



FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 275 Lec 01 – Scientific and Critical Reasoning

Winter Term 2013

Course Outline

Lectures: TR 14:00-15:15 in KNB 126

Instructor: Megan Delehanty

Office: SS 1240

Phone: 403-220-2828

Email: mdelehan@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: Thursdays 15:30-17:30

TA: Eric Twa

Office: SS 1227

Phone: 403-220-6463

Email: ejtwa@ucalgary.c

Office Hours: Mondays 15:00-17:00

Course Description

This course is an introduction to techniques for evaluating arguments. Arguments are crucial to philosophy, but we also encounter them all the time in everyday life. Should gay marriage be legalized? What should be done about global warming? Does the scientific data at hand prove that X (X = the climate is changing, Vioxx is safe, etc.)? Who—you or I—should pay for the movie tonight? Answering each of these questions involves an argument. Some arguments are good, others are really bad. This course will help you to identify and make good arguments and avoid those embarrassing bad ones. We will examine primarily arguments in ordinary language as they occur in areas of everyday life, but we will also learn some elementary symbolic logic.

Required Text

Baronett, Stan. *Logic* (2nd edition). Oxford University Press, 2013.

Evaluation

No assignment is such that a passing grade on it is required to pass the course.

- 30% Five assignments (6% each)
- 70% Four in-class exams (Exams 1-3, 20% each; Exam #4, 10%)
- There will not be a Registrar-scheduled final exam.

Grading Method

95-100 = A+	80-84 = B+	65-69 = C+	50-54 = D+
90-94 = A	75-79 = B	60-64 = C	45-49 = D
85-89 = A-	70-74 = B-	55-59 = C-	< 45 = F

Policy on Late Assignments

No late assignments or make-up exams are permitted unless a medical note is provided and/or permission is granted by the instructor *prior* to the set date. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with the lectures, assignments, and due dates for assignments. Assignments will be posted on Blackboard. I will announce in class when the assignments are to be posted; due dates are listed in the schedule below.

Schedule (subject to change)

Week 1	T Jan 8 Th Jan 10	Introduction Chapter 1 - Basic Logical Concepts (HW #1 posted)
Week 2	T Jan 15 Th Jan 17	Chapter 1 (cont'd) Chapter 2 – Analyzing Arguments (HW #1 due)
Week 3	T Jan 22 Th Jan 24	Chapter 2 (cont'd) Chapter 3 – Language and Definitions
Week 4	T Jan 29 Th Jan 31	EXAM #1 Ch 5 (HW #2 posted)
Week 5	T Feb 5 Th Feb 7	Chapter 5 – Categorical Propositions Chapter 5 (cont'd) (HW #2 due)
Week 6	T Feb 12 Th Feb 14	Chapter 6 - Categorical Syllogisms Chapter 6 (cont'd)
Week 7	T Feb 19 Th Feb 21	NO CLASS (Reading break) NO CLASS (Reading break)
Week 8	T Feb 26 Th Feb 28	EXAM #2 Chapter 8 – Symbolic Logic (HW #3 posted)
Week 9	T March 5 Th March 7	Chapter 8 (cont'd) (HW #3 due) Chapter 9 - Methods of Deduction (HW #4 posted)
Week 10	T March 12 Th March 14	Chapter 9 (cont'd) Chapter 9 (cont'd) (HW #4 due)
Week 11	Tu March 19 Th March 20	Chapter 10 – Quantification Theory <i>Review</i>
Week 12	Tu March 26 Th March 28	EXAM #3 Chapter 11 – Analogical Reasoning (HW #5 posted)
Week 13	Tu April 2 Th April 4	Chapter 12 – Causal Reasoning (HW #5 posted) Chapter 13 – Hypothesis (HW #5 due)
Week 14	Tu April 9 Th April 11	Chapter 14 - Probability Catch-up or review
Week 15	Tu April 16	EXAM #4

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: Sarah Damberger arts1@su.ucalgary.ca; Hana Kadri arts2@su.ucalgary.ca; Kelsy Norman arts3@su.ucalgary.ca; Jack Mills 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.

SAFEWALK

Call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year) for a Safewalk volunteer to accompany you safely to your destination on campus including parking lots, housing, and LRT station. Or use a Campus Help phone.

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

The Department of Philosophy is located on the 12th floor of the Social Sciences Building and on the web at www.phil.ucalgary.ca

PHILOSOPHY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISORS FOR WINTER 2013:

Ann Levey (levey@ucalgary.ca)

Jeremy Fantl (jfantl@ucalgary.ca)

Lorraine Markotic (lmarkoti@ucalgary.ca)

For assistance with registration issues in Philosophy courses, contact Merlette Schnell (msnell@ucalgary.ca)