Assessment Criteria

Introduction to Pragmatics, Fall 2010

Breakdown. Your final grade will be determined based on:

- 6 regular homework assignments (75%)
- 1 extra assignment (15%)
- Class participation (10%)

You must earn at least 65% of the possible points to pass the course; students who have earned at least 87% of the possible points will receive a "VG".

Regular assignments. A homework assignment will be given out at the end of each class, and it will be due at the beginning of the next class. It will consist of a set of questions, and each question will be worth a certain number of points. (The total number of points may vary slightly from assignment to assignment.) Late homework assignments will be accepted, with a 20% reduction in your score for each day that it is late. Homework assignments turned in after class on the day that the assignment is due will be subject to a 10% score reduction.

These homework assignments will constitute reading and comprehension exercises pertaining to the reading and associated lecture. You may consult with each other, but you must write up your answers separately. Please type up your assignments, print them out and bring them with you to class, because we will discuss them in class on the day that they are due.

Extra assignment. In addition to the regular assignments, there will be one extra assignment, due by the final class meeting, which can pertain to any one of the topics covered in class.

For this assignment, you are to go into more depth on whichever topic you find most interesting. You can: a) Read and summarize a paper that has not been assigned to the group (email me for ideas, once you have a favorite topic, or let me know if something piques your interest; Elizabeth.Coppock@ling.lu.se); b) Write a short (ca. 8 page) critical response to a paper of your choosing, either one that we have read in class or not; c) Do a small empirical study of some pragmatic phenomenon, using data from corpora (perhaps literary texts), a survey that you design, your own native speaker intuitions or those of an informant who is a native speaker of the language of interest. On the final day of class, you will be asked to give a 10 minute presentation of your project.

Class participation. Attendance at every class meeting is extremely important. Your class participation grade will be based on the extent to which you ask good questions, make useful comments, and generally contribute to a lively, discussion-filled atmosphere (without getting us too far afield...).