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PHIL 201 Logic Syllabus

Robert Robinson
CUNY City College

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PHI 201 -- Logical Reasoning
MTWR 8:15 -- 11:38
NAC 5/150
<http://portal.cuny.edu>

Instructors: Robert C Robinson Office Hours: MTWR 11:38-12:30 (and by appt)
Mailbox: NAC 5/144 Office: NAC 5/203B (rrobinson@ccny.cuny.edu)
Ms. Gloria Adams (adams.gloria@gmail.com) meetings available by appointment

Course Description: This course provides students with an introduction to the elements of logical reasoning. Basic rules and methods of assessing validity and proving arguments as they occur in natural language are introduced (such as truth tables and rules of inference). The goal of the course is to enable students to translate and evaluate arguments in natural language using the basic tools of modern logic. The focus of this course enables it to serve as an excellent form of preparation for SATs, LSAT's and other standardized tests, as well as an analytic resource for further academic studies.

Texts: Introduction to Logic Most recent edition, by Irving M Copi, et al (Prentice Hall). Additional class notes are required reading, and are available at the course website.

Attendance: You are expected to attend all class meetings. Due to the nature of the class, the text, the material, and class discussions, missing class is detrimental to the learning process, and therefore to your grade. Attendance will be recorded in every meeting, and participation will be gauged through in-class problem sets, and homework submission.

Classroom Etiquette: Please arrive to class on time, and avoid leaving early. Arriving late or leaving early counts as an absence. If you must leave early, please notify the instructors, and sit near the rear of the classroom. Please silence pagers, cell phones, and any electronic devices. Laptop computers and mobile phones are prohibited in class, and must remain stored in your bag during class. Ask questions when you do not understand -- if you have a question, others do too. Do them a favor by expressing it. Extend the same courteous and respectful attitude toward your classmates and instructors that you expect for yourself.

Evaluation:	Exam 1	15%	Quizzes	10%	Essay	10%
	Exam 2	20%	Homework	10%		
	Exam 3	25%	Participation	10%		

There are three exams, weekly quizzes, one essay, and a participation grade. The exams evaluate your mastery of the material covered in the lessons. Homeworks will be assigned daily, will be evaluated pass/fail, and will not be returned. Participation will be gauged by attendance, daily problem sets, and homework. Since a student cannot simultaneously operate an electronic device and participate in class, full participation points will be deducted from a student's final grade whenever the instructors notice that student looking at a device with a screen.

Late work will not be accepted. All assignments must be turned in in class or before class begins, on or before the day that it is due in order to receive a grade. If you anticipate missing class, please complete and submit your assignments early.

Course Schedule: The following schedule is an outline, and is subject to change due to the interest and pace of the class. Deviations from the schedule will be announced in class.

- 1/2 We will talk about Chapter 1 -- please read it before class.
Submit HW1: 1.2: 2-9; 1.4: 4,6,8,10,16; 1.6: 1-8"
- 1/6 We will talk about Chapter 5.1 - 5.6 -- please read it before class
Submit HW2: 5.3: 1-10; 5.4: 1-10; 5.5: 1; 5.6: *starred questions*
- 1/7 We will talk about Chapter 6.1- 6.5 -- please read it before class
Submit HW3: 6.1 - 6.5: all *starred questions*
- 1/8 We will talk about Chapter 7.1 - 7.4 -- please read it before class
Submit HW4: 7.1 - 7.4: all *starred questions*
- 1/9 Review, exam 1, critical thinking, and class discussion
No HW assigned.

- 1/13 We will talk about Chapter 8-1 - 8.3 -- please read it before class
Submit HW5: 8.1 - 8.3: all *starred questions*
- 1/14 We will talk about Chapter 8.4 - 8.7 -- please read it before class
Submit HW6: 8.4 - 8.7: all *starred questions*
- 1/15 We will talk about Chapter 8.8 - 8.10 -- please read it before class
Submit HW7: 8.8 - 8.10: all *starred questions*
- 1/16 Review, exam 2, critical thinking, and class discussion
No HW assigned.

- 1/20 No class
- 1/21 We will talk about Chapter 12 -- please read it before class
Submit HW8: Ch12: all *starred questions*
- 1/22 We will talk about Chapter 13 -- please read it before class
Submit HW9: Ch13: all *starred questions*
- 1/23 Review, Comprehensive cumulative exam, critical thinking, and class discussion

Standards of Conduct: Academic integrity is an essential part of the pursuit of truth, and of your education. We are all responsible for maintaining academic integrity at City College -- it is the rock on which the value of your degree is built.

If you cheat on a test or plagiarize by using someone else's work or ideas, you defeat the purpose of your education. In addition, academic dishonesty is prohibited in the City University of New York, and is punishable by failing grades, suspension and expulsion. The policy is available at: <http://www1.cuny.cuny.edu/current/upload/academicintegrity.pdf>

Plagiarism will not be tolerated to any degree. If you have any uncertainty about what constitutes Academic Dishonesty, please see the instructors. Any instance of Academic Dishonesty will result in a failing grade in this course, and may also result in action taken by the Student Judicial Board. I find that students consider cheating as a last resource. Instead, consider talking to me as a last resource. There is no excuse for cheating.

Web and Email Resources: This course will use the BlackBoard web resource. BB allows students to check grades, submit assignments, and print readings, and check for announcements. Students are expected also to periodically check their email accounts for important updates. If you are unfamiliar with BlackBoard or email you are required to become familiar with both.

