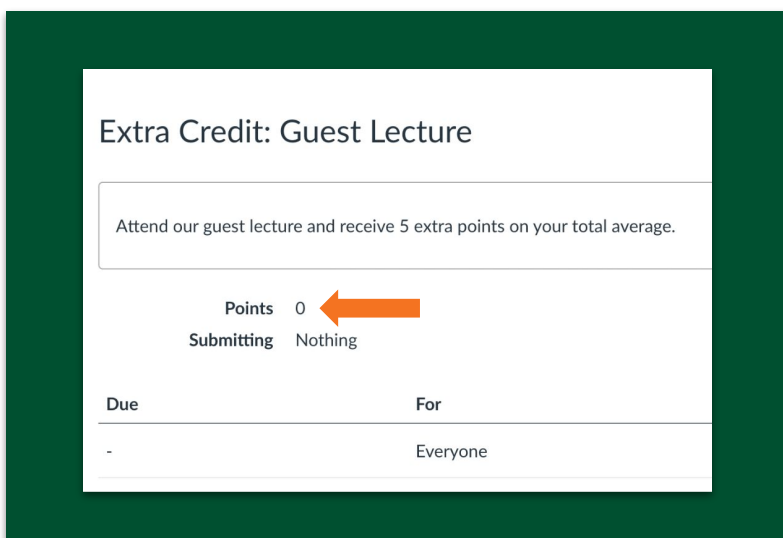


Extra Credit

How to Give Extra Credit for a Total Points Course

Why This Matters

This method allows you to reward students with bonus points directly within your existing point system without altering the value of your required assignments. It gives students a low-stakes opportunity to improve their grade while keeping your gradebook math straightforward and predictable.



The screenshot shows a Canvas LMS assignment page for 'Extra Credit: Guest Lecture'. The description reads: 'Attend our guest lecture and receive 5 extra points on your total average.' Below this, the 'Points' field is set to 0, with an orange arrow pointing to it. The 'Submitting' field is set to 'Nothing'. At the bottom, the 'Due' field is empty and the 'For' field is set to 'Everyone'.

Step-By-Step Workflow

- On the course navigation menu, click **Assignments**.
- Click the **+ Assignment** button in the top right corner.
- Enter a descriptive title (e.g., "Extra Credit: Guest Lecture Reflection").
- In the **Points** field, type **0**.
- In the **Submission Type** dropdown menu, select how you want students to submit the work (e.g., **Online** and check **File Uploads**).
- Scroll to the bottom and click **Save & Publish**.
- When grading this assignment in the **SpeedGrader** or directly in the **Gradebook**, enter the bonus points earned (e.g., **5**) into the score field. Canvas will add these points to the student's total score without increasing the total possible points in the course.

Don't Miss "Pro-Tip"

Make sure the **Display Grade As** field on the extra credit assignment is set to **Points**. If you accidentally change this to **Percentage** or **Letter Grade** while the assignment is worth 0 points, Canvas cannot calculate the grade correctly, and students will not receive their bonus points.

Where to Find Help

Need a hand? Contact the [Learning Platform's Help Desk](#) or search the official [Canvas Instructor Guides](#).



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