ENG108, fall 2015, course evaluation

Topic: *English as a global language*
Form of instruction: lecture (12 lectures, 2 hours each = 24 hours)

Lectures:

The lectures were all given according to the schedule set up at the beginning of the semester; no class was cancelled or rescheduled.

There was no major disturbance during the lectures.

Registered student number: 134

Student attendance: between 50-70 students attended the course more or less regularly

Obligatory assignment: 104 students have submitted their obligatory assignment. 36 students neither attended the class during which I discussed the papers nor requested feedback in any other form.

Lecture materials available on Mi Side:
Lecture notes/materials were placed regularly on Mi Side *before* each lecture. Only a small percentage of the students viewed these materials before or in the weeks after the lecture. For example, on September 16, 2015, a few days *after* the relevant lecture, only 35 students (out of 134 registered) looked up the materials on Mi Side. On September 23, 2015, three weeks *after* the relevant materials were placed on Mi Side, only 45 students looked them up.

Student evaluations:
During the semester two student representatives were asked to collect their fellow students' comments concerning the course and forward them to the lecturer. In general, the students were very happy about the course; no complaints were expressed.

At the end of the course, the students were asked to evaluate it in writing. Fifty-eight students did so.

General opinion: Most students were satisfied with the course

A selection of individual opinions:

"Just with attending the classes you can understand mostly everything. I find the course complementary to ENG109 – varieties of English, so if you attend both of them you can understand everything. I find the classes really interesting and useful"

"The books are great – well written and they contain what I need to know, and want to know…great with powerpoints available before class…this has been my favourite subject this semester"

"I really enjoyed your lectures. Thank you!"

" Funny and interesting lectures"

"Really useful information that makes you think about language in a different perspective that people use to have. Thank you."

"Would have appreciated seminars"

"I really enjoyed the course. Working as a substitute teacher, teaching English, I found a lot of the material from this course very useful."

"An insightful course"

"Very satisfied with the course, especially the teacher. Some of the material from the textbooks and the power point presentations could in my opinion have been more updated…Otherwise, I am very satisfied with this course."

"I found this course demanding and challenging…the course demands a lot of knowledge from lots of aspects….Thanks for the professor."

"I like that you take everydays examples to exemplify your points. Sometimes it´s hard to follow because you say a lot before really getting to the point. Still my favourite lecture the year"

"The lectures are good, but sometimes there is a lot of time on explaining something that could have been explained in a bit shorter time…"

"I really like the Crystal textbook, but I'm not a fan of the Trudgill textbook. Crystal is easier to follow and easier to understand, which Trudgill isn´t for me.".

"Your reading list could be a bit more specific in regards to what material to read before each lecture."

Exam: the exam was a 3 hour school exam. Ninety students took the exam.

Exam results:

- A- 3 (3,3%)
- B- 13 (14,4 %)
- C- 30 (33,3%)
- D- 29 (32,2)
- E- 10 (11,1%)
- F- 5 (5,5)

Passing grades = 94,5%
Failing grade = 5,5%

Concluding comments:

1. The new format for English as a Global Language (ENG108) as a separate course rather than part of a larger (former ENG106) course appears to

work well and seems to indicate that splitting the old ENG106 course was a good decision.
2. The external sensor for ENG108 has mentioned that the overall results for English as a Global Language seem to be better than earlier, that is, when the topic was part of a larger course.