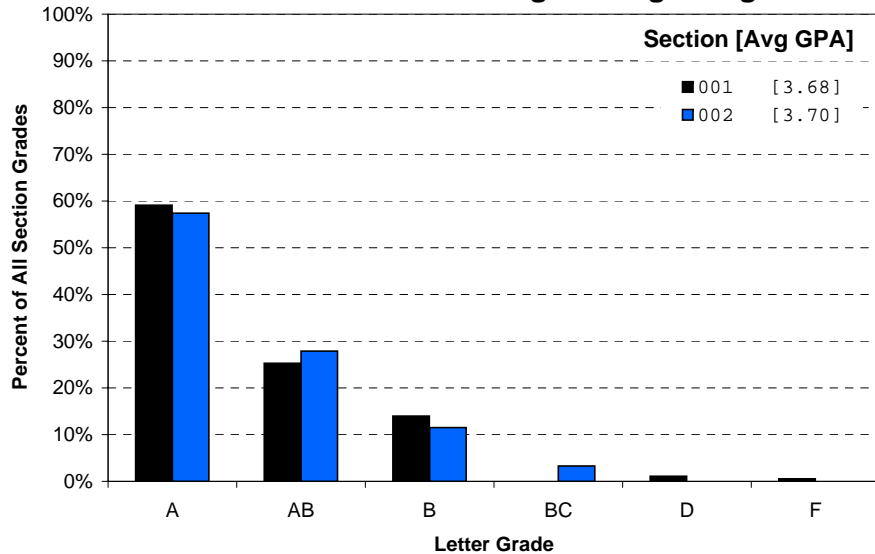
E C E 252 Intro to Computer Engineering [XL]



