**Weekly Schedule COMP 7D**

### Week 1 September 8: The Language of Argument

* basic argument structure
* conditionals vs. arguments
* standard form of an argument
* validity, truth, soundness

* *Readings*: Text, Ch. 3
* Group exercise(s)

**Week 2** **September 15:**  **Language of Argument, continued; Rhetoric and Evaluation**

* circularity & finding common ground
* conversational acts, rules, and implication
* assuring, guarding, discounting and argumentative “performatives”
* evaluative language
* language in argument (rhetorical devices)
* *Readings*: Text, Ch. 1, 2, 3
* Group exercise(s)

**Week 3 September 22: The Art of Close Analysis**

* application of methods developed to an extended example
* *Readings*: Text, Ch. 4
* Group exercise(s)

### Week 4 September 29: Deep Analysis: Argument Reconstruction

* removing logically extraneous material
* Clarifying terms
* Subarguments
* Types of suppressed premises
* The Method of Reconstruction
* Fundamental principles and frameworks
* *Readings*: Text, Ch. 5
* Group exercise(s)

### Week 5 October 6: Deep Analysis: Argument Reconstruction, cont’d

* *Readings*: Text, Ch. 5
* Group exercise(s)

### Week 6 October 13: Propositional Logic

* a formal explanation of “validity”
* conjunction, disjunction, negation
* disjunctive syllogism
* truth-functional connectives
* testing for validity
* *Readings*: Text, Ch. 6
* Group exercise(s)

### Week 7 October 20: Propositional & Categorical Logic

* conditionals
* translating everyday language into formal logic
* Practice midterm
* *Readings*: Text, Ch. 6, 7

Group exercise(s)

### Week 8 October 27: Midterm Exam

### Week 9 November 3: Categorical Logic

* Categorical propositions (overlapping Venn diagrams)
* Basic categorical form: A, E, I, O propositions
* Translation into basic categorical form
* Contradictories
* Existential commitment
* Immediate inferences
* *Readings*: Text, Ch. 7
* Group exercise(s)

**Week 10 November 10: Arguments to and from Generalizations**

* the theory of the Syllogism (Venn diagrams)
* immediate inferences with complementary classes (obversion, conversion, contraposition)?
* contrast with deductive reasoning
* statistical generalization
* biased samples/results
* statistical applications
* *Readings*: Text, Ch. 8
* Group exercise(s)

**Week 11 November 17: Causal Reasoning**

* causal reasoning (necessary and sufficient conditions)
* Mill’s methods (sufficient condition test, necessary condition test, joint test, concomitant variation)

*Readings*: Text, Ch. 9

Group exercise(s)

**Week 12** **November 24:** **Inference to the Best Explanation and from Analogy**

* inference to the best explanation
* arguments from analogy

*Readings*: Text, Ch. 10

* Group exercise(s)

**Week 13 December 1: Chances**

* The Gambler’s Fallacy, Regression to the Mean, Strange Things Happen
* heuristics (representative, availability)
* *a priori* probability
* some probability laws (addition, multiplication, conditional)
* Bayes’s Theorem

*Readings*: Text, Ch. 11

Group exercise(s)

**Week 14 December 7: Final exam.**