Problem Set Policy for 6.041/6.431 Spring 2006

April 5, 2006

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE TURN YOUR PSETS IN ON TIME!

Every week there is a designated TA who is in the lobby outside of the lecture hall collecting submitted problem sets. This collecting TA is in the lobby from 11:50AM-12:15PM. At or after 12:15PM the TA removes the PSet submission baskets, places them in envelopes and delivers them to a group of MIT students who grade the PSets. After the graders have the PSets they scatter across MIT campus, and some even scatter over to Boston. If the graders do not have your PSet at this delivery time, they cannot grade it.

I'm explaining this process in detail in hopes that many of you will realize that there is no feasible way for the staff of 6.041/6.431 to accept late PSets for grading. Hence our unwavering policy… ***We Cannot Accept Any Late Problem Sets For Any Reason.*** If you come late and the collecting TA is still there, you are more than welcome to give it to him/her. However once the collecting TA leaves, it is beyond our resources to track down a specific grader to get them your PSet. Hence even if you give it to another TA at 12:30, they won't be able to get it to a grader in time. Also sliding it under the TA office door won't help, as the graders don't meet there and most likely there isn't anyone in the office at that time.

We appreciate that sometimes coming to lecture late (or not at all) is out of your control. Because of this we only record 11 of the 12 PSet grades. We allow everyone to miss one PSet, no questions asked. If you miss additional PSets due to medical or exceptional personal reasons we will also not count them in the final average. All medical and/or exceptional personal reasons should go through the appropriate channels.

Please try to remember that your PSet is only 10% of your grade!!! The class participation grade has historically been centered ~ 2/5 (a lot of empty chairs in recitation and tutorial!). Fully participating/interacting in classes can give you 3 extra points above the historical mean… the equivalent of 3 perfect PSet grades!