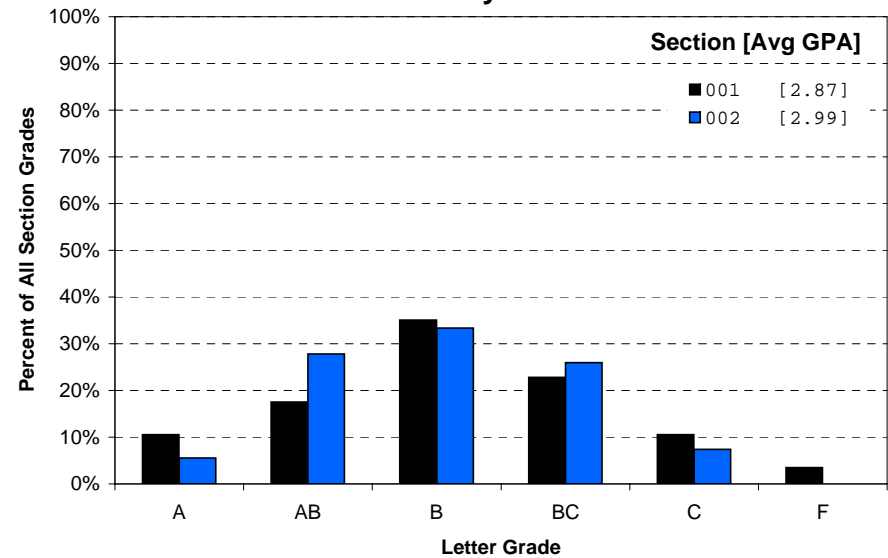
E M A 202 Dynamics



INTEREGR 160 Intro to Engineering Design

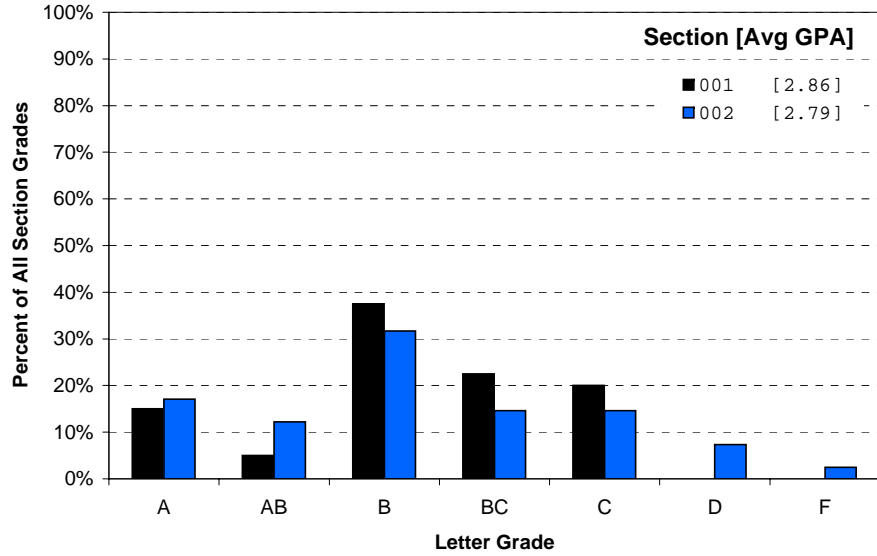


M E 240 Dynamics

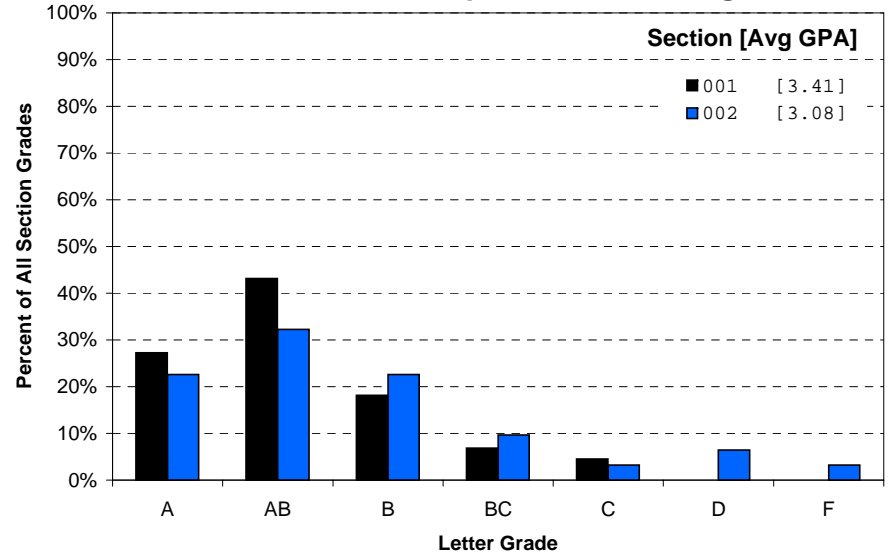


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College of Engineering**

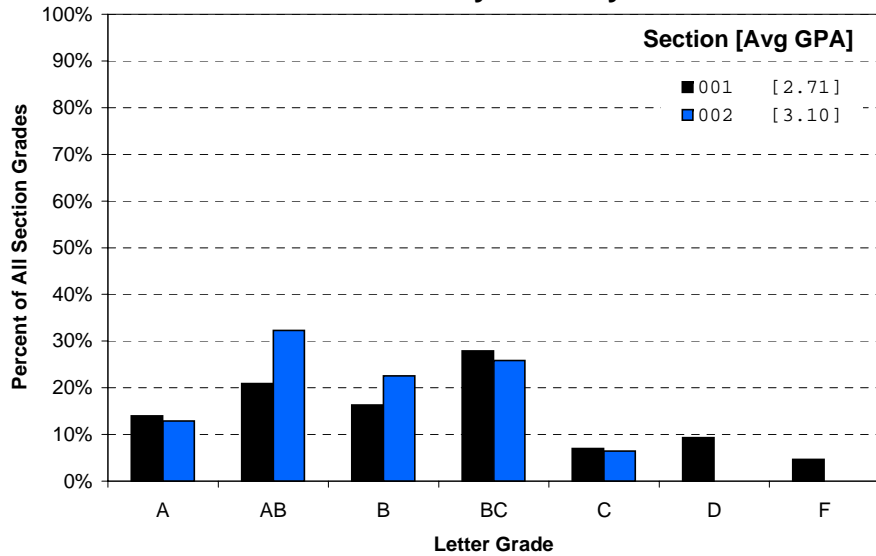
M E 306 Mechanics of Materials



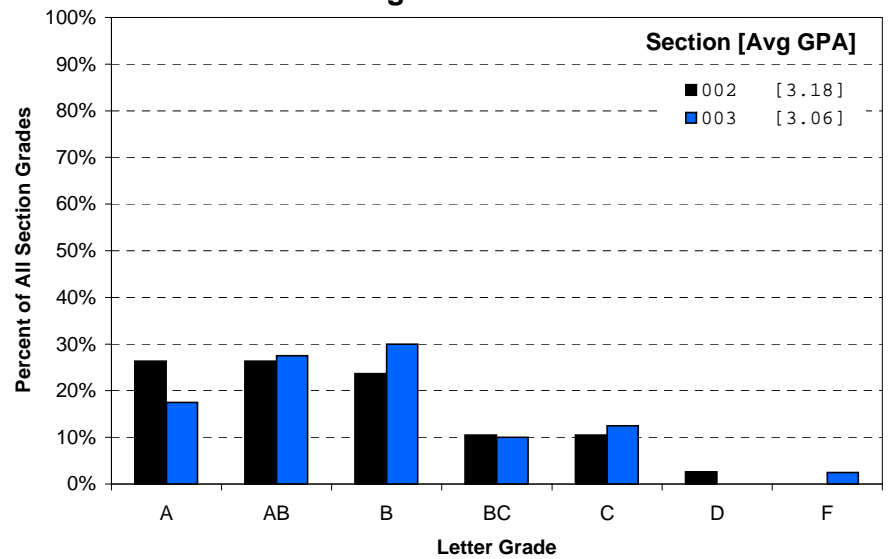
M E 314 Intro-Competitiv Manufacturing



M E 340 Intro to Dynamic Systems

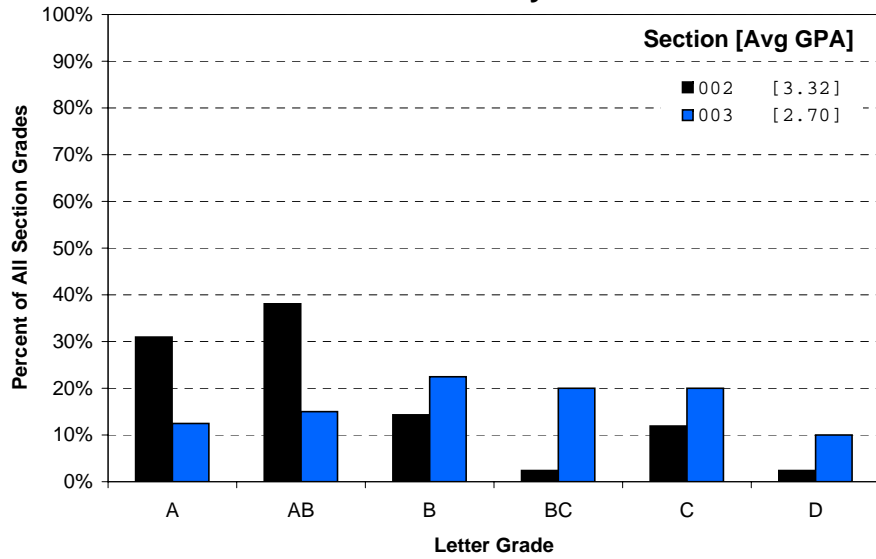


M E 342 Design of Machine Elements

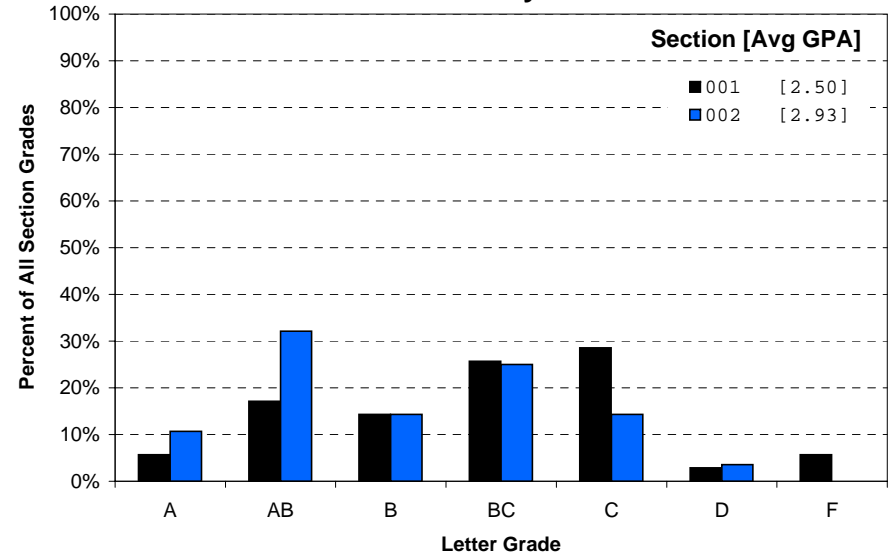


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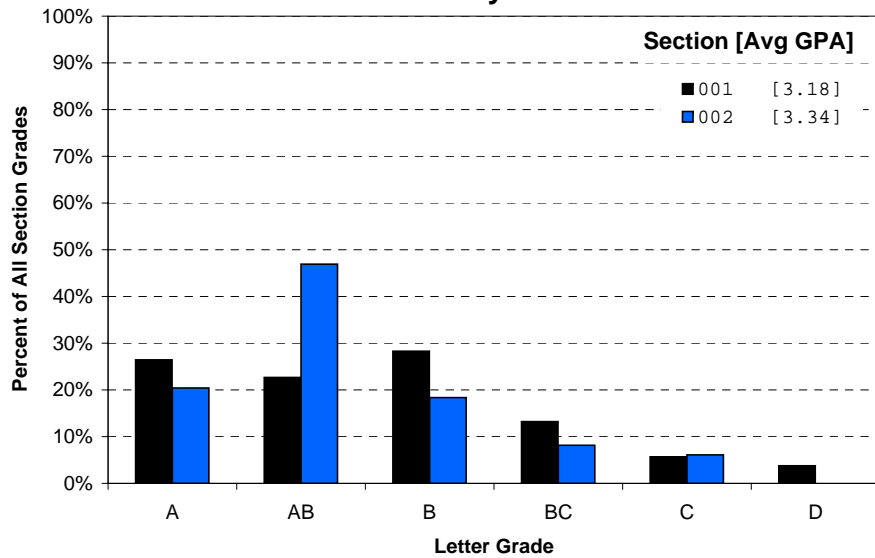
M E 361 Thermodynamics



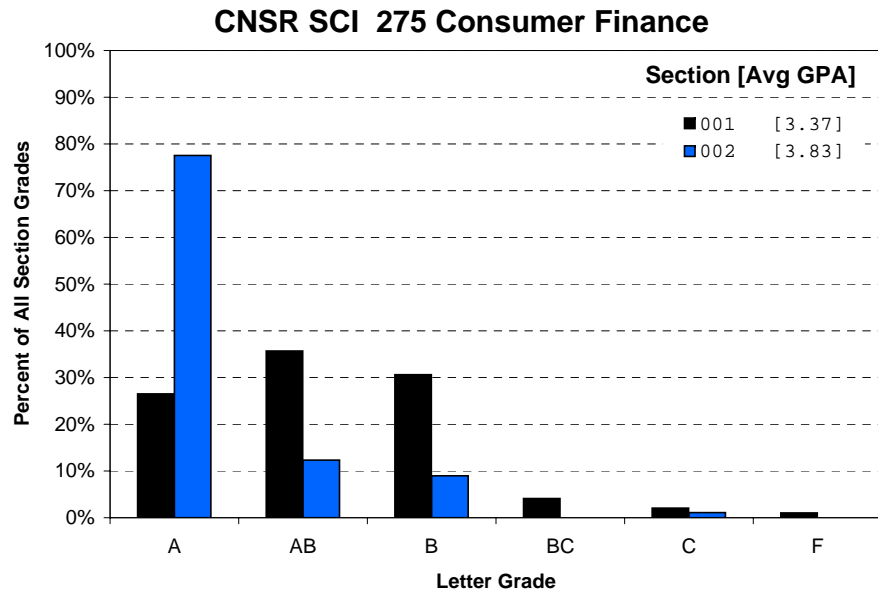
M E 363 Fluid Dynamics



M E 364 Elementary Heat Transfer

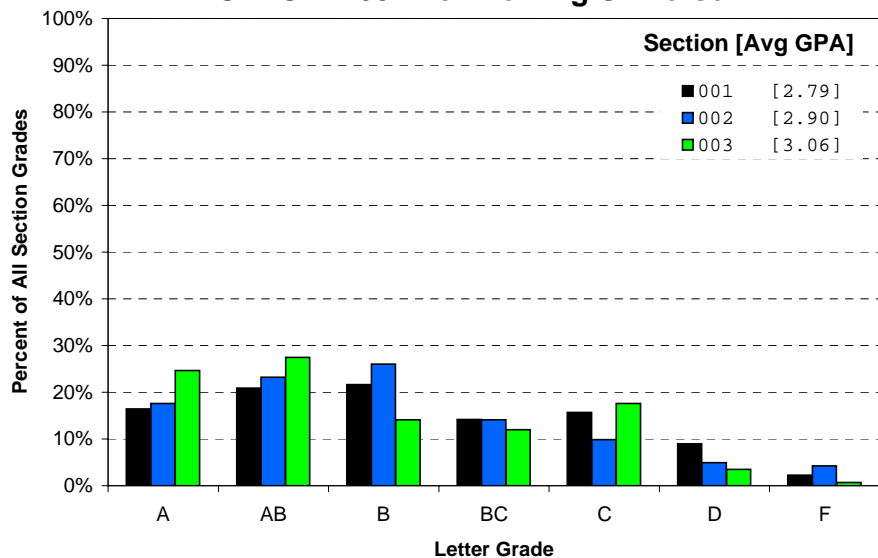


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School of Human Ecology**

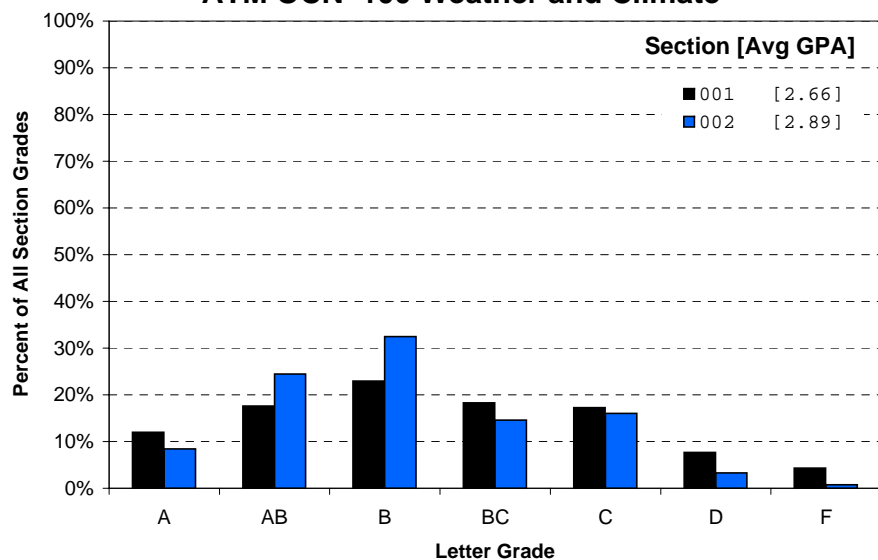


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College of Letters and Science**

