

Class Policies

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Introduction to Pragmatics, Summer Semester 2012, HHU

1 Assessment criteria

1.1 Beteiligungsnachweis (BN)

The BN will be based on 6 homework assignments, each worth approximately 30 points. The homework assignments will concern the readings (mostly in English) and the lectures (all in English). You may turn in your assignments in German or English.

In order to get a BN, you must have *both*:

- At least 60% of the total possible homework points (60% of $\approx 6 \times 30 = 120$)
- At least 40% of the possible points for the assignment on 5/6 of the assignments

The homework assignments will consist of a set of questions, each worth a certain number of points. You can get 0, half credit (1/2), full credit (\checkmark), or extra credit ($\checkmark+$) on each question.

| Grade | 0 | 1/2 | \checkmark | $\checkmark+$ |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Meaning | Wrong/Blank | Not quite... | Correct! | Excellent!!! |
| Points if question is worth 1 point | 0 | 0.5 | 1 | 1.5 |
| Points if question is worth 2 points | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |

If you get a checkmark, then you are getting *full credit*. If the question is worth 2 points, and you get a \checkmark , then you get 2 points, so you are getting $2/2=100\%$ of the possible points.

Extra credit is for going “above and beyond the call of duty,” doing more than you have to do, and being creative. If the question is worth 2 points, and you get a $\checkmark+$, then you get 3 points, so you are receiving $3/2=150\%$ of the possible points! This means that in the end, your total homework score could be higher than the total number of possible points, and that would be something you could use to impress your friends and family.

Assignments are due by the beginning of class on their due date. Paper submission is preferred, but email submission to pragmatics.submission@gmail.com is also acceptable.

Late policy: Any assignments not turned in at the beginning of class (when they are due) must be submitted by email to pragmatics.submission@gmail.com. You will lose 10% of the possible points on the homework for each day that your assignment is late. If your assignment is turned in before midnight on the day that the assignment is due, but after the beginning of class, then your score is reduced by 5% of the possible points on the assignment.

1.2 Abschlussprüfung (AP)

In order to be eligible for the AP exam, you must meet all of the requirements for the BN. You must apply for the AP one month prior to the exam. (Details to follow regarding the exam date.)

The AP grade is based on the final exam ('klausur'). The homework points that you collect during the class will go into the exam grade.¹ The exam questions will be similar to the homework questions, so doing the assignments is also a way of studying for the exam.

2 Language

All of the lectures will be in English, and many of the texts will be in English as well. This is for two reasons. The first is necessity – I am unfortunately not comfortable speaking and writing in German (yet?). The second is that English happens to be the language of science in the modern era. Most of modern scientific/scholarly communication takes place in English, and much of the important literature exists only in English.

All of your written work, including assignments and the final exam, may be done in German or English.

| Genre | Language(s) |
|----------------------|---|
| Readings | English, unless translation/original in German exists |
| Assignment questions | German (possibly some English) |
| Assignment answers | German or English |
| Questions to me | German or English (better luck with English) |
| Responses from me | English |
| Questions to TAs | German or English |
| Responses from TAs | German or English |
| Exam questions | German |
| Exam answers | German or English |

3 Plagiarism

Your grade is based on your own individual work. This means that plagiarism (in the form of copy-pasting from another student's work or copying from another student's work in any other manner) is strictly prohibited. If it is obvious that you have copied any part of another student's work, *you and the student from whom you copied will receive 0 points on the entire assignment/exam.*

Things that make it obvious that you plagiarized: exact same spelling mistakes, exact same formatting, exact same wording. If you work in a group, you must *take your own notes*, and write up the assignment separately. Do not share any drafts of your assignment or meeting notes with anybody else, and do not accept drafts of assignments or meeting notes from anybody else. You must *write up the assignment in your own words, by yourself.*

¹This applies only if you have not already received a BN in this course from a previous year. If you already have a BN, then the AP grade will be computed purely on the basis of the exam.