**TASK 3 PREPARATION FOR LAB LESSON**

**BYU Corpora**

During our lesson in the lab next week, you will be using some online corpora with the platform concordancer. To save time, I would like you all to register with this website as “Graduate student: not language or linguistics”. This means that you will be able to use the site more than the minimum 10 times allowed without registration. However, as free users, I am warning you now that a very annoying message pops up every few uses. You will just have to put up with it (or pay the $25.00 subscription fee).

To register go to: <http://corpus.byu.edu/profile_new.asp>

Don’t worry about how to use the website for the moment, we will be going through some of the most useful tools during the lesson in the lab on 18th October.

**AntConc**

During the year, you will be using another useful tool, AntConc, which is a free concordancer you can download from <http://www.laurenceanthony.net/software/antconc/>

I will be showing you some of the ways you can use AntConc in the lab, though you will not be using it immediately. To use AntConc, you have to input your own data, i.e. create your own corpora (or download available corpora).

During the class on 11th October you were divided into groups according to discipline area. Each group will be creating a discipline specific corpus. All corpora will then be shared between class members. How you organise the work/the division of labour/sharing of tasks is up to each group. Remember developing team working skills is an important part of the course.

**Creating your own corpora**

To input data into AntConc all files must be txt. This can be a laborious task, but if each of you converts a number of files, we will soon have pretty sizeable corpora for each of the disciplines, corpora which should grow pretty huge over the year.

1. create a folder with a clear label – e.g. “International Law txt Files”;
2. convert pdf and word files on course bibliographies to txt files ;
3. label the txt files clearly with:

* author’s/authors’ surname(s)\*
* genre (see legend below);

1. save to the folder;
2. do the same for any other pdf and word files you already have in this discipline area;
3. download other pdf and word files which you are interested in reading or which are relevant to your courses from any source and repeat steps a) – d).

**\*** When there are multiple authors name only the first author and add “et\_al”

**LEGEND**

Academic article in journal ac\_art

Dissertation or thesis diss

Journalism non\_ac

Book or book chapter bk

Official documents Off\_doc

Examples:

An article in *The Economist* called “American Independence” by Bertha Venation would be labelled: “Venation\_non\_ac”

A book chapter entitled “French Overpopulation”by Francis Crowded would be labelled: “crowded\_bk”

An academic article in a specialised journal entitled ‘Understanding the Industrial Revolution’ by Otto Mattick in *The Historical Journal* would be “mattick\_ac\_art

A book chapter, ‘Great Britain from 1837 to 1918’ by Victor Ian and Edward Ian would be

“Ian\_et\_al\_bk”

When you have converted at least 15 articles in your discipline area, send the file to me to upload to the course webpage **by 27th October.**

This Task will be ongoing over the academic year. As you download articles in your discipline area, and save them to your computers, always convert the file to a text file, then periodically each group should send me the new files so I can update the class folder. I will remind you to send more files later in the semester.