



FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 275 Lec 01 – “Scientific and Critical Reasoning”  
Winter Term 2011

Course Outline

**Lectures:** MoWeFr 12:00-12:50 in ES 162

**Instructor:** Makmiller Pedroso  
**Office:** SS 1206  
**Phone:** 403-210-7957  
**Email:** [makmiller@gmail.com](mailto:makmiller@gmail.com)  
**Office Hours:** Mo 3:00-5:00

**TA:** Brandon Holter  
**Office:** SS 1215  
**Phone:** 403-220-6524  
**Email:** [bdholter@ucalgary.ca](mailto:bdholter@ucalgary.ca)  
**Office Hours:** MoWe 1:00-2:00

**Course Description**

Students will develop their critical thinking skills by learning how to analyze logical reasoning in a variety of contexts, from everyday discourse to scientific reports.

**Course Text**

*Simple Logic* (1999) Oxford University Press, by Daniel Bonevac.

**Course Schedule**

(Dates and chapter sections announced in class.)

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Reading</u>
1. Reasoning	Chapter 1
2. Informal Fallacies	Chapter 3
3. Aristotelian logic	Chapters 4 and 5
4. Propositional logic	Chapters 6 and 8
5. Inductive reasoning	Chapter 10

**Graded work**

There will be 3 tests: the first test is worth 30% of the final grade, the second is worth 30%, and the third is worth 10%. All three tests will be given during the class sessions listed below; no Registrar scheduled final will be given. The remaining 30% of the grade will consist of 6 homework assignments, each worth 5% of the final grade. Homework is due in class. *No late homework will be accepted* (without an appropriate reason). No component is such that a passing grade on it is required to pass the course,

Due dates

January 21	Homework #1	50
February 28	Homework #2	50
February 4	Homework #3	50
February 11	Test #1	300
March 4	Homework #4	50
March 11	Homework #5	50
March 18	Homework #6	50
March 25	Test #2	300
April 8	Test #3	100
		Total 1000

## **Grading Scheme**

Letter grades are defined as follows:

980+	A+	750-774	C+
900-979	A	700-749	C
875-899	A-	675-699	C-
850-874	B+	650-674	D+
800-849	B	500-649	D
775-799	B-	below 500	F

*Note that grade cutoffs may be lowered but they will not be raised.*

## **Tutorials**

A graduate teaching assistant will lead tutorials. The teaching assistant will go over material from class and help you with homework assignments and upcoming tests. Tutorials serve as study sessions for homework assignments and tests. Attendance at tutorials is optional. If you attend, please attend the tutorial you are officially enrolled in to avoid overcrowding.

## **Blackboard**

Blackboard will be used in this course and can be found at <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/>. You will need to log on at least once within the first two weeks of class with your U of C email user ID and password. Course handouts will be posted on the class' Blackboard site. Also, class announcements will be sent using Blackboard, which will send announcements to your U of C email account or the account you gave the Registrar. *It is your responsibility to check those accounts for class announcements.*

## **INTELLECTUAL HONESTY**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. As a result, cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as **an extremely serious academic offence**, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. The University Calendar states that plagiarism exists when:

- *the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test;*
- *parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;*
- *the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source; and/or*
- *a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.*

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

## **STUDENTS' UNION REPRESENTATIVES**

The Faculty of Arts Representatives are Laura Golebiowski ([arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca)), Bhuvana Sankaranarayanan ([arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca)), Lara Schmitz ([arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca)), and Vincent St. Pierre ([arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)).

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial FOIP Act in all aspects of its operations as a publicly funded institution. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student's right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments be returned to the student directly from the instructor unless other arrangements have been made in writing and filed with the Department Administrator.

## **SAFEWALK: PROMOTING CAMPUS SAFETY AND AWARENESS**

Twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, Safewalk volunteers walk people safely to their destination on campus. This service is free and available to students, staff, and campus visitors. Safewalks are done in male/female pairs. The volunteers walk anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). To request a Safewalk volunteer to walk with you, call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year) or use one of the Help Phones located across campus (they are not just for emergencies).