**GOV 50.08 Exam # 2 Grade Memo, Spring 2019**

**Prof. Kathleen Powers**

Dear Political Psychologists,

The grades for your second exam are now complete and recorded. There were 60 possible points on this exam. The **median grade** was 52, and mean was 49.6 The standard deviation was 6.52. The full distribution of scores is included in the plot below. Congratulations on a job well done overall!

Your score is recorded on Canvas, and your graded exam can be viewed by appointment (email Kathleen.e.powers@dartmouth.edu).

A few notes on my grading procedure: I grade blind to both the test-taker and previous responses – Canvas has a setting that allows me to blind student names and presents them in a non-alphabetical order. I graded 10 questions at a time to maximize reliability. On questions where responses consistently indicate a lack of clarity in the question, the grading is maximally generous. Partial credit is awarded when merited.

Final grades in this course will incorporate raw scores on each graded component and weight these scores as specified on the syllabus. From there, final scores will be curved so that the median grade is a B+. However, I will not apply that final curve until all graded components are recorded. Thus, while the scores in Canvas show the raw number of points earned out of 60, do not panic! Rather, see below for how to interpret your score **if this were the only graded component of the course**.

If this were the only graded component of the course, the following cutoffs would apply for each letter grade, based on the B+ median, standard deviation, and clustering in the data:

A: [55-60]

A-: [52.5-54.99]

B+: [48.5-52.49]

B: [45-48.49]

B-: [36-44.9]

C+: below 36

Please reach out if you have questions, concerns, ideas, or want to clarify any of the concepts that were less clear to you.

Sincerely, Prof. Powers