SAMPLE GRADING POLICY #1

The key to establishing a grade for an SAE is communication and clarification. Students, parents and administrators must have a clear understanding of what constitutes an SAE and why it should receive a grade. It would be wise to add the SAE explanation to the course syllabus. Some questions to ask regarding an SAE grade component in your class include: 1) What end result are you looking for in assigning this grade? 2) Will the grade be subjective or objective? 3) What criteria will be used to determine the grade? 4) What qualifies as an SAE? 5) What does an SAE have to do with the class? Once you have developed your SAE criteria information sheet, decide the impact the SAE will make on the grade and how you plan to assign the SAE grade.

The following is a possible example for determining a grade in ag ed:

1. 70% - Subject content knowledge measured through written exams and quizzes
2. 20% - SAE grade
3. 10% - Laboratory activities

Note: The SAE grade will be determined as follows:
- Maximum 100 points for completed record book or journal.
- Maximum 100 points for completed local proficiency application.
- Maximum 100 points for a photo portfolio.
- The SAE will be visited at least two times per semester. Positive progress can result in up to 10 bonus points per visit.

Example of “Joe Student’s” grade based on the criteria outlined above:

1. Joe Student earned 800/1000 points for tests and quizzes.
2A. Joe earned 95 points for completing his record book,
2B. Joe earned 95 points for completing the local proficiency application,
2C. Joe earned 100 points for the photo portfolio, and
2D. Joe received 20 bonus points for quality visits.
3. Joe received 80/80 points for lab exercises.

Totals
1. 1000/800 = 80 for exams X .7 = 56
2. 300/310 = 103 for SAE X .2 = 20.6
3. 80/80 = 100 for Lab X .1 = 10

*Total grade = 86.6 (B)

This example can and should be modified to fit your grading criteria. An SAE should be an important part of your program. If you communicate your expectations and the importance of the SAE in the scheme of the program at the beginning, clearly define the areas of SAEs, and explain how the SAE will be evaluated, you should have very little trouble with assigning a grade.