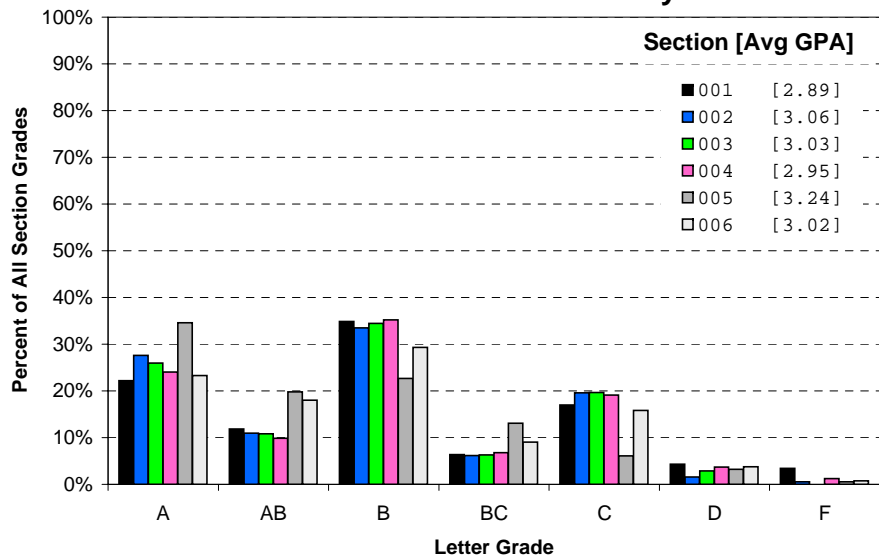
ASTRON 103 The Evolving Universe



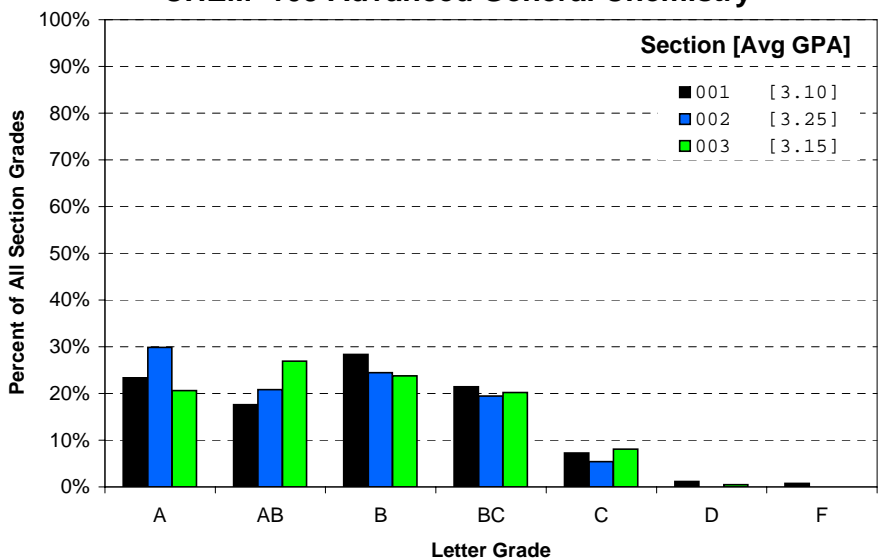
ATM OCN 100 Weather and Climate



CHEM 103 General Chemistry

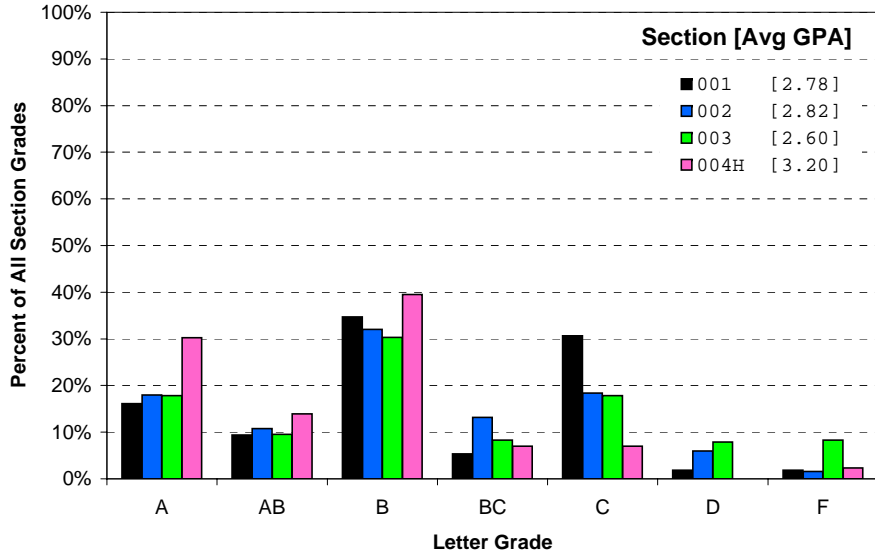


CHEM 109 Advanced General Chemistry

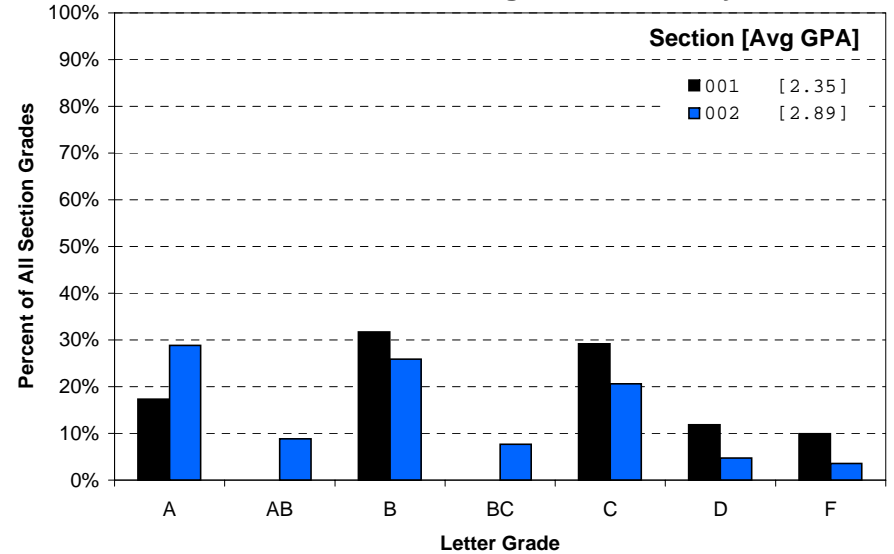


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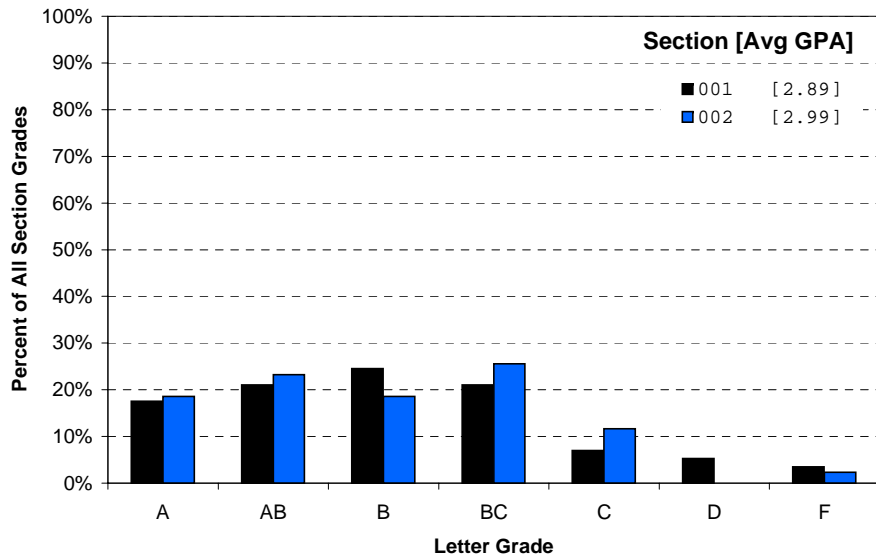
CHEM 343 Intro Organic Chemistry



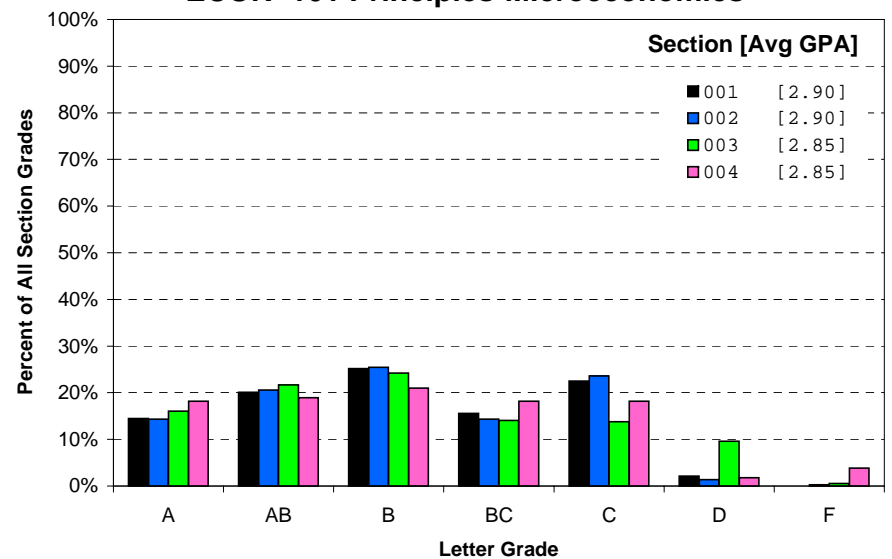
CHEM 345 Intmed Organic Chemistry



COMP SCI 367 Intro to Data Structures

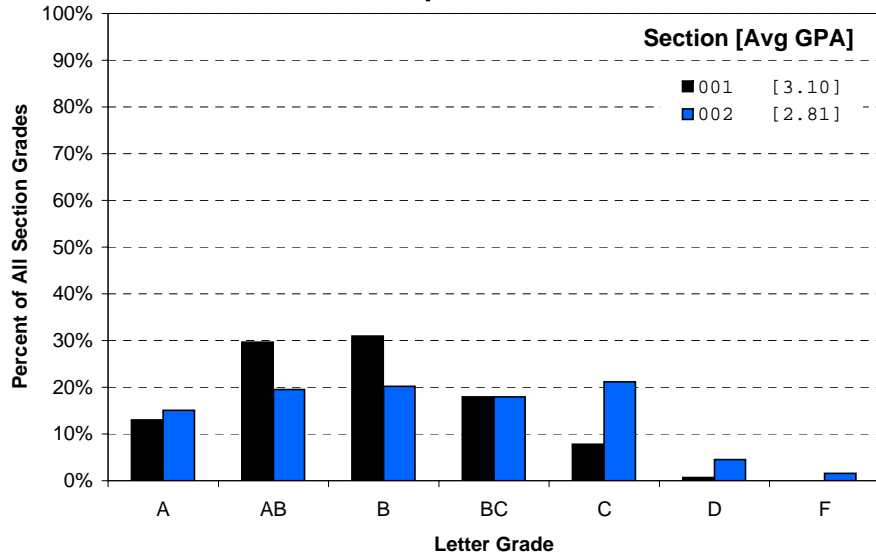


ECON 101 Principles-Microeconomics

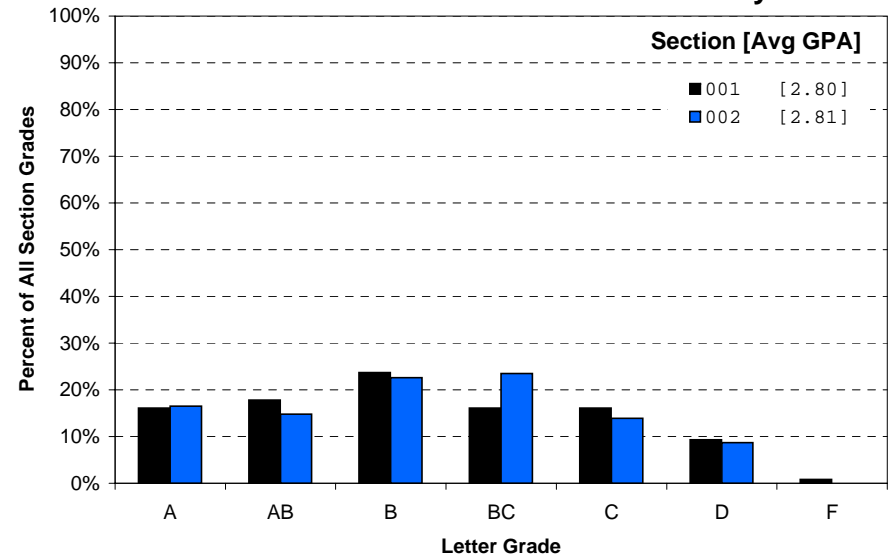


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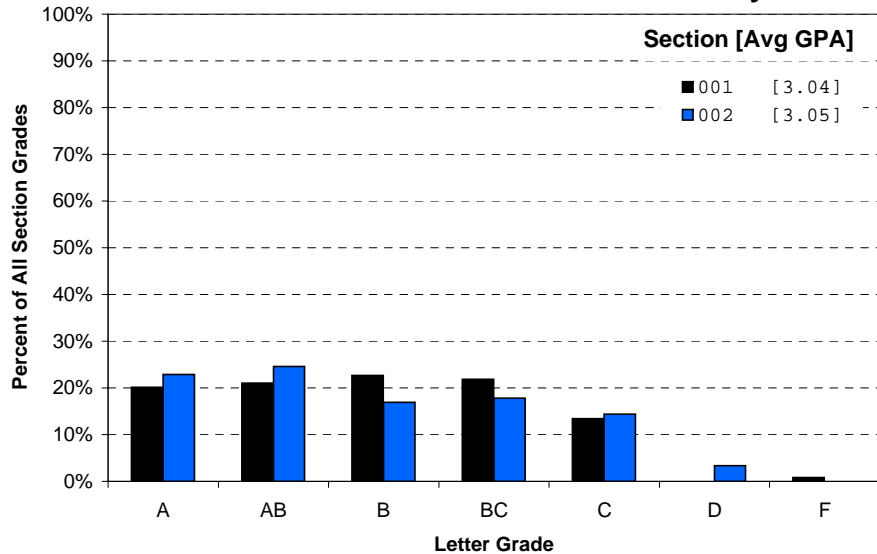
ECON 102 Principles-Macroeconomics



