

CAMOSUN COLLEGE School of Arts & Science Humanities

Philosophy 110: Logic and Critical Thinking COURSE OUTLINE - Winter, 2005

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Justine Noel

Office Hours: Monday 11:30-12:20 and 1:30-2:00, Tuesday 11:30-12:20, Wednesday

11:30-12:20 and 1:30-2:00, Thursday 2:30-3:20

Office: Young 312 Phone: 370-3951

Email: noelju@camosun.bc.ca

Intended Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course the student should be able to a) identify structural weaknesses in arguments, b) recognize fallacious reasoning patterns and invalid argument forms, c) detect biases and hidden assumptions in statements, d) present two sides of a case in a fair manner, critically evaluate each side, and then provide philosophical justification for conclusions, and e) construct logical and convincing arguments. The student should also be able to demonstrate how critical thinking skills are applied to ethical issues in policing and corrections.

Course Schedule:

Lectures: Young 216 Mondays and Wednesdays 1:00-1:50 PM

Seminars: Group A – Y 220 Monday 3:00–3:50 PM

Group B - Y 220 Monday 2:00-2:50 PM Group C - Y 220 Wednesday 2:00-2:50 PM Group D - Y 220 Wednesday 10:00-10:50 AM Group E - Y 220 Wednesday 3:00-3:50 PM

Course Requirements:

Test 1: 25% Test 2: 25% Test 3: 35%

Seminar and Assignments: 15%

Reading and Homework Assignments

Week 1: Critical Thinking about Weird Things

Jan 10 – Introduction

Jan 12 – p. 1-13

Week 2: Logical Possibilities

Jan 17 – p. 15-21

Jan 19 – p. 21-30

Seminar: HW assignment #1 Due

Week 3: Truth and Falsity

Jan 24 – p. 35-47

Jan 26 – p. 48-60

Seminar: Review for Test #1; Field Problem Due

Week 4: Examining the Evidence

Jan 31 – p. 60-81

Feb 2 – Test #1 (25%)

Seminar: HW assignment #2 Due

Week 5: Relativism and Reality

Feb 7 - p. 88-101

Feb 9 – p. 101-110

Seminar: HW assignment #3 Due

Week 6: Knowledge and Belief

Feb 14 – p. 114-136

Feb 16 – p. 137-148

Seminar: HW assignment #4 Due

Week 7: Good and Bad Arguments

Feb 21 – p. 154-159

Feb 23 – p. 159-165

Seminar: Review for Test #2

Week 8: Fallacies

Feb 28 – Test #2 (25%)

Mar 02 - p. 165-171

Seminar: HW assignment #5 Due

Week 9: Science and Pseudo Science

Mar 7 – p. 175-182

Mar 9 - p. 182-197

Seminar: TBA

Week 10: Science Continued

Mar 14 – p. 198- 210 Mar 16 – p. 210 -225

Seminar: HW assignment #6 Due

Week 11: Quackery and "Miracle Cures"

Mar 21- p. 232-241 Mar 23- p. 241-250 Seminar: Video

Week 12: Quackery Continued

Mar 28 - No Class (Easter)

Mar 30 – p. 251-266; HW assignment #7 Due

Seminar: No Seminars this week!

Week 13: The Paranormal

April 4 - p. 271-286 April 6 - p. 286-307

Seminar: Review for Test #3

Week 14: Paranormal Continued

April 11 - p. 307-330 April 13 - Test #3

Seminar: HW assignment #8 Due

Policy on late papers: late papers will receive a "zero" except in cases of illness or personal crisis.

Policy on missed tests: make-up tests will only be permitted in cases of illness or personal crisis. A make-up test will not be scheduled until proper documentation is provided.

Grading System:

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

A+ = 95-100%

A = 90-94%

A- = 85-89%

B+ = 80-84%

B = 75-79%

B- = 70-74%C+ = 65-69%

C = 60-64%

D = 50-59%

F = 0.0-49%