

	<p>School of Arts & Science HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT</p> <p>PHIL 110-003 Introduction to Philosophy Winter 2010</p>

COURSE OUTLINE

Information

(a)	Instructor:	Dr. James Atkinson	
(b)	Office Hours:	Tuesday and Thursday 4:20-4:50 (Office TBA)	
(c)	Location:	TBA	
(d)	Phone:	TBA	Alternative Phone:
(e)	Email:	atkinsonj@camosun.bc.ca	
(f)	Website:		

Intended Learning Outcomes

Course Description and Objectives

Rhetoric: The art of using language to persuade or influence other people.

Reasoning: The process of drawing a conclusion from a set of premises.

The study of critical thinking and sharpens one's understanding of arguments by revealing presuppositions and identifying conclusions and their premises. The course aims to develop the student's ability to identify, analyze and evaluate reasoning in everyday discourse.

Critical thinking is important in everyday life because it allows one to gain insight and understanding into the expressed thoughts of others and increase one's ability to think and express oneself more clearly. In short, one gains the ability to clearly say what one means, and understand what others say. To this end students will learn to identify common fallacies, reflect on the use of language for the purpose of persuasion, and think critically about the sources and biases of the information that confronts us.

Required Materials

Text: *Critical Thinking*, Ninth Edition, Brooke Moore and Richard Parker

Course Content and Schedule

Philosophy 110: Tentative Reading and Exam Schedule

January 7th – 14th

Chapter 1: Critical Thinking Basics

January 12th – 14th

Chapter 2: The Anatomy and Varieties of Arguments

January 19th – 21st

Chapter 3: Clear Thinking, Critical Thinking, and Clear Writing

January 26th – 28th

Chapter 4: Credibility

February 2nd – 4th

Chapter 5: Persuasion through Rhetoric: Common Devices and Techniques

February 9th – 11th

Chapter 6: More Rhetorical Devices: Psychological and Related Fallacies

Test 1: Chapters 1-5 Thursday, February 11th

February 16th

Chapter 7: More Fallacies

February 23rd – 25th

Chapter 7: cont.

Chapter 8: Deductive Arguments I: Categorical Logic Categorical Claims

March 2nd – 4th

Chapter 9: Deductive Arguments II: Truth-Functional Logic

March 9th – 11th

Chapter 9: cont.

Chapter 10: Inductive Arguments Analogical Arguments

March 16th – 18th

Chapter 11: Causal Arguments

Test 2: Chapters 6-9 Thursday, March 18th

March 23rd – 25th

Chapter 12: Moral, Legal, and Aesthetic Reasoning

March 30th – April 1st

Chapter 12: cont.

April 6th – 8th

Review

Test 3: Chapters 10-12 TBA

N.B.

*There will a quiz at the beginning of the first class of the week (Tuesday) based on assigned readings.

Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(a) Quizzes – 25%

At the start of each Tuesday class there will be a short quiz based on assigned readings. If you miss a quiz there will *not* be an opportunity to write it at a later date. However, the lowest two scores will be disregarded.

(b) Three Tests @ 25% each – 75%

Dates (subject to change):
 February 11th (Chapters 1-5)
 March 18th (Chapters 6-9)
 TBA (Chapters 10-12)

Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.