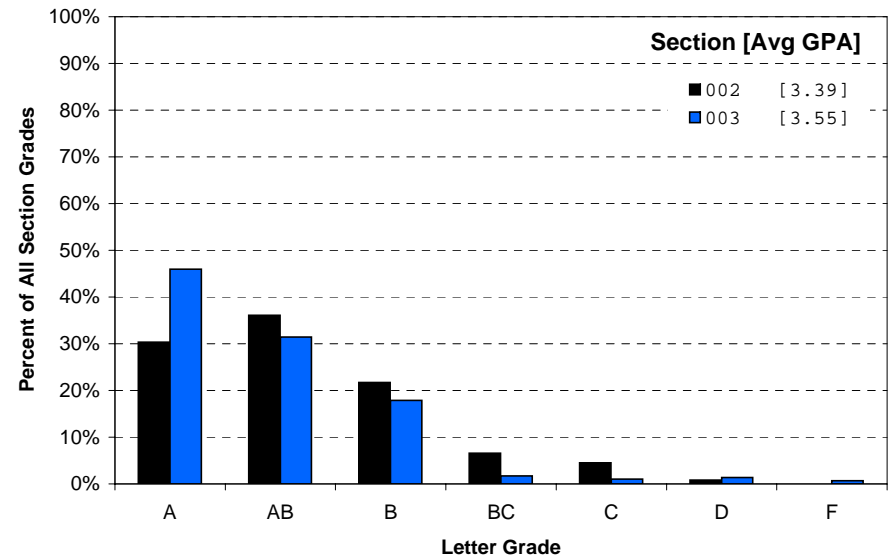
ECON 301 Intmed Microeconomic Theory



ECON 302 Intmed Macroeconomic Theory

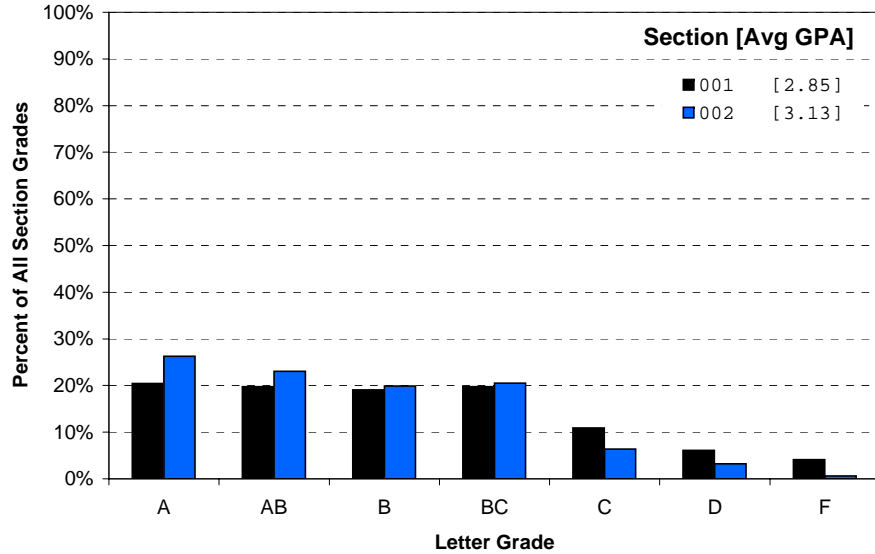


ENGLISH 169 Intro to Modern American Lit

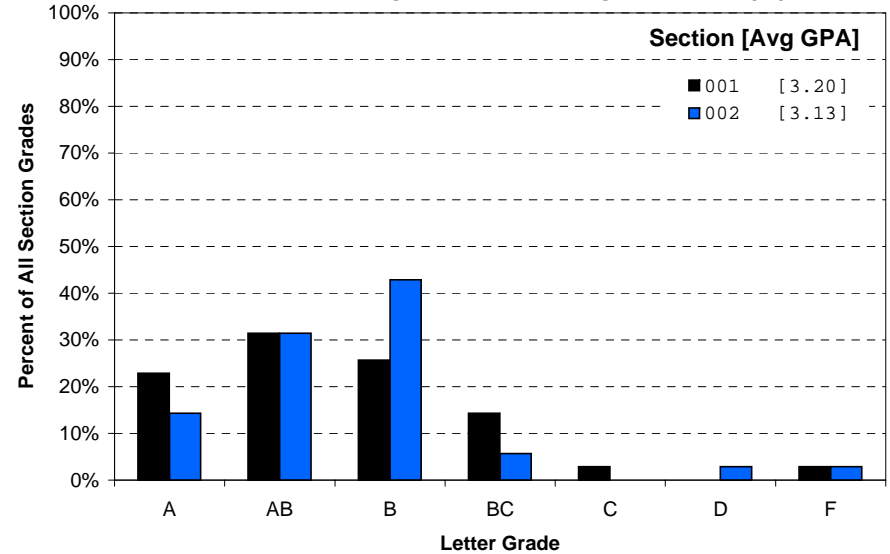


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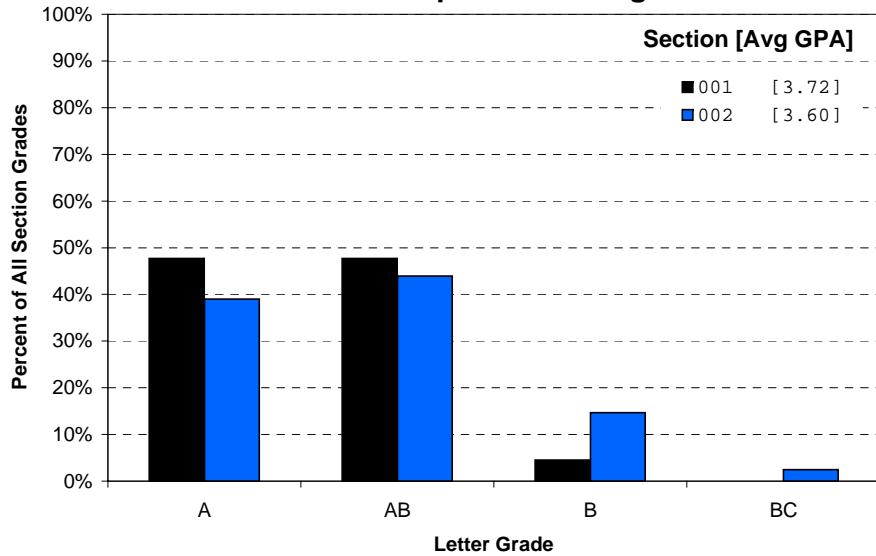
GEOLOGY 100 General Geology



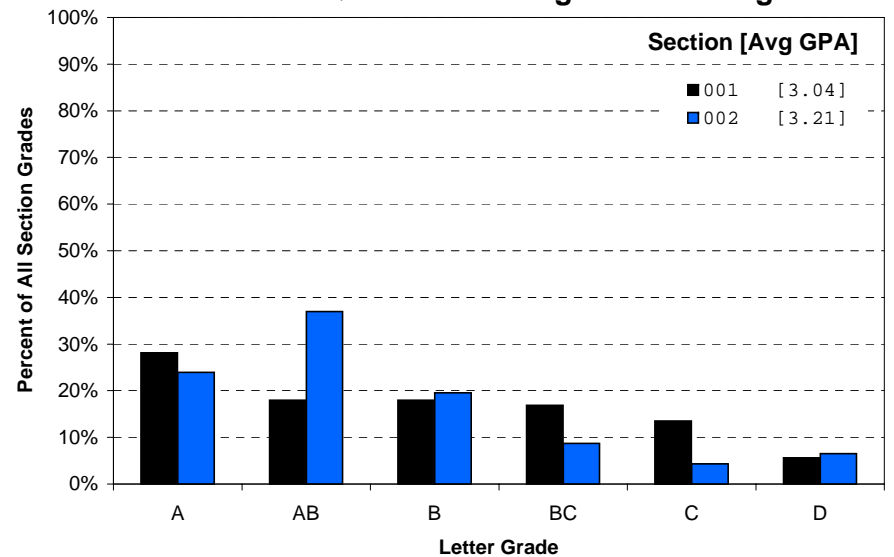
HISTORY 223 Exploration-European Hist (H)



