A normalized score is calculated for each student’s score on each exam including the first exam (no buddy system control):

\[
\text{Normalized Score (NS)} = \frac{\text{Raw Score-Class Mean}}{\text{Standard Deviation}}
\]

Next a Value Added (VA) Score is calculated for each student score on each exam following the first exam in order to quantify their performance in later portions of the class (where the buddy system was in place) relative to how they did on the first exam:

\[
\text{VA}_x = \text{NS}_{\text{Exam } x} - \text{NS}_{\text{Exam } 1}
\]

Finally, the Value Added scores for exams 2, 3, 4, and the final are added together and the sum is divided by a normalization factor (generally the highest summed VA score for the class) before multiplying by the total points which are to be given for the buddy-system extra credit points (10 in most cases).