

Philosophy 2500, Fall 2009
Introduction to Symbolic Logic
Lectures: 265 Park Hall, MW 11:15am–12:05pm¹
Break-out sections: days and times vary by call number

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Office hours: Mon 3:30–4:30pm,
Tues 2:00–3:00pm, and by appointment

LOGIC is the study of how to tell whether the conclusion of an argument follows from the premises from which the conclusion was inferred. In this course you will learn how to translate an argument from English into a regimented notation and use this notation to calculate whether or not the conclusion of the argument follows from the premises.

In style, this course will resemble a math course. It will emphasize problem solving and conceptual understanding, and it is extremely important that you approach the course in the right way. In particular, you should:

- Read the text carefully and attentively, being sure that you have followed everything or made a note of what you did not follow. Skimming and cramming at the last minute are *guaranteed* not to work.
- Read actively, not passively! Keep a pencil and paper on hand when you read so that you can work through examples and exercises as you go along.
- Attend to the details. Each topic in this course will build upon the topics that come before it, and you cannot expect to grasp later material without first mastering earlier material.
- Do all of the exercises I assign and check your work by looking in the back of the textbook and by observing how problems are solved in class. Do this all along during the term *while* the material is being discussed.

This course moves at a swift pace, and you will do poorly unless you work through the material steadily by attending class and by keeping up with the reading and the assigned exercises. During much if not all of the course you may expect to spend two hours studying outside of class for each hour spent in class.

The TA for this class is *Mr. James Grindeland*. In addition to attending the Monday/Wednesday lectures you will meet with him for one 50-minute period each week in smaller groups. Mr. Grindeland and I will be delighted to help you outside class, but please do not expect either of us to go over material presented in classes from which you were absent. You are responsible for attending *all* of the meetings of the course.

Required Text

- *Understanding Symbolic Logic, 5th Edition*, by Virginia Klenk, Prentice-Hall, ISBN 978-0-13-205152-1. This is a gray, *soft-cover* book. Do not buy one of the older editions of the book, which are hardback. This course will cover Units 1–17.
- Please always bring the text with you to class!

Coursework and Grading

The schedule of readings, homework assignments, and quizzes for this course is given in the table on the next page. Homework assignments will not be handed in or graded, but doing them is essential for success in the course. You should check your own homework using the answer key in the back of the textbook. The TA and I will go over some homework problems when there are questions, but many of the problems we will do in class will not be among those assigned as homework.

Graded work will include three 50-minute midterm exams and a comprehensive final exam. Your average on the midterm exams will count for 66% of your final grade. The final exam will count for 34%. A final average in the range of 0 to 100 will be computed for each student. I intend to assign grades as follows based on final averages:

$$\begin{array}{l} 100 \geq A \geq 93 > A- \geq 90 & 70 > D \geq 60 \\ 90 > B+ \geq 87 > B \geq 83 > B- \geq 80 & 60 > F \geq 0 \\ 80 > C+ \geq 77 > C \geq 73 > C- \geq 70 & \end{array}$$

¹Please be on the lookout for notice of a change in the location (but not the time) of the MW lectures. I intend to find a room with more board space.

The final exam is scheduled for **Thursday, December 10th, noon–3:00pm**. Please take the date of the final exam into account when you make your travel arrangements. **I will not offer the final exam early to accommodate students' travel plans.**

Schedule of Assignments and Exams

Please note that the course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Homework Exercises and Exam Dates</i>
Aug 17, 19	Unit 1	1adf, 2ab
	Unit 2	1acegikm, 2acegikmo
	Unit 3	1acegikm, 2acegi, 3acegi
Aug 24, 26, 31	Unit 4	1acegi, 3acegi, 4acegi, 5acegik, 6ceikm
	Unit 5	1acegik, 2acd, 3ace, 4acegik
Sep 2	Unit 6	1acegi, 2acegi, 3agh, 4ace, 5be
Sep 7	<i>Labor Day, no class</i>	
Sep 9	Unit 7	1(1)(2), 2acefginr, 3abcdefn
Sep 14 (Monday)	MIDTERM EXAM I (Units 2–6)	
Sep 16	Unit 7	5b, 6aceg, 7be, 8kmop, 9ef, 10abcd
Sep 21, 23	Unit 8	1abcdeghklm, 2abcdeghijs, 3a, 5efghi, 6gjlm, 7cd, 8a
Sep 28, 30	Unit 9	1aceg, 2abcdef, 4acf, 5aj, 6acj, 7ad, 8ace, 9abcde
Oct 5 (Monday)	MIDTERM EXAM II (Units 7–9)	
Oct 7	Unit 10	1acegi, 2acegi
	Unit 11	1acegi, 2acegi, 3acegikquw, 4acgio
Oct 12, 14	Unit 12	1acfgm, 2acegi, 3ac, 4aceikq, 5acegmo, 6cegikq, 7acgi
Oct 19, 21	Unit 13	1ae, 2acegi, 3ac, 4acgi, 5aceg, 6eg, 7acegi
Oct 22	<i>Withdrawal deadline</i>	
Oct 26	Unit 14	1abcd, 2acegikmo, 3acegi, 4acegim, 5ae, 6acgikms
Oct 28 (Wednesday)	MIDTERM EXAM III (Units 10–14)	
Oct 20 (Friday)	<i>Fall Break, no class</i>	
Nov 2, 4, 9	Unit 15	1abdeghijklm, 2behjko, 3abcd, 4efhj, 5acd
Nov 11, 16, 18	Unit 16	1ace, 2ace, 3acegik, 5ac, 6aceg
Nov 23–27	<i>Thanksgiving Break</i>	
Nov 30, Dec 2	Unit 17	1gm, 2cgi, 3aegi, 4ae, 5a, 6aceg, 7ceg, 8a, 9ace
Dec 7	Review for the final exam	
Dec 8 (Tuesday)	<i>Friday</i> sections meet - review	
Dec 10 (Thursday)	FINAL EXAM (Units 2–17) noon–3:00pm.	

Attendance Policy

Any student who misses an exam is subject to being dropped from the class roll if I do not at the earliest opportunity receive documentary evidence of an illness or emergency. A make-up exam will not be offered unless such documentary evidence is provided. If a religious holiday or mandatory university activity will require your absence from class or an exam, please let me know immediately.

Attendance at lectures and breakout sections is your responsibility. Throughout the twenty-five years that I have been teaching this material I have witnessed a direct correlation between grades and attendance: the fewer classes a student misses, the better his or her grade.

Academic honesty

All academic work submitted for this course must meet the standards contained in the UGA document “A Culture of Honesty,” which is available online at the following web address:

http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture_honesty.htm

Each student is responsible for informing himself or herself about those standards before performing any academic work.