

## **GRADING POLICY FOR THE COURSE**

### **1. MINI-QUIZZES**

Each of the 16 mini-quizzes will consist of four (usually true-false) questions and will be graded with 4 (A), 3 (B), 2 (C), 1 (D), or 0 (F). The worst 2 of the 16 grades will be discarded. The average of the remaining 14 grades will be your *mini-quiz score* (a number from 0 to 4, usually not an integer).

### **2. EMAIL OBJECTIONS**

The handout "Instructions for email objections" explains what counts as a *satisfactory* email. The number of satisfactory emails that you send during the term (an integer from 0 to 16) will be divided by 4, yielding your *email score* (a number from 0 to 4, usually not an integer).

### **3. TERM PAPER**

There is a separate handout with the grading policy for the term paper. The paper will get a letter grade (from A to F), which will be converted to a number according to the scale used by Iowa State (A→4.00, A-→3.67, B+→3.33, ..., D-→0.67, F→0.00). This number will be your *paper score* (a number from 0 to 4, usually not an integer).

### **4. COURSE SCORE AND GRADE**

The weighted sum of (1) your mini-quiz score (weighted by 50%), (2) your email score (weighted by 25%), and (3) your paper score (weighted by 25%) will be your *initial course score* (a number from 0 to 4, usually not an integer). To this may be added a bonus of up to 0.3 if you do a presentation (see #5 below) and a bonus of up to 0.3 if you have perfect or near-perfect attendance (see #6 below), yielding your *course score* (a number from 0 to 4.6, usually not an integer), which will be converted to your *course grade* as follows:

Course score	0.0-0.4	0.4-0.7	0.7-1.1	1.1-1.4	1.4-1.7	1.7-2.1	2.1-2.4	2.4-2.7	2.7-3.1	3.1-3.4	3.4-3.7	3.7-4.6
Grade	F	D-	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A

Note that the course grade will be F if you fail to submit the term paper or if your class participation is unsatisfactory (i.e., if you fail to speak in class at least once a week).

### **5. OPTIONAL PRESENTATION**

If you want to do a presentation, you should meet with me at least three times: (1) to agree on a topic and on a list of readings, (2) to have you rehearse an initial version of the presentation, and (3) to have you rehearse a revised version. The presentation should last 10-15 minutes and will be graded with A, B, or C. A grade of A will increase your initial course score by 0.3, a grade of B by 0.2, and a grade of C by 0.1.

### **6. BONUS FOR PERFECT OR NEAR-PERFECT ATTENDANCE**

Your initial course score will be increased by 0.3 if you have no absence, by 0.2 if you have only one absence, and by 0.1 if you have only two absences during the term. An *absence* is defined as missing more than 5 minutes of a class. Since this is a *bonus*, even justified absences will cause you to miss it.