

Course Syllabus: LPS 29/Philos 29

Lecture:

Instructor: Bennett Holman Office: 740 SST E-mail: bholman@uci.edu
Hours: WF 12-1 and by appointment

Assistants:

Office:

Office Hours:

Discussions:

(all discussions
meet in SSL122)

e-mail:

Course Description: This course is the first part of a logic sequence (LPS/PHILOS 29, 30, 31) that satisfies the mathematics/symbolic systems breadth requirement. In this course students will evaluate arguments by learning the basics of syllogistic, propositional and monadic predicate logic. Students will develop skills useful for evaluating arguments, especially those arising in philosophy. We will discuss some limitations of propositional and syllogistic logic and touch on how the predicate calculus is superior in these respects. Students will also learn about common fallacies of reasoning by identifying fallacious arguments in everyday life.

Required Text: *Introduction to Logic*, Harry J. Gensler. Available at the UCI bookstore.

Grading: Your final grade will be computed as a weighted average, determined as follows:

- Section attendance: 5%
- Weekly homework: 30% (drop lowest score)
- Exams: midterm @ 25% and final @ 40%

Late midterm/final requests must be accompanied by appropriate documentation (i.e. a doctor's note).

Homework Policy

- With the exception of Weeks 1 and 6 homework is assigned weekly and is due Monday in lecture. Graded homework will only be returned in section. Please note that the homework represents the *minimal* amount of practice necessary for mastering the material. You should attempt additional exercises on your own (many answers are in the back of the book). We will work on some exercises in-class; opportunity for much more practice is available in discussion sections.

Indeed, you may ask questions about especially difficult homework problems in section (or in office hours)—we can certainly get you started in the right direction.

- Late homework is assessed the following penalty: late, but turned in on Monday, lose 5%; each additional day late loses an additional 10%; homework later than 5 days late will not be accepted unless accompanied by appropriate documentation attesting to extraordinary circumstances.
- Sharing answers on homework is a form of cheating. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated! If this is unclear you should follow the link on the course website to review UCI's policy on academic honesty.

Quarterly Schedule:
(subject to change)

Week:	Topics:
1	Ch. 1 Introduction. Valid/Sound arguments, types of arguments. Introduce Syllogistic logic (Ch. 2).
2	Syllogistic logic con't: translations and Venn diagrams.
3	Ch.3 (Basic Propositional Logic). The language of propositional logic, simple and complex translations, truth-table test for validity.
4	Ch.3 con't: complex truth-tables. Introduce the S and I-rules for a propositional proof system.
5	Ch.4 (Propositional Proofs). Easier proofs and refutations.
6	Midterm tentatively scheduled for Monday of Week 6. The rest of the week we will work on proofs involving multiple assumptions. Note: TA discussion sections and office hours are cancelled all this week.
7	Ch. 5 (Basic Quantificational Logic). Easier proofs and translations.
8	Ch. 5 con't. Harder proofs and translations. Most likely will start Ch. 14 (Meaning and Definitions).
9	Ch. 14 con't. By end of week start working on Ch. 15 (Fallacies).
10	Finish Ch. 15. Time permitting we will do a bit of modal logic from Ch. 7.
Final	The final will be on Friday, Mar 21, 8:00-10:00am (in our usual classroom).