Syllabus for Philosophy 2303: Introduction to Logic
Wintermester (December 11 to January 14) 2017-2018
Dr. Jerrod Scott

Course Description:
PHIL2303: Logic. Section 22401: INET
Prerequisite: None.
The purpose of the course is to introduce the student to symbolic logic, including
syllogisms, propositional and predicate logic, and logical proofs in a system of rules. (3
Lec.) Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number 38.0101.52 12

Instructor:
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Required Materials:
All materials necessary for this course can be purchased online. You could buy a
physical book, or an access card, but access to the text and course can be purchased
through the publisher’s website. Log on to ecampus, and enter our PHIL2303
course. Click the APLIA tab on the left, and you will be taken to a separate
webpage where all our course materials are located (text, exercises, exams, extra
credit). This takes you to the publisher’s site and you will have to create an account
(or log in if you happen to have one already). You will have to pay for “access” to
the site (but it will be about half of the cost of a textbook). Once you are in, you
will be asked for the “course key” the instructor gave you. This number is
EXB2-RPWA-VES2

This will give you access to the text online, and access to all the exams and
exercises.

The text is “A Concise Introduction to Logic” by Patrick Hurley, 12th edition. The
ISBN number for the access card is: 9781305094789. You could buy just this
access code and once you log in use this access code rather than paying at the
publisher’s website (same cost).

If you really want a physical text, the ISBN for the actual text book is:
978-1-285-19654-1

Course Objectives & Goals:
This is an introductory course in logic. The superficial goal is to learn how to
properly evaluate arguments. Students will learn how to spot basic fallacies, and how to
avoid these fallacies in their own work. Students will also learn how to use a variety of
tools (Venn diagrams, truth tables and formal proofs) to dissect and analyze arguments.
The deeper and more fundamental goal is to learn how to think. Regardless of
one’s occupation, being able to analyze evidence and come to a reasoned conclusion is of paramount importance. This course in logic, more than any other class one can take, will train one to do just that.

PHIL2303-Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of PHIL2303, students should be able to demonstrate competence in Logic by:

1. Determine the logical structure of English arguments by identifying premises and conclusions.
2. Understand basic concepts in logic, such as truth functionality, validity, soundness, counter-examples, tautology, self-contradiction, logical equivalence, logical contradictoriness, and logical consistence.
3. Translate English statements into propositional and/or predicate notation.
4. Determine the validity of symbolic propositional or predicate arguments using such methods as direct/indirect truth tables, natural deduction, and/or the finite universe method.

Course Requirements:

You are expected to read and do homework every day. **To be successful in this class, you must do the homework and log into class each day.** I believe that the best way to learn logic is by doing the exercises. You should read a section of the text, then do the exercises for that section. At the end of each chapter is a chapter test that covers the material in that chapter. Your grade will be the total of the 6 chapter exams.

However, I will give bonus points for completing certain practice exercises. Each chapter has at least one homework assignment that is graded. I will give bonus points to each chapter exam based on a percentage of your score for the graded practice exercises from that chapter that you have completed, one bonus point per 10% of the score. For example, in chapter one, section 1.4 has a homework assignment that is graded. If your score is 80% of the total possible, then I will give you an 8 point bonus to your chapter one exam. If your score is 21% of the total for those exercises, then I will add 2 bonus points to your chapter one exam. So, the maximum amount of bonus points for EACH graded homework assignment is 10 (for scoring 95% or higher on the graded homework exercises in that section).

You could get up to 70 bonus points in total for the semester.

Grading:

**Your grade will be the culmination of the six chapter tests, plus the bonus homework points awarded for completing homework assignments. I do not curve grades, so every point matters:**

270-300=A
240-269=B
210-239=C
180-209=D
179 and below=F
Attendance Policy:
I do not count attendance as part of your grade.

Absence due to Religious Holy Days:
Students who will be absent from class for the observance of a religious holiday must notify the instructor in advance. Please refer to the college catalog, Student Obligations section.

Withdraw Dates
If you are unable to complete this course, you must withdraw by the dates indicated in the course schedule (see schedule below). Withdrawing from a course is a formal procedure which YOU must initiate. I cannot do it for you. You may do this in Admissions or counseling. If you stop attending and do not withdraw, you will receive a performance grade, usually an “F.”

Financial Aid Recipients
If you are receiving Financial Aid grants or loans, you must begin attendance in all classes. Do not drop or stop attending any class without consulting the Financial Aid Office. Changes in your enrollment level and failing grades may require that you repay financial aid funds.

INSTITUTIONAL EQUITY: DCCCD policy, as well as federal and state laws, prohibits harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. More information about DCCCD institutional equity policies and resources is available within the Office of Institutional Equity Statement. To report a violation, contact Brookhaven College’s Title IX coordinator at TitleIX-BHC@dcccd.edu or 972-860-4825.

