

Philosophy 2500H, Spring 2009
Introduction to Symbolic Logic (Honors)
Class time: TuTh 9:30–10:45pm
Class location: 220 Peabody Hall

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Office hours: M 4:30–5pm, Tu 2–3:00pm,
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 to approach the course in the right way. In particular, you should:

- Read the assigned unit prior to the class day for which it is assigned (with the exception of Unit 1, which you should read along with Units 2 and 21 before the second day of class). Postponing the reading, then skimming and cramming, can be guaranteed *not* to work.
- Do the assigned exercises for a given unit immediately after the material in those exercises is covered in class.
- Read the text carefully and attentively, being sure that you have followed everything or made a note of what you did not follow.
- Read actively, not passively! Keep a pencil and paper on hand when you read so that you can work through examples 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 grasping 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 at least two hours outside of class reading and doing homework problems for each hour spent in class.

Required Text

- *Understanding Symbolic Logic, 5th Edition*, by Virginia Klenk. This course will cover Units 1–21.
- Please obtain the text immediately and always bring it with you to class!

Coursework and Grading

The schedule of readings, homework assignments, and quizzes for this course are given in the table on the next page. Homework problems 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. I will go over some of the homework problems in class 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 75-minute closed-book midterm exams and a 3-hour closed-book 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:

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

If circumstances appear to warrant it at the end of the semester, I may use a more lenient curve. The final exam is scheduled for **Thursday, May 7th, 8:00–11:00am, in 220 Peabody Hall**. Please take the date of the final

exam into account when making travel arrangements. **I will not offer the final exam early to accommodate travel plans or other personal business.**

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>
Jan 8	Unit 1	1adf, 2ab
Jan 13	Unit 2	1acegikm, 2acegikmo
Jan 15	Unit 21	3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14
Jan 20	Unit 3	1acegikm, 2acegi, 3acegi
Jan 22	Unit 4	1acegi, 3acegi, 4acegi, 5acegik, 6ceikm
Jan 27	Unit 5	1acegik, 2acd, 3ace, 4acegik
Jan 29 (Thursday)	Unit 6	1acegi, 2acegi, 3agh, 4ace, 5be
Jan 29 (Thursday)	MIDTERM EXAM I (Units 2–6, 21)	
Feb 3, 5	Unit 7	1(1)(2), 2acefginr, 3abcdefln, 4a, 5b, 6aceg, 7be, 8kmop, 9ef, 10abcd
Feb 10, 12	Unit 8	1abcdeghklm, 2abcdehgiqs, 3a, 5efghi, 6gjlm, 7cd, 8a
Feb 17, 19	Unit 9	1aceg, 2abcdef, 4acf, 5aj, 6acj, 7ad, 8ace, 9abcde
Feb 24 (Tuesday)	MIDTERM EXAM II (Units 7–9)	
Feb 26	Unit 10	1acegi, 2acegi
Mar 3, 5	Unit 11	1acegi, 2acegi, 3acegikquw, 4acgio
Mar 9–13	Unit 12	1acegm, 2acegi, 3ac, 4aceikq, 5acegmo, 6cegikq, 7acgi
Mar 17	<i>Spring Break</i>	
Mar 19	Unit 13	1ae, 2acegi, 3ac, 4acgi, 5aceg, 6eg, 7acegi
Mar 24	Unit 14	1abcd, 2acegikmo, 3acegi, 4acegim, 5ae, 6acgikms
Mar 24, 26	<i>Deadline for withdrawing without penalty</i>	
Mar 31 (Tuesday)	Unit 15	1abdeghijklm, 2behjko, 3abcd, 4efhj, 5acd
Mar 31 (Tuesday)	MIDTERM EXAM III (Units 10–15)	
Apr 2	Unit 16	1ace, 2aceg, 3egik, 5ac, 6aceg, 7aceg
Apr 7	Unit 17	1gm, 2cgi, 3aegi, 4ae, 5a, 6aceg, 7ceg, 8a, 9ace
Apr 9, 14	Unit 18	1bcdj, 2cd, 3ace
Apr 16, 21	Unit 19	1aegk 2egk 3acek 4ace 5aegkmo 6aciqsu
Apr 23	Unit 20	1bef 2b 3ab
Apr 28	<i>Review</i>	
Apr 30 (Thursday)	<i>Monday class schedule in effect; PHIL 2500H does not meet.</i>	
May 7 (Thursday)	FINAL EXAM (Units 2–21) 8:00–11:00am.	

Attendance Policy

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

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/ACOH%20May%20'07.pdf>

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