UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 275 Lec 01 – Scientific and Critical Reasoning

Winter Term 2014

Course Outline

Lectures: TR 14:00-15:15 in AD 142

Instructor: Dr. Megan Delehanty
Office: SS1240
Phone: 403-220-2828
Email: mdelehan@ucalgary.ca
Office hours: T 12:30-13:30 or by appt

TA: Stephanie Reyes
Office: SS 1237
Phone: 403-220-6465
Email: stephanie.reyes@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: M and W 1:00-2:00

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 (2013), *Logic*, 2nd Edition, Oxford

Evaluation:
1) 30% Five homework assignments (6% each)
2) 50% Three in-class exams (15% for Exam #1, 15% for Exam #2, 20% for Exam #3)
3) 20% Final case study assignment (Due Friday, April 10 by 4:00, hard copy to be turned in to the physical dropbox in the Philosophy Department, 12th floor of the Social Sciences Building)

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

There will be NO Registrar-scheduled final exam.

Grading Scale:

96-100 = A+	80-84 = B+	65-69 = C+	50-54 = D+
90-95 = A	75-79 = B	60-64 = C	45-49 = D
85-89 = A-	70-74 = B-	55-59 = C-	0-44 = F

(Note that final averages will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole number.)

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. No extra credit assignments will be provided.

It is the student's responsibility to keep up with the lectures, assignments, and due dates for assignments. Some material covered in class, particularly in the last several weeks of the term, is not in the textbook. Students are responsible for material covered in class as well as for material in the textbook. Assignments will be announced and their due dates announced in class. This information, *and the assignments themselves*, will also be posted on D2L.

Schedule (subject to change, except for dates of exams):

Week 1	Jan 13	Introduction
	Jan 15	Chapter 1
Week 2	Jan 20	Ch. 1 (cont'd)
	Jan 22	Chapter 2
Week 3	Jan 27	Ch. 2 (cont'd)
	Jan 29	Chapter 3
Week 4	Feb 3	***Exam #1***
	Feb 5	Chapter 3 (cont'd)
Week 5	Feb 10	Chapter 4
	Feb 12	Ch. 4 (cont'd)
Week 6	Feb 17	NO CLASS (Reading week)
	Feb 19	NO CLASS (Reading week)
Week 7	Feb 24	Chapter 5
	Feb 26	***Exam #2***
Week 8	March 3	Chapter 6
	March 5	Chapter 7
Week 9	March 10	Ch. 7 (cont'd)
	March 12	Ch. 7 (cont'd)
Week 10	March 17	Ch. 7 (cont'd)
	March 19	NO CLASS (instructor away)
Week 11	March 24	***Exam #3***
	March 26	Chapter 10
Week 12	March 30	Ch. 10 (cont'd)
	April 2	Chapter 13
Week 13	April 7	Chapter 14
	April 9	Ch. 14 (cont'd) [Last day of class]
Week 14	April 14	NO CLASS - ***Final assignment due (by 4:00)***

Academic Honesty
Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic office, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment, an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw from the University. See the relevant sections on 'Academic Misconduct' in the current University Calendar. Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about correct referencing, consult your instructor.

Academic Accommodation
It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a permanent disability or temporary impairment who may require academic accommodation, you must first register with the Student Accessibility Resource Office located in MacEwan Student Centre 452; phone 403-220-8237; email access@ucalgary.ca. Students who have not registered with the Student Accessibility Office are not eligible for 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. Go to http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/ for further information.

D2L Help
Desire2Learn is the University of Calgary's learning management system which has now replaced BlackBoard. Go to http://www.elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/ for help in using Desire2Learn.

Student Advising and Information Resources

- General Academic Concerns and Program Planning– Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. Advisors in the ASC can also provide assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation. You can visit the Faculty of Arts website at http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/ for more information on common academic concerns.
- **Advice on Philosophy Courses** - You may find answers to your more specific questions about a philosophy degree on the Department of Philosophy's website http://phil.ucalgary.ca or contact one of Philosophy's current Undergraduate Advisors (see below)
- **Registration Overload/Prereq Waivers** – If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prereqs for a course, email the instructor of the course.

Protection of Privacy
The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. 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.

Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representatives
The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial, and confidential support for students who require assistance or advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. For more information, see www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds. For the Students' Union Faculty of Arts rep: arts1@ucalgary.ca.

Safewalk
Call 403-220-5333 (24/7/365) for a Safewalk volunteer to accompany you safely to your destination on campus including parking lots, housing, and the 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 2015:
Chris Framarin (Undergrad Director) chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca
Reid Buchanan buchanar@ucalgary.ca
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For assistance with registration issues in Philosophy courses, contact
Merlette Schnell (schnell@ucalgary.ca)