JOURN 345 Principles of Strategic Com

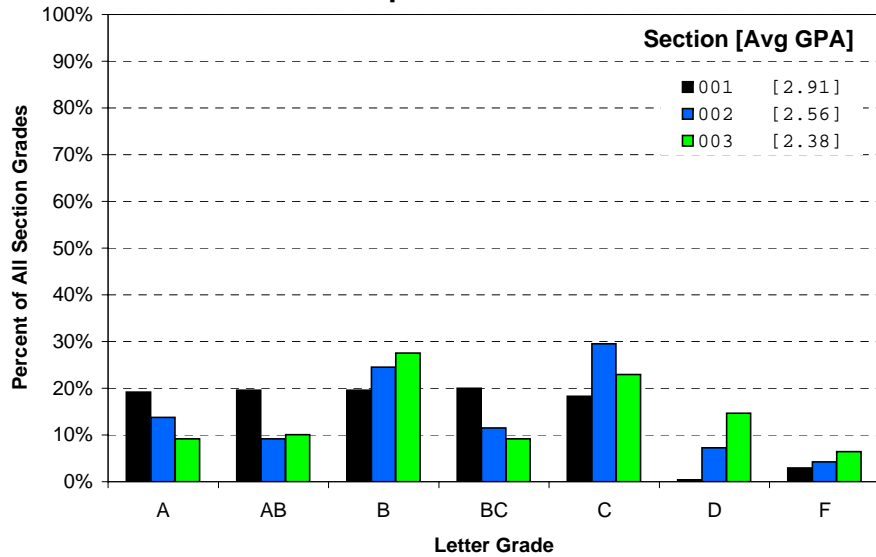


MATH 141 Quant Reasoning&Prob Solvng

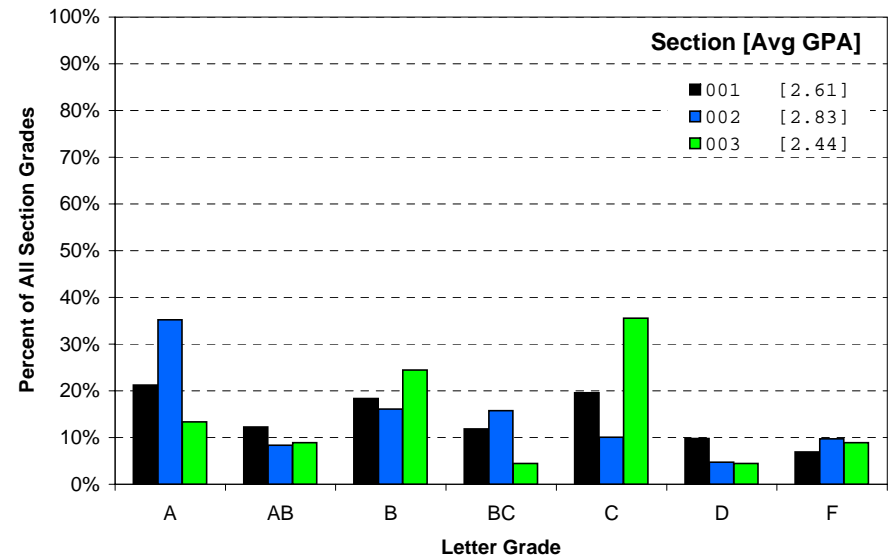


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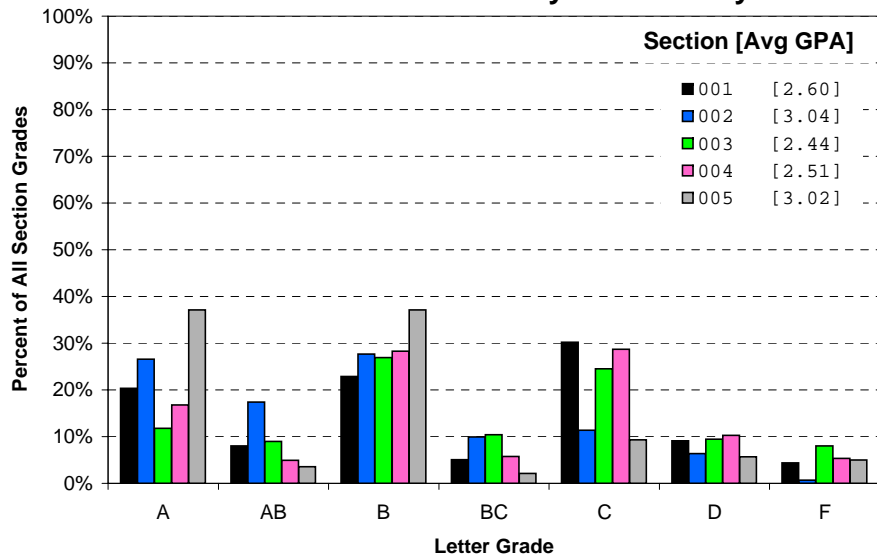
MATH 210 Topics-Finite Mathematics



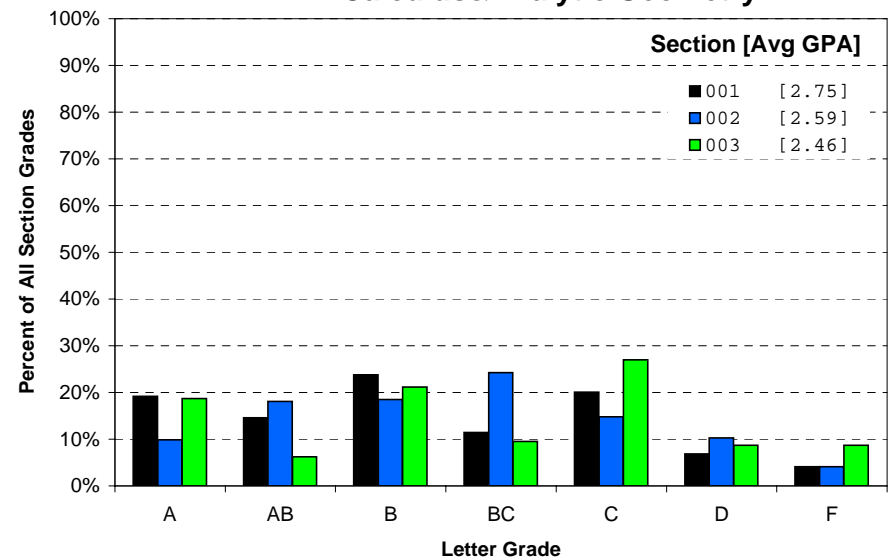
MATH 211 Calculus



MATH 221 Calculus&Analytic Geometry

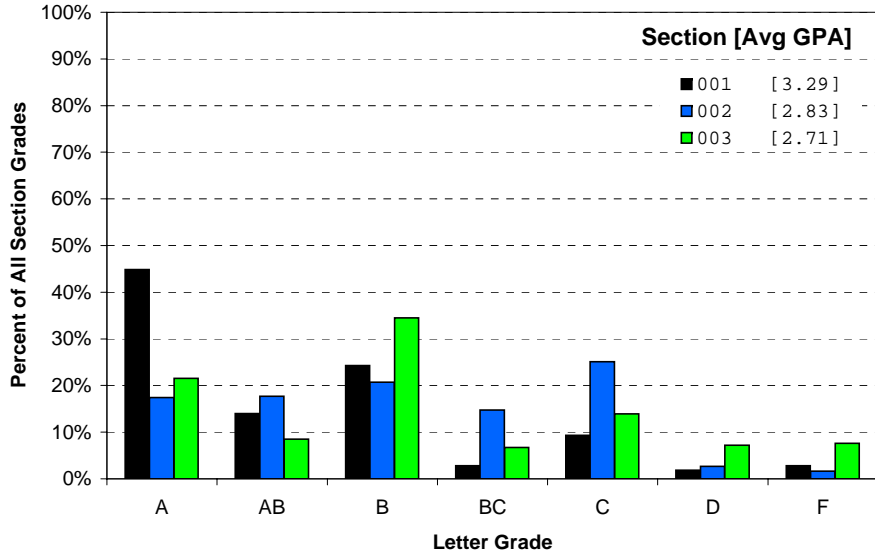


MATH 222 Calculus&Analytic Geometry

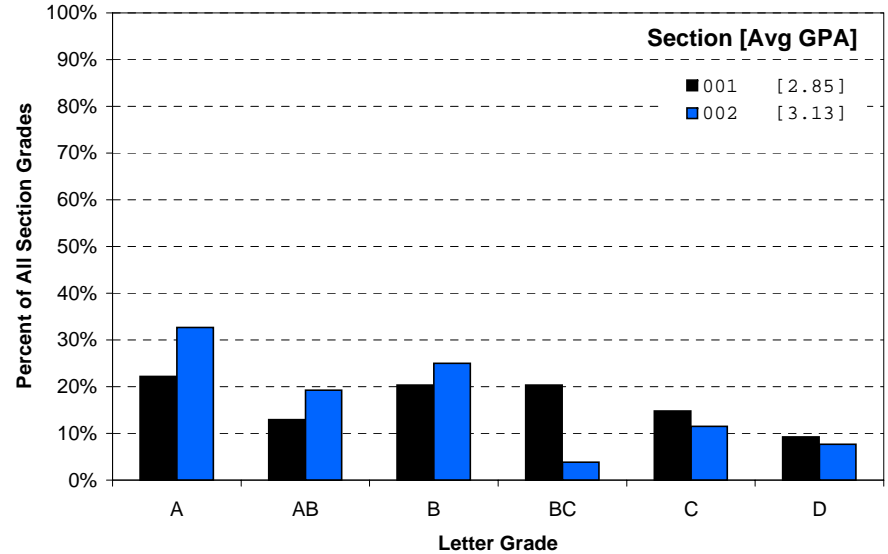


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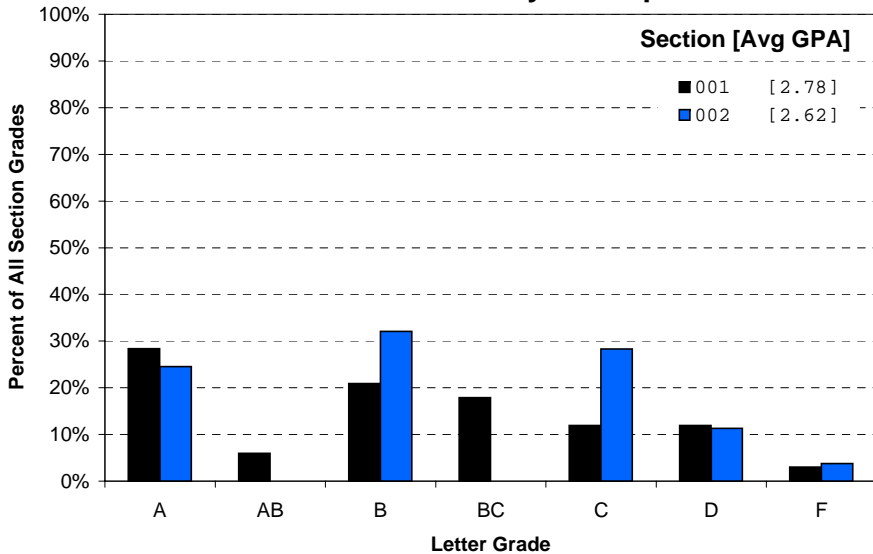
MATH 234 Calc--Functns of Variables



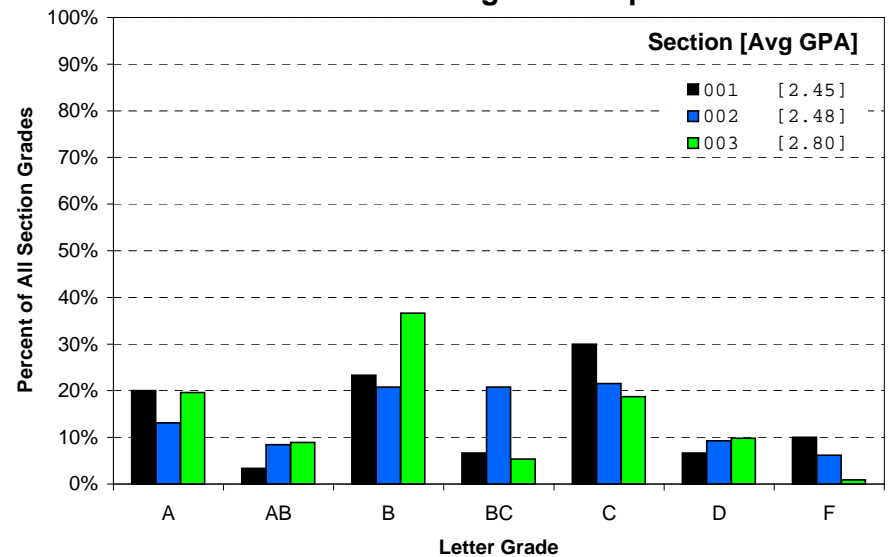
MATH 240 Intro to Discrete Mathematics [XL]



