Color Coding the Grade Center

Blackboard

The Instructor is able to build rules to apply color to the cells in the Grade Center grid, either by grade or status. Adding color rules to the Grade Center provides visual indicators to help instructors interpret information quickly. For example, the Instructor can use red to highlight graded items with failing scores, so that with only a quick glance, students and columns that require attention are prominent. Also, the Instructor can assign colors to the following statuses: In Progress, Needs Grading, or Exempt.

By default, color coding is not enabled in the Grade Center and must be enabled by the Instructor. Color coding can be enabled in any Grade Center view. Once color coding rules have been defined and saved, the color coding applies to all views. This setting will persist for Course Copy and Restore.

1. On your course, under the Control Panel, click Grade Center, and then click Full Grade Center.

2. Point to Manage, and then click Grading Color Codes.
3. In the **Color Code Information** section, click to select **Enable Grading Color Codes**.

4. In the **Color Coding Options** section, select the colors you wish to use for the different grading statuses. If you want to add color to grade ranges, you can do so.

```
Grading Status

Colors can be defined for items that have an In Progress, Needs Grading, or Exempt status.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Status</th>
<th>Background Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In Progress</td>
<td>Spring Spring Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needs Grading</td>
<td>Light Hard Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exempt</td>
<td>Medium Weak Magenta</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

**Set colors for grade ranges**

5. While in the **Grading Color Codes** page, in the **Color Coding Options** section, click **Add Criteria**.

6. In the **Criteria** list, set the criteria to **More Than or Equal To**, **Less Than**, or **Between**.

7. In the **Percent Value** box, type one or more values related to the criteria.

```
Criteria | Background Color | Text | Indicator Preview
---------|------------------|------|-------------------
Less Than | Dark Hard Red    | White| Text
Less than | 50%              |

Add Criteria
```

The lesser value is always inclusive, the upper value is always exclusive. For example, the rule 'Between 10 and 20', will include 10, but does not include 20.
8. Set the **Background** color and the **Text** color. You can see the preview next to the criteria values.

**Grade Ranges**

*Grade Ranges can be defined by Less Than, More Than, or Between criteria. You can use multiple Grade Ranges. Make sure that Grade Ranges do not overlap. The upper bound is always exclusive, the lesser bound is always inclusive. For example, 20 does not match the rule 'between 10 and 20', but 10 does. Grade Ranges are evaluated in decreasing range order, so it is possible to write a set of rules like: more than 90, more than 80, less than 80, less than 40.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Background Color</th>
<th>Text Color</th>
<th>Indicator Preview</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More Than or Equal To 60%</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Obscure Weak Green</td>
<td>Text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More Than or Equal To 70%</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Than 70%</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Text</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. When you are finished, click the **Submit button**.

10. The following illustration is an example of how your grade center would look.