Checklist for success!

* attendance
* more attendance
* 10 discussion questions
* passable paper 1
* passable paper 2
* passable paper 3
* passable paper 4
* passable revision of (at least) one paper
* passable final thing

*if* you do everything one the list, then you give your own grade.

*if not*, then you can *still* give your own grade, but a) should effectively account for not doing all the expected work and b) expect the possibility that the teacher may tinker with this grade if a) is not done effectively.

grading: friend or foe? a debate.



No, it hasn’t. That’s exactly why we need to critique grading. It props up and legitimates a flawed system. If we want real change – a real education – let’s start with changing how we evaluate our work and value each other.

Grading is dumb and counterproductive. It creates busy work and stress for students *and* teachers. Rather than accurately measuring learning, it displaces it, becoming an end in itself.

We need grades. They act as both a carrot to reward hard work and a stick to punish failure. Without them, students would just goof off. Most importantly, how will their future bosses know who deserves to be hired?

The entire system depends on the belief in true merit along with a fair and objective system for measuring and conveying it. We’ve always done it this way and it’s worked fine so far.