MATH 319 Tech-Ordinary Diff Equation

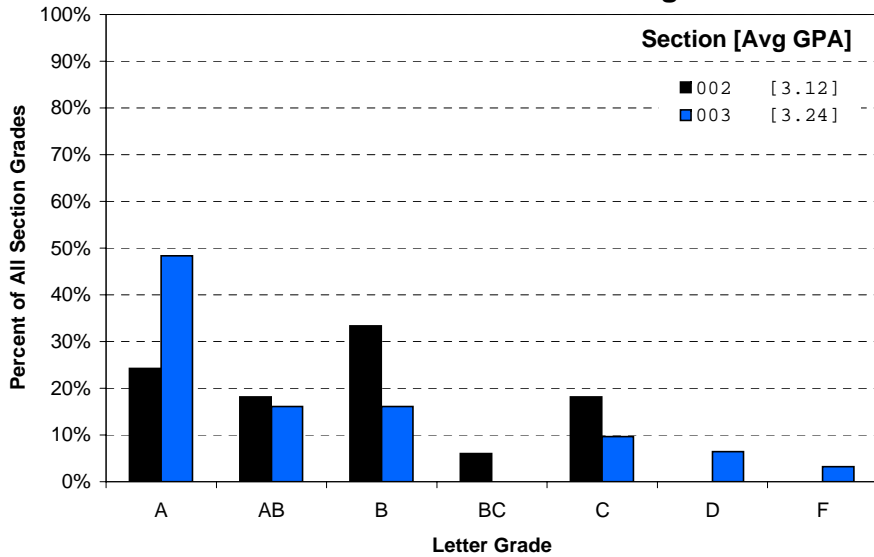


MATH 320 Linear Alg & Diff Equations

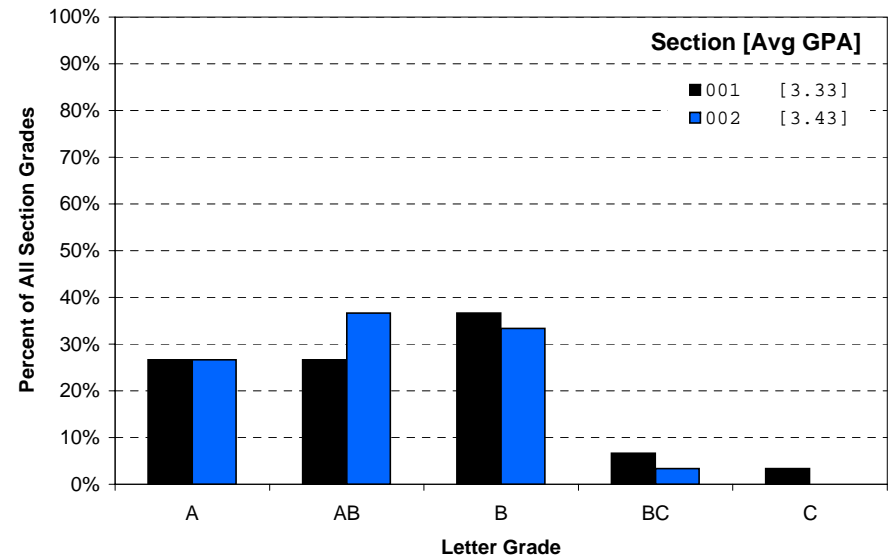


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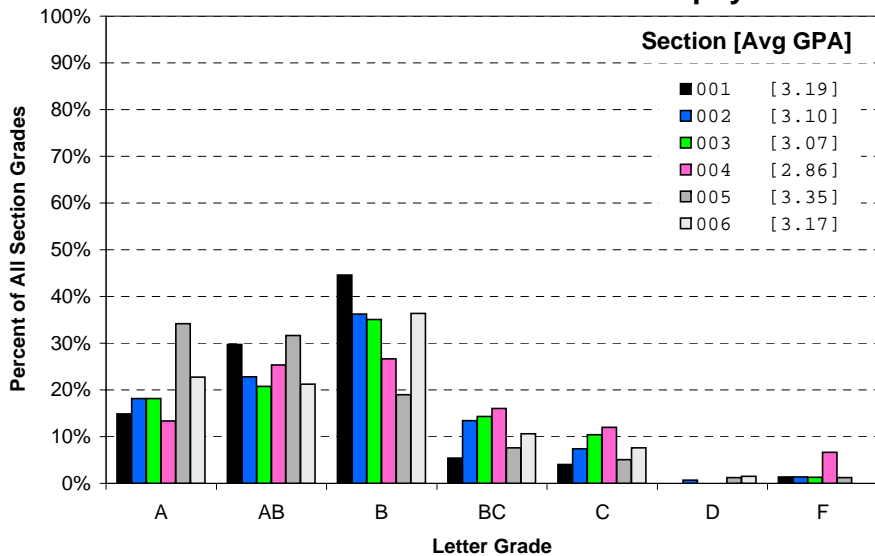
MATH 340 Elem Matrix&Linear Algebra



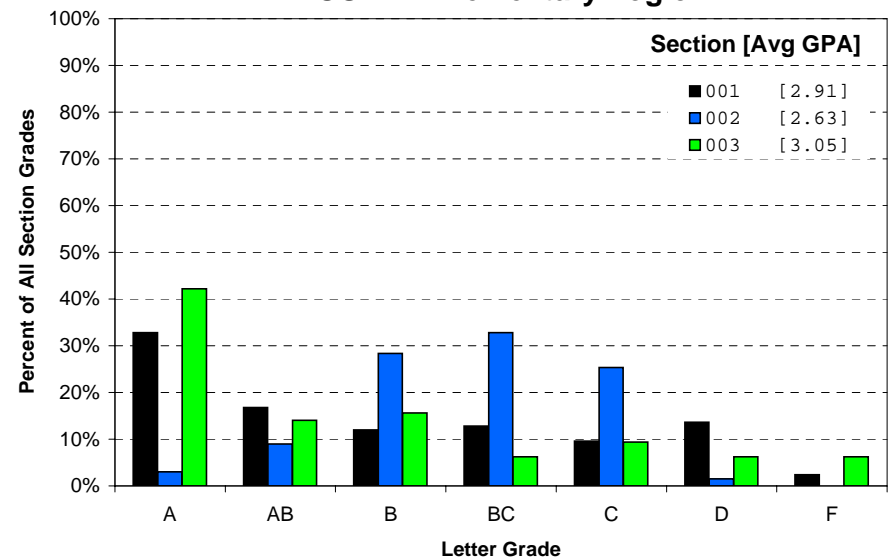
MUSIC 221 Musica Practica 3



PHILOS 101 Introduction to Philosophy

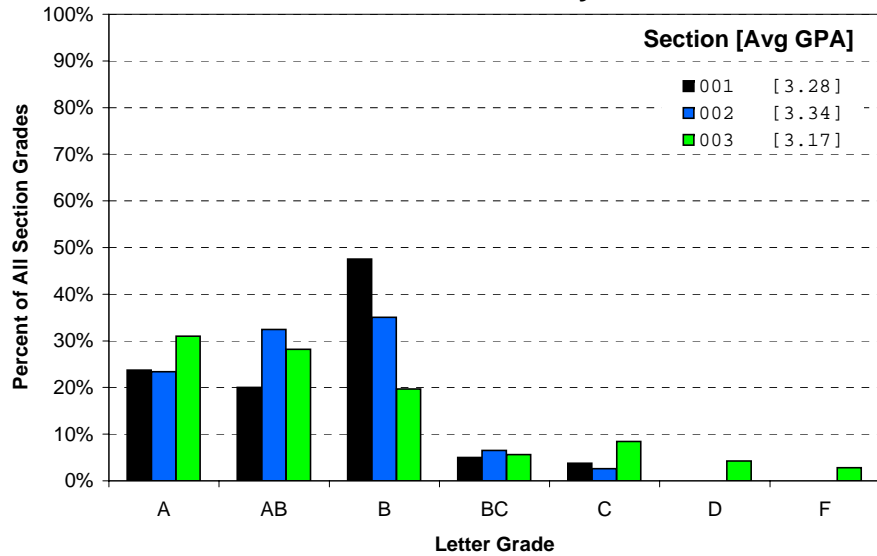


PHILOS 211 Elementary Logic

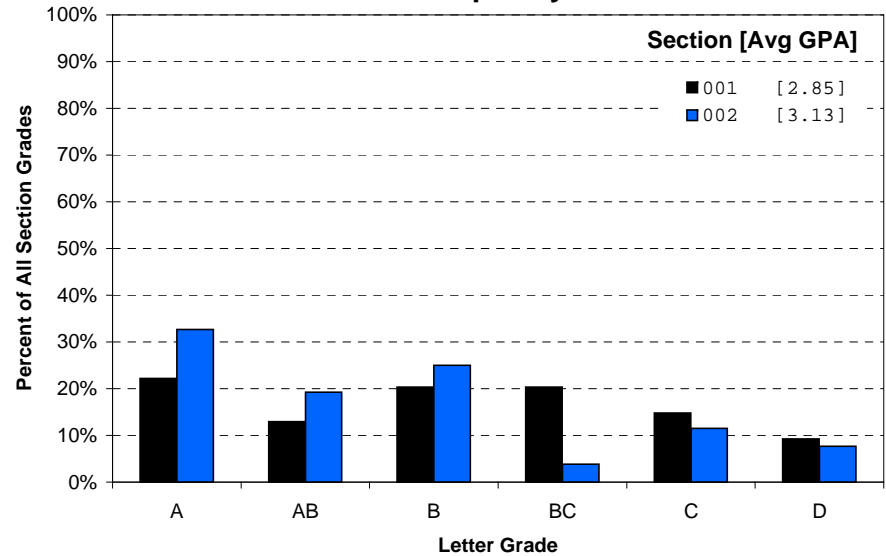


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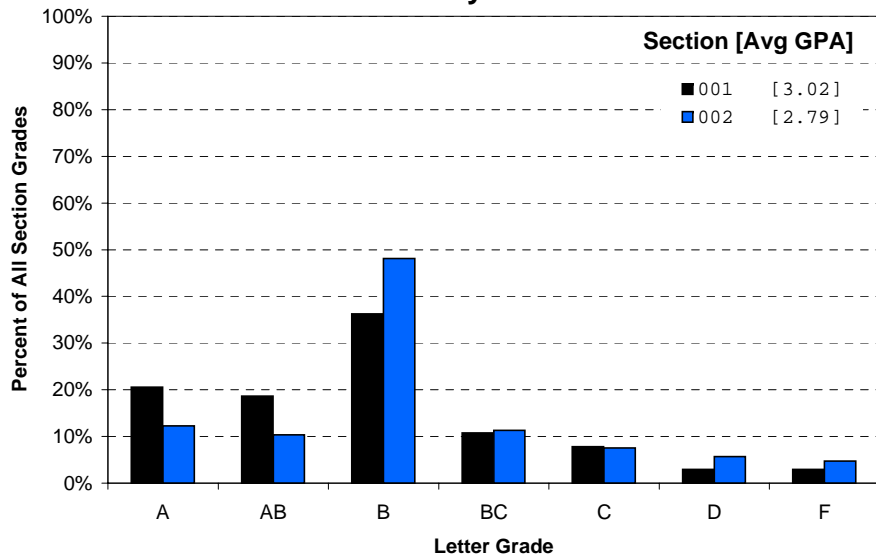
PHILOS 241 Introductory Ethics



