

2018

PHIL 201 Logic Syllabus

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CUNY City College

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PHI 201 – Logical Reasoning

MTWR 8:15 – 11:38

NAC 5/150

<http://portal.cuny.edu>

Instructors:

Ms. Gloria Adams

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meetings available by appointment

Robert C Robinson

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Course Description:

A first course on logic and critical thinking is a course on good thinking and reasoning. While it can be argued that we already know how to think and reason, in this course we will learn how to think clearly, and reason well. We will do this by studying a variety of argument forms, and learning to distinguish between good argument forms and bad ones. We will determine the basic rules of good argumentation, and in the process unlearn some various bad thinking habits.

Course Objectives:

1. Students will become acquainted with techniques of reasoning, including deduction and induction.
2. Students will develop the means to analyze and critically evaluate arguments, both in the classroom and as they appear in everyday contexts.
3. Students will (further) develop the ability to construct valid arguments and strong arguments.
4. Students will become acquainted with a number of formal and informal fallacies, including means both to identify and avoid them.
5. Students will become better writers, due to the link between thinking and reasoning clearly, and writing clearly.

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.

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 instructor, 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 instructor that you expect for yourself.

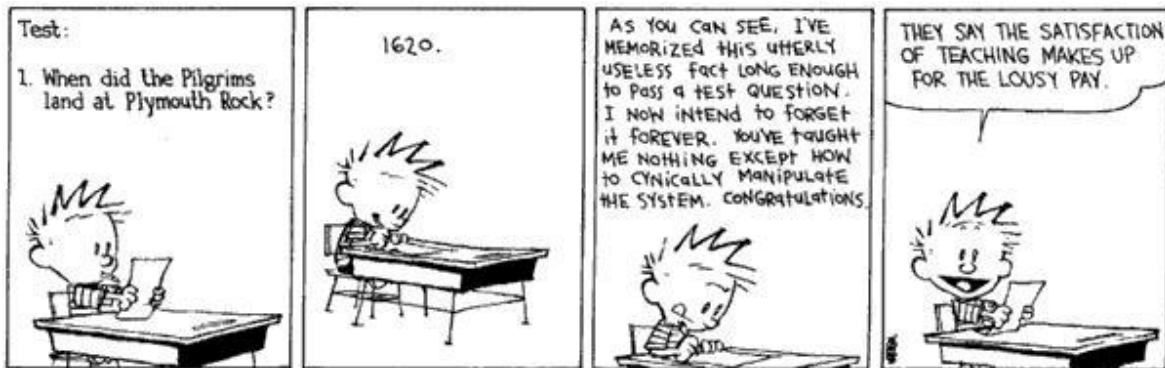
Evaluation:

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

There are three exams, weekly quizzes, two essays, and a participation grade. Only the best scoring 10 quizzes will be counted. The exams evaluate your mastery of the material covered in the lessons. Homeworks will be assigned daily, and will be evaluated pass/fail. Participation will be gauged by attendance, and daily problem sets. Since a student cannot simultaneously operate an electronic device and participate in class, participation points will be deducted from a student's final grade whenever the instructor notices that student looking at a device with a screen.

Homework will be assigned daily. It will be assigned pass/fail, and it will not be returned.

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.

- 8/28 Syllabus, and Hello 8/30 Copi 1.1-1.3
- 9/4 Copi 1.5-1.6 9/6 Copi 5.1-5.4
- 9/11 Copi 5.5-5.6 9/13 Copi 5.7-5.8
- 9/18 No Class – Read Philosophy at the Beach
- 9/20 Copi 6.1-6.2
- 9/25 No Class – Read Philosophy at the Beach
- 9/27 Copi 6.3-6.4
- 10/2 Review and Advanced topics 10/4 Exam I
- 10/9 Copi 7.1-7.3 10/11 Copi 7.4-7.6
- 10/16 Copi 7.7-7.8 10/18 Copi 11.1-11.2
- 10/23 Copi 11.3-11.4 10/25 Copi 12.1-12.3
- 10/30 Copi 12.4 11/1 Copi
- 11/6 11/8
- 11/13 11/15
- 11/20 11/22 No Class
- 11/27 11/29
- 12/4 12/6
- 12/11 Review and Advanced topics 12/13 Reading Day – Read Philosophy at the Beach 12/14-18

Exam Week

- 8/28-30 Module 1 – Basic Logical Concepts Read Introduction to Logic, ch. 1
- Module 2 – Analyzing Arguments Read Introduction to Logic, ch. 2
- Module 3 – Language and Definitions Read Introduction to Logic, ch. 3
- Module 4 – Fallacies Read Introduction to Logic, ch. 4
- Part I Review Weekly Discussion 5
- Module 5 – Categorical Propositions Read Introduction to Logic, ch. 5
- Module 6 – Categorical Syllogisms Read Introduction to Logic, ch. 6
- Module 7 – Syllogisms in Ordinary Language, Pt. 1 Read Introduction to Logic, ch. 7
- Module 8 – Syllogisms in Ordinary Language, Pt. 2 Review Introduction to Logic, ch. 7
- Part II Review Weekly Discussion 10
- Module 9 – Analogical Reasoning Read Introduction to Logic, ch. 11
- Module 10 – Causal Reasoning Read Introduction to Logic, ch. 12
- Module 11 – Science and Hypothesis, Pt. 1 Read Introduction to Logic, ch. 13
- Module 12 – Science and Hypothesis, Pt. 2 Review Introduction to Logic, ch. 13

Grading Scale:

96-100	A	87-89	B+	77-79	C+	60-69	D
90-95	A-	84-86	B	74-76	C	0-59	F
		80-83	B-	70-73	C-		

Standards of Conduct:

Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures. (<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/student-services/advising/repository/files/Hunter%20College%20Policy%20on%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf>)

Plagiarism will not be tolerated to any degree. If you have any uncertainty about what constitutes Academic Dishonesty, please see the instructor. 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.

