**Philosophy 131: Introduction to Logic**

Instructor: Michael F. Gavin

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Office Hours: T/Th 12:30 to 1:30 in K10

**Course Description:** In this course, you will be come familiar withestablished principles of good reasoning, and learn to apply them. We will cover different types of reasoning, the use and misuse of language in reasoning, formal representations of reasoning, categorical reasoning, and common errors in reasoning.

**Course Website:** https://mgavin23160.github.io/intrologichfcc

**Required Text:** *A Concise Introduction to Logic*. Hurley, Patrick. 12th Edition. Cengage Learning, 2015. ISBN-13: 978-1-285-19654-1 (Other editions can be used.)

**Graded Course Work**

**Four Tests:** 22 % each

You will be tested on the material as covered in class, so be careful to note where we diverge from the textbook. The tests will require you to apply the concepts we study, not just demonstrate that you have memorized them. More detailed outlines of the test requirements are available on the website.

**Homework and Classwork:** 12 %

A list of homework assignments will be made available within the next few meetings. Unless otherwise stated, homework is to be graded based on effort. Generally I will simply take a few minutes at the beginning of class to check in the homework. If time permits, we may also work on sets of problems in small groups or individually during class.

**Participation**:

Participation will not be calculated into your grade officially. However, there will be opportunities to participate in classroom activities, and of course, to participate by asking questions. You should know that the students who actively engage in the class, by asking questions and in other ways, earn the highest grades.

**Grading Scale:** Letter grades are listed by lower bound, except where otherwise noted.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A+ | > 98 | B+ | 88% | C+ | 78% | D+ | 68% | E | < 60% |
| A | 93% | B | 83% | C | 73% | D | 63% |  |
| A- | 90% | B- | 80% | C- | 70% | D- | 60% |

**Attendance and Lateness:** You are expected to be on time and present for the duration of each class. If you are absent, you will not be able to turn in homework. If you have a valid excuse for missing class, please provide some sort of verification, and I will excuse you for the absence and allow you to turn the homework in late. Valid excuses include illness, family emergency, and similar events. *Please note that work, pre-arranged vacation trips, other kinds of trips like business meetings, and other similar events are not valid excuses from class.* It is your responsibility to schedule your activities so they don’t interfere with your classes.

**Learning Support:** The school provides accommodations to students with documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability, you should contact the appropriate office on campus so that reasonable accommodations can be made. I cannot arrange any special accommodations without authorization from them. Also, if you find yourself desiring extra help for any reason, let me know. I can meet with you, and there may be tutors available.

**Academic Integrity:** During tests, you are expected to remain focused on your own work, and to take care not to give the appearance of possible cheating.If I become convinced that you are cheating, you will receive a 0 for the test.

**Classroom Civility:** Please be courteous to other students, and to me, in class at all times. Note that incivility comes in many forms, is not limited to open acts of disrespect, and doesn’t even have to be intentional. For example, it is uncivil to leave your cell phone on during class (even for texting) or to use laptops during class except for taking notes. Be cautious to avoid these and other careless forms of incivility.

**Tentative Schedule:**

Each homework exercise is due on the day for which it is listed, unless we do not cover the relevant topic in the previous class meeting, in which case that exercise should be added to the homework for the following meeting. Unless otherwise noted, you only have to do “Part I” for each exercise

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 9-Jan | T | Begin Unit 1: Basics of Arguments |
| 11-Jan | Th | Exercise 1.1 Identifying premises and conclusions |
| 16-Jan | T | Exercise 1.2 Argument or not? |
| 18-Jan | Th | Exercise 1.3 Deductive or Inductive? |
| 23-Jan | T | Exercise 2.3: What kind of definition? |
| 25-Jan | Th | Exercise 2.5: Criticize the definition. |
| 30-Jan | T | **TEST 1** |
| 1-Feb | Th | Begin Unit 2: Truth Functional Logic |
| 6-Feb | T | Exercise 6.2 Part I: Find the main operator |
| 8-Feb | Th | Exercise 6.2 Part III # 1-4 and Exercise 6.1 Part I #1-4 |
| 13-Feb | T | Exercise 6.1: Symbolizing, # 1 – 25 |
| 15-Feb | Th | Exercise 6.3 Part I: Tautologous, Self-Contradictory or Contingent? |
| 20-Feb | T | Exercise 6.3 Part II: Alternate Instructions, Logically Equivalent or No? |
| 22-Feb | Th | Exercise 6.4 Part II: Test Validity |
| 27-Feb | T | Selected examples from Exercise 7.1 and 7.2 |
| 1-Mar | Th | Selected examples from Exercise 7.3 and 7.4 |
| 6-Mar | T | **NO CLASS** |
| 8-Mar | Th | **NO CLASS** |
| 13-Mar | T | Review |
| 15-Mar | Th | **TEST 2** |
| 20-Mar | T | Exercise 4.1 Part I and Exercise 4.2 Part I |
| 22-Mar | Th | Exercise 4.3: Venn Diagrams for Propositions |
| 27-Mar | T | Exercise 5.2 Part I: Valid or Not? (using diagrams) |
| 29-Mar | Th | Exercise 4.7: Translate into Standard Form |
| 3-Apr | T | Review |
| 5-Apr | Th | **TEST 3** |
| 10-Apr | T | Begin Unit 4: Fallacies |
| 12-Apr | Th | Exercise 3.2 Part I: Name the fallacy |
| 17-Apr | T | Exercise 3.3 Part I: Name the fallacy |
| 19-Apr | Th | Exercise 3.4 Part I: Name the fallacy |
| 24-Apr | T | Finish up with fallacy exercises. |
| 26-Apr | Th | Review |
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| ???? | ???? | **TEST 4** |