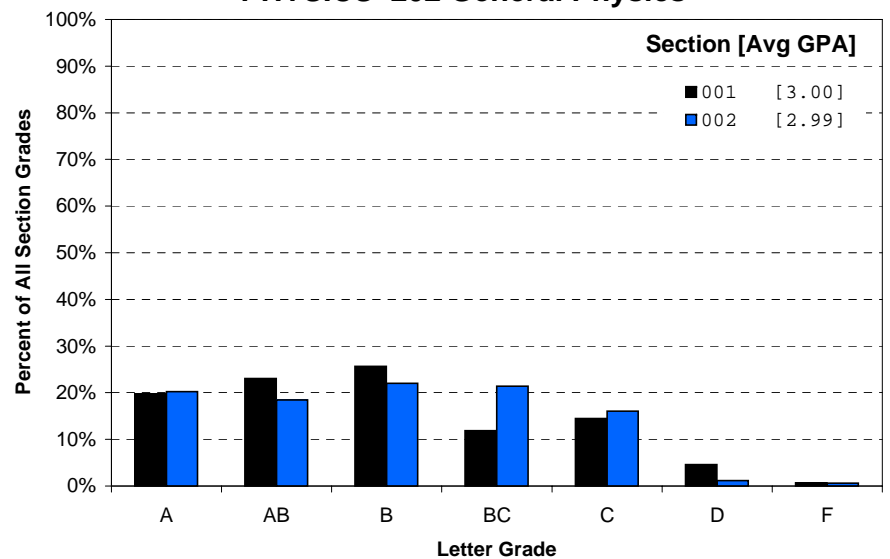
PHILOS 341 Contemporary Moral Issues



PHYSICS 109 Physics in the Arts

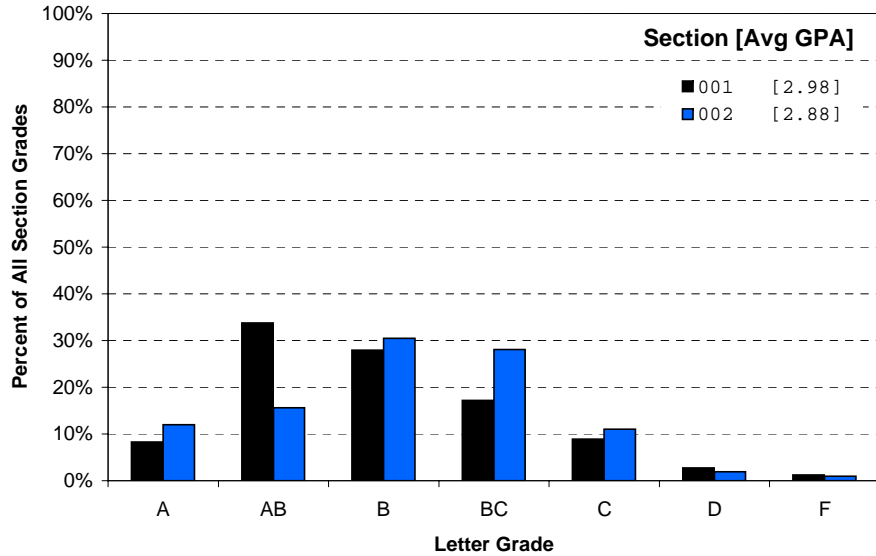


PHYSICS 202 General Physics

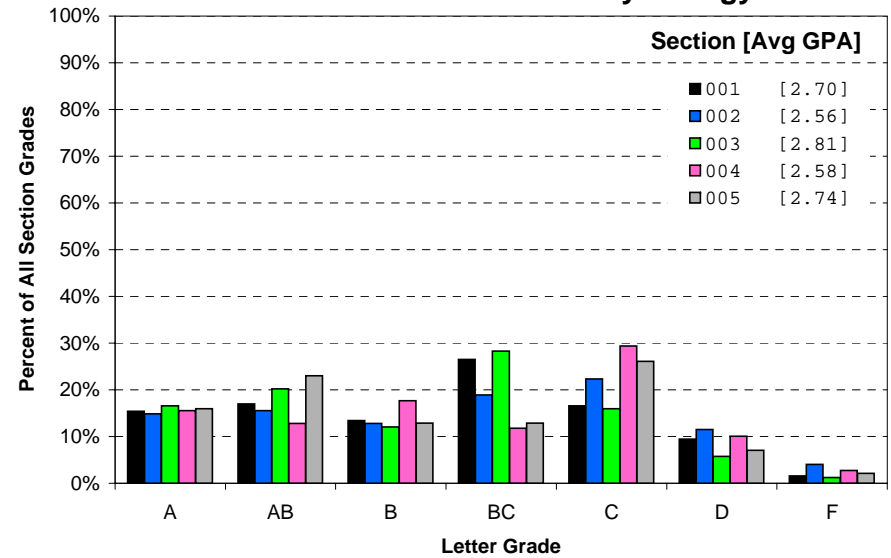


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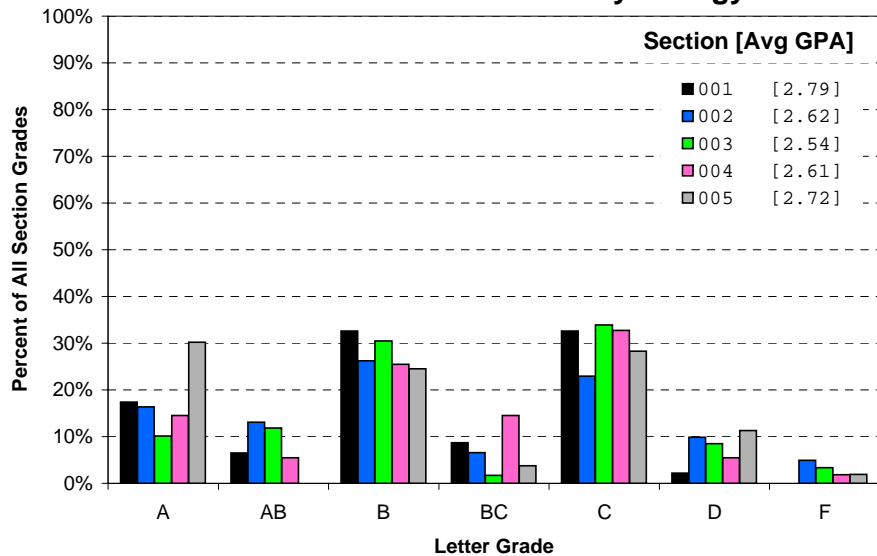
POLI SCI 104 Intro-Amer Politcs&Governmt



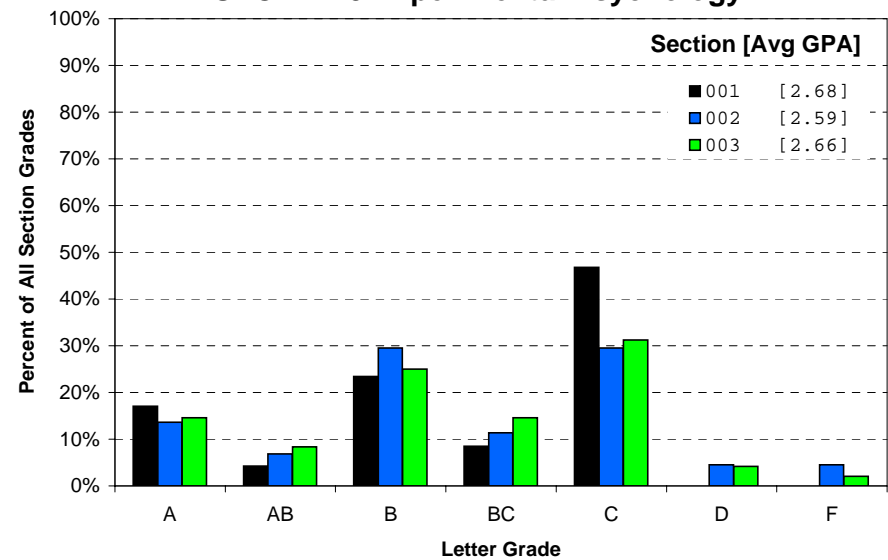
PSYCH 202 Introduction to Psychology



PSYCH 210 Basic Stats for Psychology

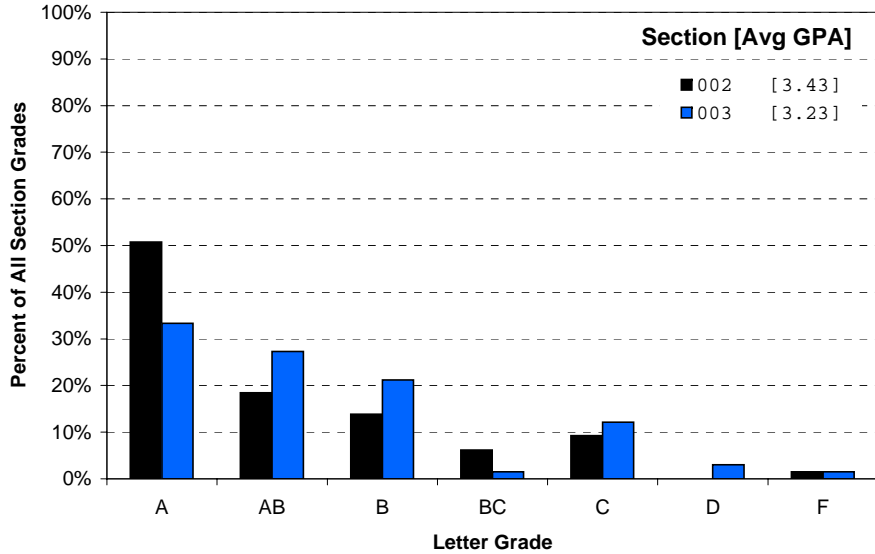


PSYCH 225 Experimental Psychology

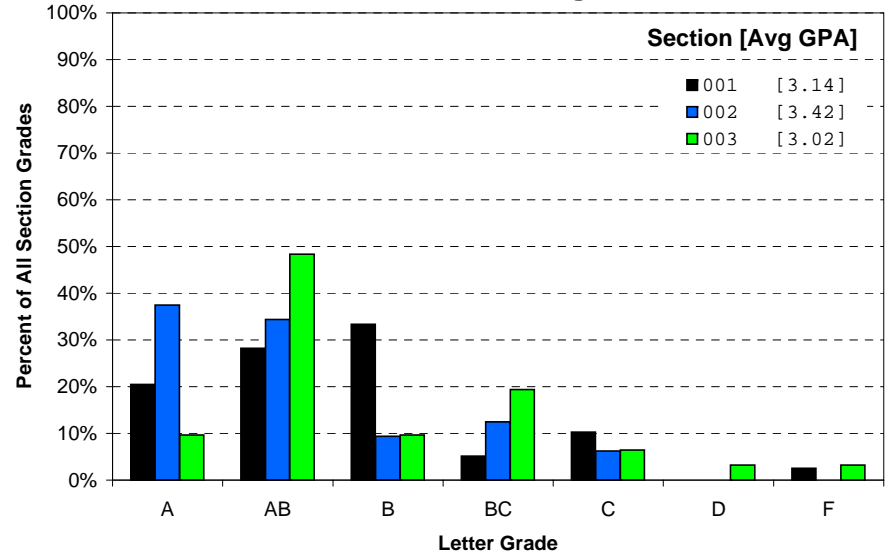


**Distribution of Fall 2007-08 Undergraduate Letter Grades in
Courses Numbered Below 400 Having Multiple Classes of at Least 30 Undergraduates
College of Letters and Science**

