

PHIL 2003 A Critical Thinking
Fall Term, 2019

Monday and Wednesday 6.05-7.25pm
Room: HS 1301

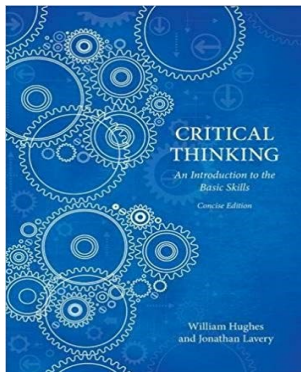
Professor: Iva Apostolova
Office: Paterson Hall, 3A38
Contact info: Iva.Apostolova@carleton.ca
Office Hours: Wednesday, 4.30-5.45 pm

Teaching Assistants: TBA
Teaching Assistant's contact info: TBA

PHIL 2003 [0.5 credit]
Critical Thinking

Assessment of reasoning and the development of cogent patterns of thinking. Reference to formal logic is minimal. Practice in criticizing examples of reasoning and in formulating one's own reasons correctly and clearly. Open to first-year students.
Lectures three hours a week.

Required Course Materials: *Critical Thinking - Concise Edition*. William Hughes, Jonathan Lavery, Boradview Press, 2015. The book can be purchased at the university bookstore.



It is only natural for us, humans, to think. How we live our lives depend to a great extent on how we think. Much of our thinking, however, left to itself lacks accuracy, impartiality and clarity. In order to improve the quality of our lives, we have to improve our thinking by analysing its structures and forms, and taking charge of the intellectual problems we constantly come across. This course is an introduction to the concepts and tools used in critical thinking. We will learn what the elements of thought are, how to use the information we receive from the external world, how to identify the fallacies and inaccurate inferences or assumptions. No previous familiarity with philosophy or logic is presumed.

Topics include:

- Nature of critical thinking and reasoning
- Structure of arguments; schematizing and evaluating arguments
- Validity, strength, soundness and truth
- Language and definitions
- Ambiguity and vagueness
- Logical fallacies
- Deductive reasoning; formal logical fallacies
- Inductive reasoning

Course Evaluation:

Term Test 1, October 2, 2019	20%
Term Test 2, October 30, 2019	20%
Term Test 3, November 20, 2019	20%
Final Exam, TBA	40%

All the tests are based upon the material covered in class. The tests combine multiple choice questions, standardize the arguments questions, True or False questions, analysing definitions and explanations questions. The final exam covers selected topics from the whole course material.

Note: There are no mock or make-up tests scheduled for this course. Make-up tests will be provided to students on a case-by-case basis, only upon presentation of a verifiable doctor's note or other official documentation. Otherwise a zero will be assigned for each missing test result.

The Teaching Assistants are responsible for marking all the tests and exams. If a disagreement over a mark occurs, the student needs to see the marker (Teaching Assistant) first and discuss the mark/test/exam. If the disagreement persists, the student can appeal the mark to the professor. However, the professor reserves the right to raise or lower the mark despite the mark that has already been assigned.

The standard time for returning marked tests/exams is two weeks from the date of the test/exam. However, in some cases, it may require more time. Announcements of any changes will be made in class or posted on the web-site of the course.

Neither the Teaching Assistants, nor the professor will weigh any of the tests/exams any differently than what has been originally assigned to them.

The syllabus is subject to revision and changes according to time constraints and in-class progress.

Be advised that any announcements or postings on cuLearn become official and it is responsibility of the student to check the web-site regularly.

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (Fall/Winter 2019-20)

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. 4	Classes start.
Sept. 17	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. 14	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Oct. 21-25	Fall Break – no classes.
Nov. 22	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. 6	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. 6	Classes begin.
Jan. 17	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. 17	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Feb. 17-21	Winter Break – no classes.
Mar. 24	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. 7	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. 10	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Apr. 13-25	Final examinations for winter term and two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
Apr. 25	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