What do grades reflect for the Folklore Program?

Overall Course Grade	Holistic Performance in Class	Engagement with Course Materials and Participation	Essay Writing	Exams
A-/A/A+*	Excellent, exceeds expectations.	Analyzes texts and cultural practices closely and carefully, incorporates this consideration of the assigned material into thoughtful contributions to class discussion.	Makes an original argument supported by a clear line of reasoning and analysis of evidence. No errors in grammar, style, or mechanics. Exceeds expectations.	Demonstrates a clear, comprehensive understanding of all material covered in the class, including lectures, in-class discussion, and readings. Answers all questions completely and exceeds expectations. Has mastered the material and met all course objectives.
B-/B/B+	Good, meets expectations and occasionally exceeds some expectations.	Analyzes texts and cultural practices carefully. Listens to fellow students and instructor and contributes occasionally to class discussion.	Makes an original argument; analysis supports a line of reasoning. Few errors.	Understands all material covered in the course. Answers questions completely and meets expectations.
C-/C/C+	Adequate, meets but does not exceed expectations.	Has read or viewed course materials and actively listens.	Makes an argument. Some reasoning supports main argument. Some errors.	Understands most material covered. Answers questions completely but makes some mistakes.
D-/D/D+	Poor, fails to meet some expectations.	Has put minimal effort into preparation for class. Fails to participate constructively in class discussion.	No clear main argument. Errors are such that meaning is obscured. Does not meet expectations for assignments.	Understands only some of the material or has a superficial grasp of the material. Answers some questions completely but not all. Makes mistakes.
Failing Grade	Does not meet expectations.	Unprepared for class.	Essays do not meet assignment expectations. No argument, no line of reasoning or original thought expressed.	Does not understand course material. Many mistakes.

^{*}Note: the grade of A+ is rare in Folklore courses; an A+ denotes not only "excellence" but "mastery" of all aspects of course material and performance.