Learning Logic and available help

Each lecture has a set of exercises associated with it. Doing the exercises is absolutely necessary for learning the new skills associated with learning logic, and for developing a good understanding of the material. You would do well to treat the exercises as a tool that helps you progress, rather than simply something that should be done for the record. The module is assessed only on the basis of the final exam. You won't be penalized in any way for not submitting exercises or for submitting incorrect answers. The only point of doing the exercises is to help you to develop your skills and understanding. The following comments are aimed to help you to make the best of your work.

- Combine your work on a unit of exercises with reading the relevant parts of the textbook and going over the relevant parts of the lecture slides and handouts.

- Work slowly. Make sure you understand the basic notions involved and the methods you are asked to use. Use pen and paper whenever this is relevant (this is needed, for example, when you need to determine whether a given argument is valid; when you are constructing the truth table of a complex sentence(s), and when you are constructing a proof). At the early stages always have the definitions and relevant rules in front of you - after a while you'll realize that you remember them.

- Always try to formulate specific questions about things that are unclear to you. And try to keep a clear record of the exercise the question concerns (either copy it, or take a screen shot). Often one finds the answer to one's question after a short while (doing other exercises, rereading, or talking to one's peers can help). You are also strongly encouraged to raise your question in the seminar (this is what the seminars are for), or in the office hours of any of the logic tutors. (See list of times and locations below).

- Once you submit your answer, you can ask zoxiy to see an answer to the question. If your answer is incorrect, this might help you to understand why it was incorrect. Furthermore, even if your answer was correct, there are some questions that have more than one correct answer (for example, proofs and translations). In such a case, if zoxiy offers a different correct answer, it is useful to try to understand why both are correct. It should be clear that simply copying the correct answer and resubmitting it is pointless.

- The Philosophical Society runs logic support sessions, from week 2 onward on Tuesday, 10-11 am, at S2.81, and Wednesday, 2-3 pm, at H2.46.