PRINCIPLES OF LOGIC
PHIL 150

IPFW
Fall 2006
Syllabus for Philosophy 150-01
Saturday 9 – 11:50 AM
SB G30

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“Philosophy begins in wonder. And, at the end, when philosophical thought has done its best, the wonder remains. There have been added, however, some grasp of the immensity of things, some purification of emotion by understanding.”
~ Alfred North Whitehead

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:
A study of the principles and methods employed in the logical appraisal of arguments. Topics covered will include informal fallacies; syllogistic logic and Venn diagrams; sentence logic (truth tables and rules of inference); and first order predicate logic, up to but not including definite descriptions and identity.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
This course is an introduction to the principles of logic. Upon successful completion of this course the student should be able to:

- Develop the principles of accurate thinking.
- Develop the ability to acquire reliable information.
- Develop the ability to evaluate competing claims.
- Develop the ability to recognize fallacious arguments.
- Develop the ability to determine if a deductive argument is valid or invalid.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

ATTENDANCE. Class attendance is optional but is highly recommended. Bonus points will be given for regular attendance.
Miss 0 classes = 10 bonus points
Miss 1 class = 5 bonus points
Miss over 2 classes = 0 bonus points
Tests and homework will cover material introduced in class, or presented in the text. Attendance and participation will be considered in determining borderline grades.

READINGS. All assigned readings should be read prior to coming to class. You may be tested on assigned material that is not covered in class.

HOMEWORK (20% of the semester grade). Various written homework assignments will be due during the semester. NOTE: Late homework is subject to a penalty. As a general rule, the penalty will be 10% per day for each day beyond the day on which the homework is due.

TESTING DURING THE SEMESTER. There will be three tests during the term on dates to be determined during the term. Each test will count for 20% of the final grade. Thus all three tests will count for 60% of the final grade. The dates that tests will be given depends upon the amount of time it takes to cover the material. Test dates will be announced in class at least a week before the test is given. It is the student’s responsibility to be aware of when a test is scheduled or rescheduled. If you are unable to take a test, please contact the instructor before the test. Make up tests will be at the discretion of the instructor. Students may be penalized for taking a make up test. The standard penalty is 10%.

FINAL EXAM. There will be a final exam for the course. The final exam grade will be 20% of the student’s grade. The final exam is not comprehensive. However, mastery of the material covered in earlier chapters will be necessary for understanding the material included on the final exam. The final exam for this class will be on Saturday, December 16th, 9 – 11:50 AM in SB G30.

Classes are not scheduled on the following dates:

Saturday, September 2nd
Saturday, November 25th
GRADING SCALE:

- 90-100 = A = Excellent
- 80-89 = B = Very good
- 70-79 = C = Average
- 60-69 = D = Below average
- Below 60 = F = Failure

COURSE MATERIALS:

Text


The text for the course is available in the campus bookstore or the Bookmark on N. Anthony Blvd. and should be brought to class.

ORDER OF ASSIGNED READINGS FOR LECTURES AND TESTS:

It is the responsibility of the student to know where we are in the course both in reference to lectures and testing. The course is concerned with the following subjects in the following order, and is grouped according to testing which will occur during the semester.

Chapter 1, Section 5 AND Chapter 2. Analyzing Arguments. (pages 15-68)
Chapter 3. The Uses of Language. (pages 69-91)
Chapter 4. Definitions (pages 91-124) **Test 1**
Chapter 5. Fallacies (pages 125-173)
Chapter 6. Categorical Propositions (pages 176-216)
Chapter 7. Categorical Syllogisms (pages 217-257) **Test 2**
Chapter 8. Syllogisms in Ordinary Language (pages 258-306)
Chapter 9. Symbolic Logic (pages 307-358) **Test 3**
Chapter 10. Methods of Deduction. (pages 359-399)
Chapter 11. Quantification Theory (pages 400-439) **Final Exam**