

INTRODUCTION TO LOGIC: PHIL 2001A

Carleton University, Philosophy Department
Fall 2018
Wednesdays, 6:05-7:55 PM, and tutorials (see below)
Azrieli Theatre 101

Elisabeta Sarca
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Teaching Assistants: TBD

Description: This course aims to promote reasoning skills, especially the ability to distinguish valid and invalid reasoning. We will study syllogistic logic, propositional logic, proofs and fallacies. We'll use these to analyze hundreds of arguments, many on philosophical topics like morality, the existence of God, free will, and scientific method. Special emphasis will be placed on practice, both in and outside the classroom.

Objectives: In this course students will develop and strengthen skills to identify, evaluate and construct arguments; cultivate a critical thinking practice through the study of varied examples; and understand argument as a dialogical process necessary for private and public decision making. More specifically, the aims of this course are to:

- Define what an argument is and distinguish it from non-argument
- Differentiate between valid and invalid arguments
- Investigate the relationship between truth and validity
- Identify formal/structural features of valid argumentation
- Recognize the more common fallacies to be avoided in reasoning
- Construct arguments consistent with best practices in a discipline, with special application in philosophy; apply logical reasoning to controversies in ethics, politics, science and others
- Formulate constructive responses to criticism
- Understand the function of logic in the context of theories of/issues about meaning, knowledge, values and/or reality

Required Material

1. Harry J. Gensler, *Introduction to Logic*, 2nd edition or 3rd edition
2. LogiCola program – available free, at <http://www.harryhiker.com/lc/>
3. Various supplementary materials that will be posted on cuLearn

Course requirements

There will be homework due almost every week (9 assignments in total).

Two mid-term tests.

Final exam, cumulative.

It is extremely important to keep up with the class material, because the lessons build on each other. Coming to each class, paying attention and doing the homework assignments on time are crucial components for success in the course.

Course format

This course features a weekly lecture (Wednesdays 6:05-7:55, in Azrieli Theatre 101) and tutorials as follows:

- Mondays 8:35-9:25, Tory 236
- Mondays 1:35-2:25, Tory 202
- Tuesdays 10:35-11:25, Tory 446
- Tuesdays 1:35-2:25, Southam 306

You must sign up for the lecture, as well as one of the scheduled tutorials. Both of these components are part of the course. The tutorials are used for practice and application of the main concepts taught in the lecture.

Course sections

1. Foundational concepts of logic
2. Syllogistic logic
3. Propositional logic
4. Propositional proofs and refutations
5. Basic quantificational logic

E-Mail & cuLearn

It is your responsibility to check your Carleton e-mail and cuLearn regularly. Important course documents, as well as the most current class schedule and homework assignments, are posted on cuLearn, which will be up to date until at least the next exam. I can best be reached by email, but please note that I am not permanently “on-call”. I will do my very best to answer all messages in a timely manner, but it’s best not to leave important or emergency messages until the last minute, because they might not reach me on time. Also note that questions about the material covered in class or problem sets in the book are best addressed during my office hours – please take advantage of those.

Protocol

1. **Read and abide by the University and Departmental Policies outlined at the end of this document.**
2. **Preparation** – Do the reading and all other assignments before class. I recommend that you first skim the text to get a general idea of the content, then read slowly and carefully, outlining major points and noting your questions.
3. **Respect** – Please always be respectful and civilized toward other students, the teaching assistants and the instructor. This includes, for example, not interrupting when others are talking, maintaining order and silence so others can make the best of their learning experience and, obviously, not displaying any sort of bigoted or discriminatory views.
4. **Cell Phones and Laptops** – Phones must be turned off or silenced during class. Computers may be used only for taking notes, though I strongly encourage pen-and-paper note-taking instead. The use of a computer, unless it is for accessibility reasons, can be distracting to me and the other students, but most of all detrimental to yourself.
5. **Plagiarism and cheating** are very serious offenses and are unacceptable. I expect all assignments to be completed independently by each student. Any work you submit and represent as your own must actually be your own. If I suspect you have cheated, I will immediately send an incident report to the Dean’s Office, which will determine further action, in accordance with University Policies.

Grades

Any work submitted late will receive a **50% grade reduction**. Exceptions will be granted only if I receive the request for late submittal with a valid and properly documented reason (such as a doctor’s note indicating injury or illness) no later than the due date. Special arrangements for make-up tests must be made in advance and with proper documentation. Personal reasons will be accepted only in extremely rare cases, at the discretion of the instructor.