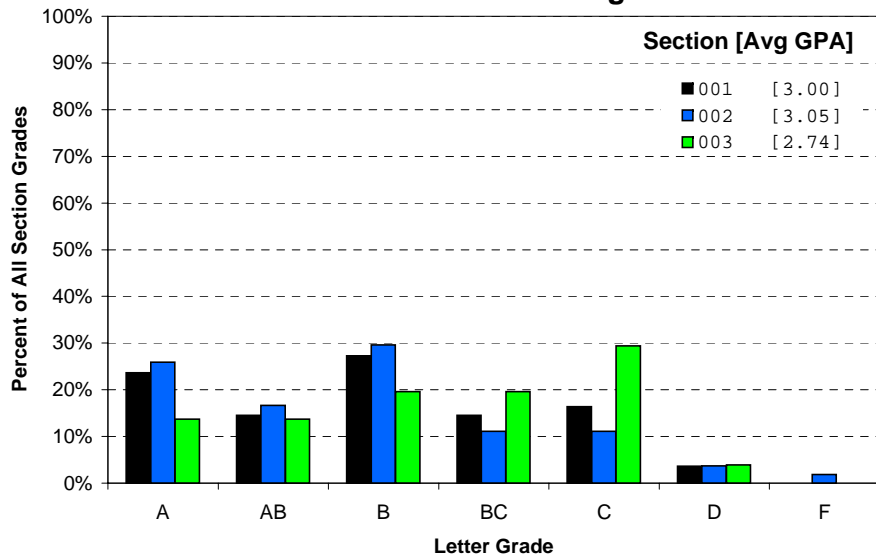
SOC 134 Am Racial&Ethnic Minorities



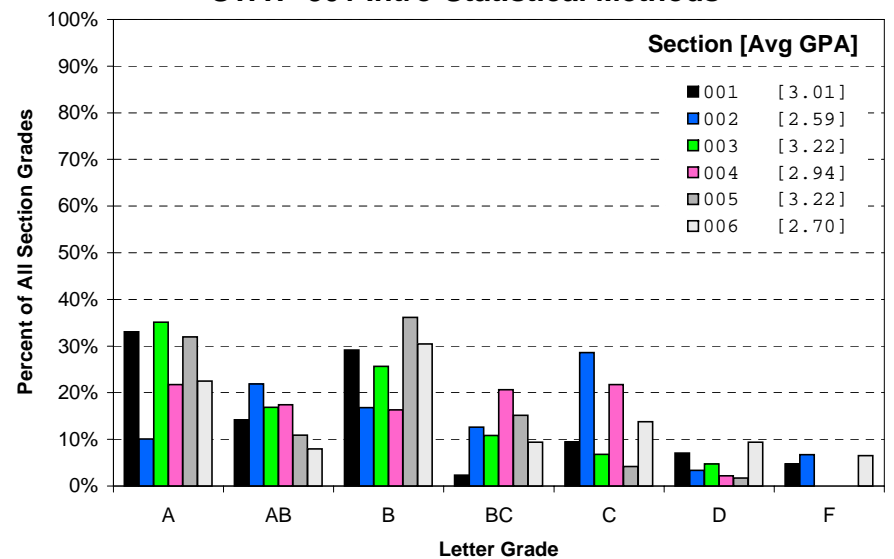
SOC 360 Stats for Sociologists I [XL]



STAT 224 Intro Stats for Engineers

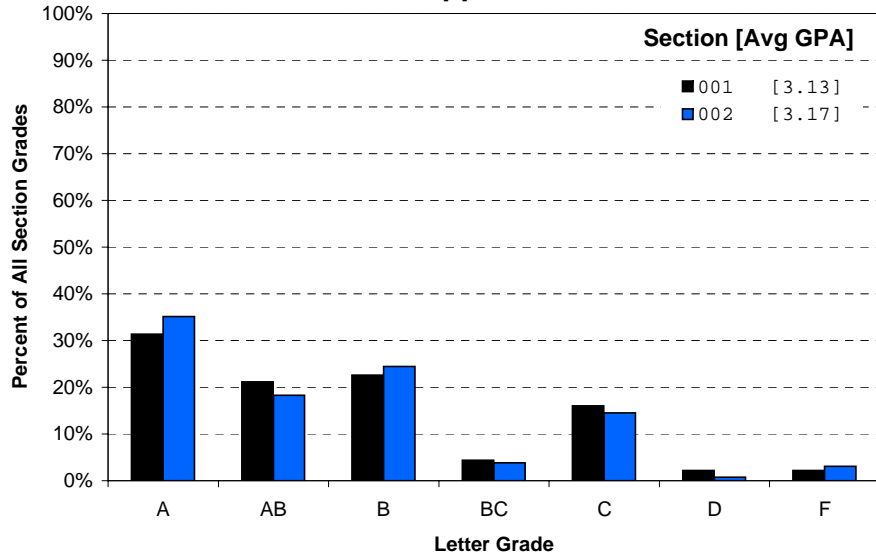


STAT 301 Intro-Statistical Methods

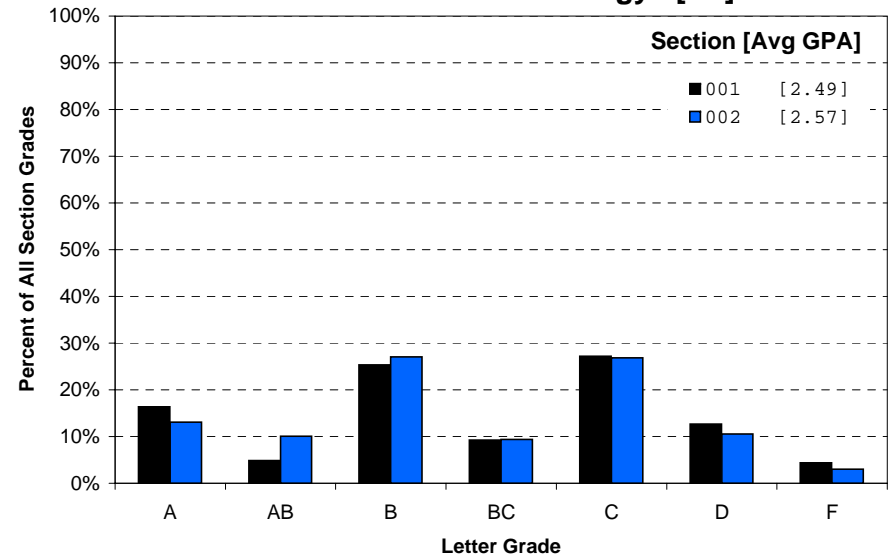


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College of Letters and Science**

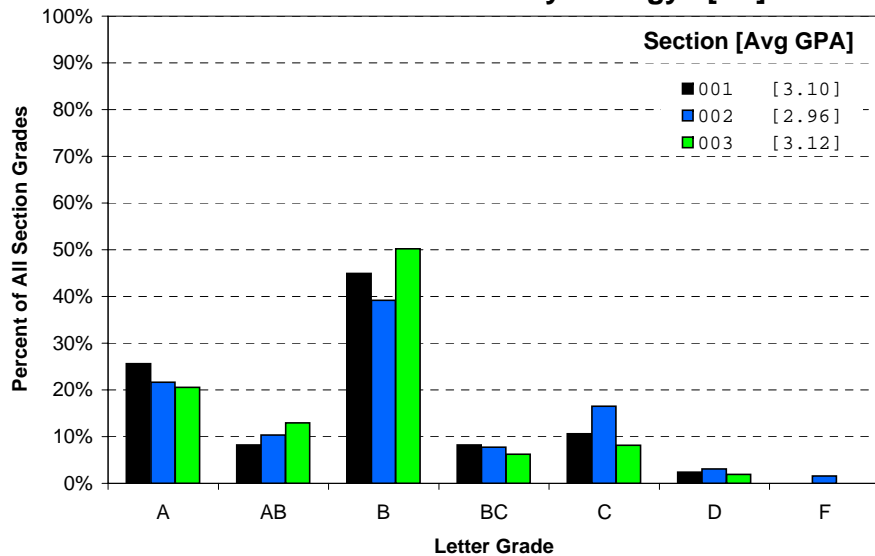
STAT 371 Intro Applied Stats-Life Sci



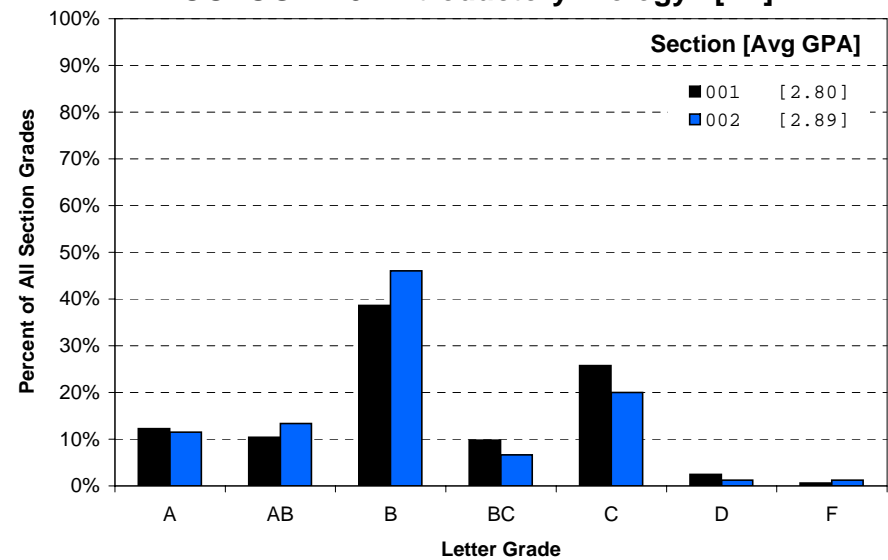
ZOOLOGY 101 Animal Biology [XL]



ZOOLOGY 151 Introductory Biology [XL]



ZOOLOGY 152 Introductory Biology [XL]



**Distribution of Fall 2007-08 Undergraduate Letter Grades in
Courses Numbered Below 400 Having Multiple Classes of at Least 30 Undergraduates
School of Medicine & Public Health**

M M & I 302 Medical Microbiology Lab

