



School of Arts & Science  
*Humanities*

**Philosophy 110-01: Logic and Critical Thinking**  
**COURSE OUTLINE - Winter, 2017**

Instructor	Karen Shirley		
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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 Requirements:**

Test 1: 20%

Test 2: 30%

Test 3, final exam period: 30%

Seminars: 20%

**Text: The Power of Critical Thinking**, Lewis Vaughn and Chris MacDonald, 4th Canadian Edition

## **Details**

Spelling and grammar matter in exams and on homework. You may use a dictionary in the exams. Otherwise, the exams are closed-book. Exams are cumulative and consist of short answer and/or multiple choice questions. The final exam is in the exam period.

You will not get marks for homework if you do not attend the seminar in which it is due. There are twelve seminars. The total combined possible mark for each one is 2%. So, if you get a perfect mark on each of the first ten, you may stop. Thus, there are two spares. And so, there is no reason for you to ask for make-up assignments or to submit late homework.

## **Reading Assignments and Homework**

### **Week 1**

01/11 Administration and Introduction

01/13 Chapter 1

HW: Find an argument in an online letter to an editor in a Canadian newspaper on some aspect of the criminal justice system. Write or print it out, word for word, on a piece of paper, and include the URL. Underline the statement(s) that is or are the conclusion(s) and highlight the premise or premises. Underneath, state whether the argument is strong or weak and say why.

### **Week 2**

01/18 Chapter 2

01/20 Chapter 3, up to page 83

HW: Field Problem #1, p. 56

### **Week 3**

01/25 Finish Chapter 3

01/27 Chapter 4

HW: You will be individually assigned arguments from pages 103-105. You must diagram them and explain how strong or weak the argument is, using terms such as 'valid', 'cogent', etc..

### **Week 4**

02/01 Chapter 5 to p. 184

02/03 Chapter 5 to end

HW: Do assigned fallacies on assigned topics

### **Week 5**

03/8 Review

03/10 **TEST #1**

HW: Do assigned fallacies on assigned topics

### **Week 6 Reading Break**

**Week 7**

02/22 Chapter 6 up to p. 223

02/24 Chapter 6 up to 230

HW: Do the passages you are individually assigned from Exercise 6.2-3 (p. 222) for statements you are individually assigned.

**Week 8**

03/01 Chapter 6 to end

03/03 Chapter 7 up to p. 259

HW: Do the passages you are individually assigned from Exercise 6.6-8 (p. 238 - 9)

**Week 9**

03/08 Chapter 7 to end

03/10 Chapter 8, up to p. 298

HW: Do the passages you are individually assigned from Exercise 7.9

**Week 10**

03/15 Chapter 8 up to p. 324

03/17 Cumulative review

HW: Do field problem #2 on page 275. Be sure to include the name of the text and the page number on which you found the argument.

**Week 11**

03/22 **TEST #2**

03/24 Chapter 8 to end

HW Do the passages you are individually assigned from Exercise 8.1 (p. 294)

**Week 12**

03/29 Chapter 9 to end

03/31 Chapter 10 up to p. 416

HW: Do the passages you are individually assigned from Exercise 8.8 (p. 309)

**Week 13**

04/05 Chapter 10 to end

04/07 Chapter 11

Hw: Do the passages you are individually assigned on p.391 (#s 15 to 20)

**Week 14**

04/12 Cumulative review

## 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](http://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](http://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.