Below are some of the preferred answers for Homework 4.

1. **Question 1 (1pt):**
   
   
   ```python
   dateTup = (dateTup[0],) + (9,) + (dateTup[1],)
   ```
   Parentheses are optional, the 3 commas are not. 
   ```python
dateTup = (dateTup[0], day, dateTup[1])
``` is also correct, but you should also understand the first answer.

2. **Question 2 (1pt):**
   ```python
colName, foundYear, colState = collegeInfo
   ```
   There might be other options, but focus on “simpler or more elegant”.

3. **Question 3 (2pt):**
   None will be stored in bugDates because append returns None. (Or some comparable explanation).

4. **Question 4 (2pt):** Use `.get(...)`, it’s useful and important! No conditionals.
   ```python
def processZip(zipCodes):
    oldZip = zipCodes.get('home', '01267')
    zipCodes['home'] = '01267'
    return oldZip
```  

5. **Question 5 (2pt):**
   ```python
   firstData = [course.split()[0] for course in courseInfo.split(',')]
   ```
   It’s also okay to use `strip()` (although it’s not necessary for the first words, just anything after that!):
   ```python
   firstData = [course.split()[0].strip() for course in courseInfo.split(',')]
   ```

6. **Question 6a (1pt):**
   ```python
   byType = sorted(fruitData, key=lambda x: x[0])
   ```
   OR
   ```python
   byType = sorted(fruitData)
   ```

7. **Question 6b (1pt):**
   ```python
   byType = sorted(fruitData, key=lambda x: (x[2], x[1]))
   ```