ADA Statement:
If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires ADA accommodations, please contact BHC College Disability Services Office at the beginning of the semester, so appropriate accommodations can be made.

Cheating:
Commission of any of the following acts shall constitute academic dishonesty:
1. Copying the work of another student during an examination.
2. Copying from the textbook during an examination.
3. Informing a person of the contents of an examination prior to the time the examination is given.
4. Failing to credit sources used in a work or product in an attempt to pass off the work as one’s own.
5. Attempting to receive credit for work performed by another, including papers obtained in whole or in part from individuals or other sources, including the internet.
6. Attempting to receive credit in one or more classes for the same paper or project without written approval of instructors involved.
7. Agreeing with one or more persons to commit an act of scholastic dishonesty.
8. Taking an examination for another person or allowing someone to take an
examination for you.
9. Signing an attendance sheet for another student or committing similar acts of impersonation.

Cheating of any kind will result in a “0” for that assignment. A second infraction will result in the grade of “F” for the semester and a report sent, by the instructor, to the proper college officials.

Make-Up Quizzes & Exams:
There are deadlines to each homework, and each chapter test. The chapter tests MUST BE TAKEN on or before its assigned deadline. I will not accept a test or graded homework assignment that is taken past the deadline. After the deadline for each chapter exam, I will manually add the bonus points that you earned for that chapter.

No food or drink is allowed in the classroom (not relevant for online courses).

Cell phones are no longer allowed in the Testing Center, and should be turned off while in the classroom (this is not relevant for our class since we will not be using the testing center).

The instructor has the right to add, delete, or revise segments of this course or syllabus.

December 22 is the drop date.

Schedule of Readings: Below are the deadlines for each set of bonus exercises and each chapter test. Each assignment, and deadline, is also listed in your APLIA course online. Please keep up with the assignments. If you want to move through the material faster than assigned, you may. Everything is open from the beginning of the course. But if you go by the deadlines, you will move through the material at a steady pace. Since the material is available 24/7, I will not give make-up exams. If you know you are planning a trip, work ahead in the material. Poor planning on your part does not mean an emergency on my part.

Again, the deadlines are firm. You will receive NO credit for graded practice exercises or tests that are past the deadline. The deadline for all tests and graded exercises is 11pm on the date listed below. So for example, the first graded practice exercises (bonus grade) is section 1.4. This assignment must be finished by 11pm on 12/13 to receive credit. The first test, over Chapter One, is due before 11pm on 12/14. All section numbers refer to our text, A Concise Introduction to Logic. Due dates are in bold red print.

Critical Thinking

**Chapter One: Basic Concepts**
12/12 Sections 1.1 and 1.2
12/13 Section 1.3 and **Section 1.4** (Bonus Exercises)
12/14 Section 1.5 and **Chapter One Test**
Chapter Three: Fallacies
12/15  Section 3.1 and Section 3.2
12/16  Section 3.3
12/17  Section 3.4* (Bonus Exercises)
12/18  Section 3.5 and Chapter Three Test

Chapter Four: Categorical Propositions
12/19  Section 4.1 and Section 4.2
12/20  Section 4.3 and Section 4.4
12/21  Section 4.5* (Bonus Exercises) and 4.6
12/22  Section 4.7 and Chapter Four Test

Chapter Five: Categorical Syllogisms
12/23  Section 5.1* (Bonus Exercises)
12/24  Section 5.2 and Section 5.3
12/25  Section 5.4 and Section 5.5
12/26  Section 5.6 and Section 5.7 and Chapter Five Test

Chapter Six: Propositional Logic
12/27  Section 6.1 and Section 6.2
12/28  Section 6.3 and Section 6.4* (Bonus Exercises).
12/29  Section 6.5 and Section 6.6
12/30  Chapter Six Test

Chapter Seven: Natural Deduction
12/31  Section 7.1 and Section 7.2* (Bonus Exercises)
1/1   Section 7.3
1/2   Section 7.4* (Bonus Exercises)
1/3   Section 7.5 and Section 7.6
1/4   Section 7.7 and Chapter Seven Test

Students will be able to retrieve their grades on-line through the Internet on DCCCD eConnect web-site at http://econnect.dcccd.edu. Students who do not have Internet access at home or work may also access their grades by using drop-in computer labs at various college locations. Students must select the Student Menu, click on My Personal Info. And scroll down to My grades. Students may request official academic transcripts free of charge at the Admissions Office. Student advising reports (an unofficial document, which includes a history of their DCCCD coursework, grades, GPA, and academic
standing) are also available from both the Academic Advising Office and the Admissions Office.