

The current results of ECE110's first midterm exam always look good, on average, to the ECE110 staff, BUT...

maybe you, personally, feel that the exam doesn't truly reflect your mastery of the material? Maybe you, personally, feel like you could have done better with a little more time or an exam more-closely matched in style to the homework? Since our goal is that you master the material and have every opportunity to prove so in a fair assessment, we are providing 2nd-chance testing. Here is how it works:

- The retake exam will be online at a **testing facility** in Grainger using *PrairieLearn* and is intended to appear similar in length and difficulty to the original exam although some deviations are to be expected.
- The retake exam will likely have different problems than you saw in the original exam.
- You will have **50 min** to complete the exam.
- You **may not bring a help sheet** (a great teaching tool that only acts as a crutch *during* an exam).
- You **are allowed to use the on-computer calculator**. The numbers might not be "nice".
- Your score on the 2nd-chance exam does not directly replace your first midterm score, but modifies it as specified in the table on the next page based on both your original midterm score and the 2nd-chance exam score. The potential benefit is higher for students who had weaker performance on the original midterm exam.
- DRES accommodations apply if you have any. Bring your letter of accommodation to the proctor in the facility, but, for extended time, you must not sign up for the last hour of the day (the facility will close at the normal time).

NO HELP SHEET ALLOWED
on a Retake Exam

To be allowed to take advantage of this opportunity, you must show due diligence in improving your mastery of the material. The first makeup assignment (to earn back lost Lon Capa points) plays a role...

- Sign up at <https://cbtf.engr.illinois.edu/sched/>.
- Read the instructions at <https://cbtf.illinois.edu/>.
- Sign up for the 2nd-chance exam at <https://edu.cs.illinois.edu/testcenter>.
- Complete one or more practice exams in *PrairieLearn* with a grade $\geq 60\%$ before you arrive at the CBTF for the exam retake.
- The practice exam score is scaled to a possible 30 pts and used to **replace lost homework points**.
- The practice exam can be done using any Internet connection (ie. from home).
- You must score at least 60% on a practice exam BEFORE you enter the testing facility for your 2nd-chance exam.

Comments:

As said above, this is not a reaction to the overall exam grades (with which we are pleased!). Rather, this is a teaching-and-learning technique to motivate stronger learning at a time when the material is fresh, your shortcomings are identified, and your motivation for improvement is high! ECE110 remains committed to providing the resources for learning and we believe this technique may have significant value.

You are not required to take the 2nd-chance exam or even to complete the makeup assignment. Taking the 2nd-chance exam can only affect your first midterm score in a positive (but never a negative) way. Taking the 2nd-chance exam does not forfeit any opportunities offered by the final exam (read the syllabus!) regarding the replacement of the lowest midterm score.

Retake Exam Score

First Exam Score		5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90	95	100
	0	3.9	7.8	12	16	20	23	27	31	35	39	43	47	51	55	59	63	66	70	74	78
	4	4.8	8.6	13	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	43	47	51	55	59	63	67	71	74	78
	8	8	9.5	13	17	21	25	29	33	36	40	44	48	52	56	59	63	67	71	75	79
	12	12	12	14	18	22	26	29	33	37	41	45	48	52	56	60	64	67	71	75	79
	16	16	16	16	19	23	27	30	34	38	42	45	49	53	57	60	64	68	72	75	79
	20	20	20	20	20	24	27	31	35	39	42	46	50	53	57	61	64	68	72	76	79
	24	24	24	24	24	25	28	32	36	39	43	47	50	54	58	61	65	69	72	76	80
	28	28	28	28	28	28	29	33	37	40	44	47	51	55	58	62	65	69	73	76	80
	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	34	38	41	45	48	52	55	59	62	66	70	73	77	80
	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	39	42	46	49	53	56	60	63	67	70	74	77	81
	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	43	47	50	54	57	60	64	67	71	74	78	81
	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	45	48	51	55	58	61	65	68	71	75	78	81
	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	49	53	56	59	62	66	69	72	75	79	82
	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	54	57	60	63	67	70	73	76	79	82
	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	58	62	65	68	71	74	77	80	83
	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	63	66	69	72	75	78	81	84
	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	65	67	70	73	76	79	81	84
	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	69	72	74	77	80	82	85
	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	74	76	79	81	84	86
76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	78	80	82	85	87	
80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	82	84	86	88	
84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	86	88	90	
88	88	88	88	88	88	88	88	88	88	88	88	88	88	88	88	88	88	89	90	92	
92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	93	94	
96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	97	
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	

Example:
Original | Retake | New Grade

60 95 80.58824

FAQs

- Q:** *Do I have to do the makeup assignment?*
- A:** No, not unless you want to take the second-chance (retake) exam and/or if you want to earn back points lost in the weekly homework.
- Q:** *I already have full credit on the weekly homework and did well on the first exam. Should I do the practice exam again?*
- A:** I wouldn't bother. You probably already know this material well and that would just be "busy work". You will have an opportunity on later midterms to perform makeup assignments when you might actually need the extra practice.
- Q:** *Can the retake make my exam score worse?*
- A:** No, use the table above to estimate your new exam score by finding the intersection of the two exam scores.
- Q:** *Will the exam contain the same problems I saw before?*
- A:** The exams problems are not only randomized, but a different selection of problems from the course database may be used in retake exams. No, your exam will not be identical to the first exam you took.
- Q:** *I read in the syllabus that the final exam can replace the lowest midterm score. Which grade would that replace if I use the retake now?*
- A:** Thanks for actually reading the syllabus! If the New Grade (the intersection of the two grades in the table above) is your lowest midterm grade, it will be replaced by a higher grade scored on your final exam.