Logic

Phil 251A · Prof. Dunn

Spring 2013	Office:	210 Asbury
MWF 8:10 - 9:10	Office Hours:	M 11.30-12.30, Th 10.30-11.30, W/F 4-5
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Description

This course is an introduction to symbolic logic. The main goal is to familiarize you with certain formal methods for representing and evaluating deductive arguments. The course covers both sentential logic and predicate logic, with work equally divided between translating sentences into formal notation, and constructing formal derivations and proofs. Time permitting, we will consider the limits of deductive logic and consider some basic inductive logic.

Textbook

▶ *Symbolic Logic: A First Course*, Gary Hardegree, McGraw Hill.

The textbook is available at the campus bookstore and is also available free electronically at:
`http://courses.umass.edu/phil110-gmh/text.htm`

Grading

Homework Assignments:	10%
Exams (4):	70% (17.5% each)
Portfolio Project:	15%
Attendance/Participation/In-Class Extractos	5%

This is a Q course. To earn your Q competency, you must earn a C or better in the course.

Course Requirements

Homework Assignments

There will be regular homework assignments for this course. A complete list of the homework assignment due dates can be found on the course schedule which is linked from the course website. Homework assignments are due by 5:00 pm on the day they are due.

Late homework assignments will not be accepted. A late homework assignment prevents me from posting the answers, which is unfair to other students who have turned in their homework on-time. If you think there are extenuating circumstances that warrant an exception to this policy, you should contact me before the homework assignment is due.

Please staple your homework assignments. Ripped edges and illegible handwriting are signs of sloppiness, so avoid both.

Exams

There are four exams for this course at the end of each of the four units:

Exam 1: 2/25
Exam 2: 3/13
Exam 3: 4/29
Exam 4: 5/15, 8:30 - 11:30 am (finals week)

On the evening of Friday 5/3[1], you have the option of re-taking (an alternate version of) Exam 1, 2, or 3. Your best score will be selected as your grade for that exam. By university policy, Exam 4 must occur during the final exam period, so there is no possibility of retaking this exam.

Portfolio Project

Each student will prepare a portfolio identifying and evaluating the reasoning in six distinct arguments drawn from your everyday reading.

The final portfolio is due on the last day of class, December 7. However, you must turn in one argument analysis from your portfolio on March 22, before Spring Recess. The one analysis that you turn in must be one of the two deductively valid arguments from the portfolio. I will grade this analysis, but the grade is purely for your information. This should help you assess how you're doing on the portfolio before it is due. If you fail to turn in one analysis on March 22 not only will you fail to get helpful feedback, your final portfolio grade will be reduced by 10%.

For detailed information about the project, see the document posted on our course Moodle site.

In-Class Extractos

Twice during the semester, we will work in class extracting the argument from short written excerpts. Your task is to extract this argument from the text, and represent it using the logical notation learned in class.

Other Requirements

You should take control of your experience in this course: what you get out of the course will largely be a function of what you put in to it. Logic is cumulative—a lot like a math course. So, it's very important for you to make arrangements to meet with me if you are falling behind or are confused about something. I'm on campus every day and very happy to discuss this interesting material with you.

I expect everyone to attend class, ask questions, and participate in discussions. If no one asks questions, I will assume I am boring you by going too slowly. Consistent with university policy, you may be dropped from the class if absences are too frequent.

Things You Can Expect From Me

I will give clear and prompt feedback on your work.

I will be available for extra help when needed.

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[1]If you have a conflict at this time, we can arrange an alternate re-take time.

Tutoring

* I strongly recommend that you take advantage of the Quantitative Reasoning Center in the Academic Resource Center, located in 115 Asbury. You should stop by the ARC to see the schedule of when tutors are available.

Special Considerations

DePauw University is committed to providing equal access to academic programs and university-administered activities and reasonable modifications/accommodations to students with disabilities in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, as amended in 2008. Any student needing special accommodations due to a disability should contact the Coordinator of Student Disability Services, Pam Roberts, 302 Harrison Hall or call (765) 658-6267. It is the responsibility of each student to discuss implementation of approved modifications/accommodations with each faculty member and/or staff member within one week of the date of receiving a modification/accommodation approval memo or within the first two weeks of the academic semester.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is very important. Violations are serious offenses, which I take it very seriously. There is a clear Academic Integrity Policy that can be found here:

    http://www.depauw.edu/handbooks/student/acadlife/app/aip/

It is your responsibility to read the university policy. If you are unclear about what constitutes a violation of academic integrity, it is your responsibility to contact me with any questions so that you are clear about it. Ignorance is not an excuse. If I discover any violations of academic integrity, I will pursue the harshest penalty consistent with university policy.