



School of Arts & Science
Humanities

Philosophy 110-03: Logic and Critical Thinking
COURSE OUTLINE - Winter, 2015

Instructor	Karen Shirley		
Office Hours	Mon, 12 – 3:20; Tues – Fri, 12 – 12:20		
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Intended Learning Outcomes:

1. Assess the strengths and weaknesses of arguments effectively.
2. Write and reason with clarity and precision.
3. Detect bias and fallacious reasoning in arguments.
4. Apply basic logical principles to the evaluation of evidence and the conducting of inquiry.

Course Schedule:

Lecture: Wednesdays, 12:30 pm - 2:20 pm (Y-303C)

Seminars: Group A: Fridays, 12:30 pm - 1:20 pm (Y-317)

Group B: Fridays, 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm (Y-317)

Course Requirements:

Test 1: 20%

Test 2: 30%

Test 3, final exam period: 30%, TBA

Seminar: 20%

Text: The Power of Critical Thinking, Lewis Vaughn and Chris MacDonald, 3rd Cdn. Ed.

Reading Assignments

Week 1: 01/7 Administration and Introduction
HW: Field Problem #1, p. 27

Week 2: 01/14 p. 3-20 “The Power of Critical Thinking”
p. 36-44 “The Environment of Critical Thinking”
HW: Identify the premises and conclusions in essay #3, p. 486

Week 3: 01/21 p. 45-54 “The Environment of Critical Thinking”
p. 69-79 “Making Sense of Arguments”
HW: Field Problem #1, p. 60

Week 4: 01/28 p. 89-95 “Making Sense of Arguments”
p. 131-148 “Reasons for Belief and Doubt”
HW: Field Problem #1, p. 118 – but only 100 words

Week 5: 02/4 p. 149-165 “Reasons for Belief and Doubt”
p. 181-187 “Faulty Reasoning”
HW: Field Problem #1, p.169

Week 6:
02/11 p. 188-204 “Faulty Reasoning”
TEST #1

Week 7: 02/18 p. 256-267, 270-282, 285-6 “Deductive Reasoning”
HW: Field Problem #1, p. 209: Modified: Find a letter to the editor in an online newspaper that seems to contain a fallacy. Point out the fallacy and rewrite the fallacious part so as to make the commitment of the fallacy clear.

Week 8: 02/25 p. 293-304, 314-321 “Inductive Reasoning”
HW: See d21

Week 9: 03/4 p. 361-369, 374-390 “Inference to the Best Explanation”
HW: See d21

Week 10: 03/11 p. 391-398, 401-402 “Inference to the Best Explanation”
TEST #2

Week 11: 03/18 p. 409-422 “Judging Scientific Theories”
HW: Field Problem #1, p.403, but only 100 words

Week 12: 03/25 p. 433-444 “Judging Scientific Theories”
HW: See d21

Week 13: 04/1 p. 454-467 “Contexts of Application”
HW: Field Problem #1, p. 448, do #1 or #2

Week 14: 04/8 p. 467-475 “Contexts of Application”
Review for final exam
HW: Field Problem #1, p. 478, #2

6. Grading System

Percentage	Grade	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	1
0-49	F	0

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.

7. 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.