General Physics Laboratory Grading Rubric

Each lab is graded on a 10-point scale. The points indicated for each criterion can be broken down as you see fit for a given lab. For example, under the data criterion, I would generally take off ½ point for forgotten units if it were done once or twice. For multiple offenses, I might move it up to a whole point or more. For some labs, there may be occasion to redistribute some of the points. For example, if the lab is mostly repetitive graphing and very little calculation, points would be moved into the former category from the latter.

	Criterion	Points
1.	Name + partner(s), date, experiment number and title	0.5
2.	Procedure – a <u>very</u> <u>brief</u> statement of the overall goal and plan and narrative throughout the write-up explaining various steps, sources of data, *etc.*	1.5
3.	Data – presented with correct units and with appropriate uncertainties; tables should be used when appropriate to make data more easily understandable; data taken with a computer should be pasted into the notebook, either in tables or as graphs.	2.5
4.	Calculations/results – complete mathematical statements should be used; any formulas used should be written in their skeleton form before plugging in numbers; data should be plugged into equations with units and the result clearly indicated; if spreadsheets are used for calculations, an indication must be made of what mathematics was used; for multiple calculations, one sample calculation may be sufficient.	2.5
5.	Uncertainties – all data and results should show uncertainties; calculations of uncertainties should be shown and explained; for multiple calculations, one sample may suffice.	1.5
6.	Conclusion – includes a summary of results, including an explicit statement of numerical results, with uncertainties, discusses shortcomings of the mathematic modeling of the experiment, problems with the experimental setup, and suggestions for changes/improvements to the lab.	1.5
	Total	10.0