You can expect a return time for test grades of **2 weeks**.

There will be **no shifting** of any portion of the grade to another assignment, as it is against this course’s policies.

Homework:

The homework will be done through the LogiCola program. You must send me the scores through cuLearn (**not by email**) before each deadline. Each problem set you complete on time (at any level) counts toward a point for your homework grade, up to a total of 51 for the semester. Late assignments (at any level) are penalized by 50%. If you try to fake your scores, my program will show it to me automatically and this will count as cheating (see statement above about cheating and its repercussions).

How Logicola scores count toward test grades: Before each test, I calculate the average score (level) at which you did all the assigned exercises having to do with the material on the test. The default level for this course is 6 (the maximum level is 9). Your exercise scores average, if above 6, adds a bonus to the next test grade. So: if your average level is, say, 8, then you get a +2 bonus on the following test. You will have a special place to submit missed/improved sets before each test.

Final grades will be calculated as follows:

Homework:	20 % – late assignments will be penalized
Mid-term tests:	50 % (2x25%) – no make-ups, unless with prior notice and documented excuse
Final Exam:	30 % – cumulative

The schedule is posted and regularly updated on cuLearn.

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (Fall/Winter 2018-19)

Assignments:

Unless specifically told otherwise by their instructors, students:

- Must not use a plastic or cardboard cover or paper clips.
- Must staple the paper (there is a stapler on the essay box).
- Must include the following on the first page: student name and number; course name and number; instructor's name.
- No assignments will be accepted after the last day for handing in term work – see dates below.
- Assignments handed in through the essay box (just inside the glass doors, Paterson Hall, Floor 3A) must be dropped into the box by **4:15** on a regular business day in order to be date-stamped with that day's date. Assignments handed in after 4:15 or on a non-business day will be stamped as having been handed in on the next business day.
- Students are required to keep copies of their assignments. If your paper is lost at any point, you will be considered not to have submitted it if you cannot produce a copy immediately on request.

Evaluation:

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Deferrals for Final Exams:

If you miss a final examination (formally scheduled or take-home) because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral. You must apply within 3 working days after the scheduled date of your formally scheduled exam or within 3 working days after the due date of a take-home exam. Visit the Registrar's Office for more information: <http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/acadregsuniv2/#2.5>

Plagiarism:

It is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of 'plagiarism' as defined in the Undergraduate or Graduate Calendars, and to avoid both committing plagiarism and aiding or abetting plagiarism by other students. <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

Academic Accommodation:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

Pregnancy obligation: write to your professor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Religious obligation: write to your professor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Survivors of Sexual Violence: as a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities: Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

Important Dates:

Sept. 5	Classes start.
Sept. 18	Last day for registration and course changes for fall term and fall/winter (two-term) courses.
Sept. 30	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from fall term or two-term courses. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript.
Oct. 8	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Oct. 22-26	Fall Break – no classes.
Nov. 23	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, before the official examination period.
Dec. 7	Last day of fall term classes. Classes follow a Monday schedule. Last day for academic withdrawal from fall term courses. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for a fall term course.
Dec. 9-21	Final examinations for fall term courses and mid-term examinations in two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
Dec. 21	All take-home examinations are due.
Jan. 7	Classes begin.
Jan. 18	Last day for registration and course changes in the winter term.
Jan. 31	Last day for a full fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter term courses or from the winter portion of two-term courses. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript.
Feb. 18	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Feb. 18-22	Winter Break – no classes.
Mar. 26	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in winter term or fall/winter courses before the official examination period.
Apr. 9	Last day of two-term and winter term classes. Last day for academic withdrawal from fall/winter and winter courses. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for two-term and for winter term courses.
Apr. 12-27	Final examinations for winter term and two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
Apr. 19-21	Statutory holiday. University closed. No examinations take place.
Apr. 27	All take-home examinations are due on this day.

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:	3A35 Paterson Hall www.carleton.ca/philosophy 520-2110
Registrar's Office:	300 Tory www.carleton.ca/registrar 520-3500
Academic Advising Centre:	302 Tory www.carleton.ca/academicadvising 520-7850
Writing Services:	4 th Floor, Library http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/ 520-3822
MacOdrum Library	http://www.library.carleton.ca/ 520-2735