Homework Grading Policy and Guidelines

Each problem is worth 5 points. I may, for a particularly long problem, break it into "two problems." In this case, each will be graded separately, each for 5 points.

Please report to me your self-graded homework scores on your journal entry (archives your scores) or if you prefer via email (kvollmay@bucknell.edu). Your grades for a given assignment are due before the next class.

The grading scheme is

5 — completely right or almost completely right. A small calculational error (non-conceptual error) that is a small fraction of the problem does not necessarily warrant taking off a point.
Also, all work is shown.

4 — mostly right, but a genuine mistake is made. As an example, a sign error is sometimes a genuine mistake (e.g. a wrong sign for Q, implies the wrong direction of heat flow into or out of the system) in which case a point would be taken off, or it can be a non-conceptual error (copying from one line to the next a sign was copied wrong), in which case it doesn't cost a point.
Or: correct or mostly right, but major steps are not shown (missing show work).

3 — had the basic idea, but a few mistakes were made.
Or: mostly right but almost no work is shown.

2 — tried the problem, but really didn't have the basic idea
Or: only one-liner solution to a complex problem with no work shown.

1 — barely tried the problem - these will probably be rare, usually you've either tried enough for a 2, or you didn't get to the problem

0 — didn't do it.

If you'd like more description, or you have questions about specific cases, please come see me.