In Brightspace grades, **Bonus Items** are *Extra Credit* points. Bonus grade items are not included in the points calculation for a category or final grade calculation. They are *added on top* of the calculation, either within a category or directly to the Final Calculated Grade.

### Bonus Items in Categories

If you would like to have the bonus item *only apply within a category*, make sure that in the **Grading** section for the category, the "Allow category grade to exceed category weight" box is **unchecked**, as shown. This will allow a max grade of 100% of the category weight (here 30); otherwise, the bonus points could push the category to exceed its stated weight. If you want a Bonus item to add directly to the final average (aside from a category) consider placing it outside any category as described below.

### Creating a Bonus Item Inside a Category

To create a Bonus grade item, type the number of points you wish the bonus item to be worth in the **Max. Points** textbox (here, **10 points**).

In the **Weight** text box, type the weight of the bonus item as a percentage of the parent category (here, **10%**). In this illustration, if a student scores 10 points (the max) she will receive an additional **10% added to the category average**.

Make sure that you also have the **Bonus** box **checked**, as shown. That Bonus checkbox is the only thing that sets this as a Bonus (Extra Credit) item.

### Creating a Bonus Item Outside a Category

This Bonus item is outside a category. Its credit will be added on top of the calculation of the Final Calculated, adding points directly to the Final Calculated average. To create a Bonus grade item, type the number of points you wish the bonus item to be worth in the **Max. Points** textbox (here, **10 points**).

In the **Weight** text box, type the weight of the bonus item as a percentage of the final grade (here, **2%**). In this illustration, if a student scores 10 points (the max) she will receive an additional **2% added to the final average**.

Make sure that you also have the **Bonus** box **checked**, as shown. That Bonus checkbox is the only thing that sets this as a Bonus (Extra Credit) item.
Bonus Items in Manage Grades

Here we have two Bonus items. 1) Extra Credit 1 is inside the Writing Category (note it is *indented* like the other items within its category). Its 10 points will add up to 10% to the Category total. 2) Extra Credit 2 is *not* inside a category (note it is not indented). Its 10 points can add up to 2% to the *overall grade*, being added directly on top of the final grade calculation.

Bonus Item Math: Inside Category

In this course, if John scored a 90 on all three of his 3 writings (90% average) and then received 10 points on the *Extra Credit 1 bonus* (for a bonus 10%), he would have a 100% average in the Writing Category.

Bonus Item Math: Outside Category

In this course, if John earned an 88% average on all the non-bonus coursework, and then received 10/10 points on the *Extra Credit 2 bonus* (for a bonus 2% to the course grade), he would have a 90% average on his Final Calculated Grade.

NOTE: Bonus items outside a category are powerful and weighty. If *Extra Credit 2 bonus item* had been set with a **Weight of 10**, then John would have a **98%** as his Final Calculated grade.