

PHILOSOPHY 232: LOGIC

Instructor: Dr. Larry Ort

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday Evenings, 7:30 – 8:30 PM and by appointment

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E-mail Guidelines: Please feel free to e-mail me at any time concerning questions about the course content or requirements. As a general rule, you should expect to hear back from me within a few hours (at most twelve to twenty-four hours). In the event I am going to be out of town for a couple of days, I will notify you in advance.

Please feel free to contact me to set up an appointment if you are having difficulty.

Textbook Information: We will be using **Aplia**, an online logic course program and electronic text available through **Coursemate**. **Instructions on purchasing the text and access to Aplia and Coursemate appear below.**

Text: Hurley, Patrick J., *A Concise Introduction to Logic*, 11th Edition

General Summary:

The course covers a variety of topics in logic, which is the study of the structure of arguments.

In the first half of the course, topics covered include “informal” logic, which is the study of arguments presented in English (as opposed to an artificial or symbolic language). The student will master key terminology, examine the nature of deductive and inductive arguments, and consider a number of informal fallacies.

In the second half of the course, we will consider “formal” logic, which is the study of argument forms that have been converted into an artificial language. We will begin with propositional logic, which forms the basis for digital computing, and then move to a deduction system in propositional logic, which forms the basis for computer programming.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of the course, the successful student will be able to

1. Define logical terms.
2. Distinguish between arguments and non-arguments.
3. Distinguish between inductive and deductive arguments.
4. Recognize and refute informal fallacies.

5. Translate propositions in English into symbolic form and determine their truth value.
6. Translate arguments in English into symbolic form and determine their truth value.
7. Translate arguments into symbolic form and test them by use of the methods of natural deduction and indirect proof.

Course Deliverables/Requirements

- I. **Threaded Discussions:** Each week will have one threaded discussion hosted on **JetNet Online**. You should make a minimum of three substantive entries (one initial contribution and two responses to other students). Each threaded discussion is worth **30 points** (3 entries at 10 points each). You will be graded on the extent to which you meet the following conditions:
 - a. Initial contribution post by Thursday.
 - b. Follow-up posts completed no later than Sunday, the close of the unit.
 - c. **Late posts will not be accepted.**
 - d. Follow the discussion and make the posts on different days.
 - e. Each post must make a substantive contribution to the discussion. Brief comments will not meet the requirements.
 - f. Engage other students in the discussion by commenting on their posts and/or asking questions.

- II. **Problem Sets:** Each unit has one or more problem sets that you will complete using **Aplia**. The set will be completed on line, and will consist of randomly generated questions. The number of points is assigned through Aplia and is listed with the assignment. **Please bear in mind that late work will not be accepted.**

- III. **Examinations:** Three examinations will be given (weeks 4, 8, and 12). The dates due are as follows: June 16th, July 14th, and August 11th. The examinations will be taken online via **Aplia**. The examinations will be posted the Friday before they are due. They will be randomly generated by the computer program, and they will cover everything studied during the four weeks prior to the exam. **Any student who maintains a 90% or above average on the graded problem sets is exempt from the examination. For scoring purposes, you will receive full points just as though you had taken the exam. Remember, 89.9% is ineligible! :)**

- IV. **Evidence of Consistent Use of CourseMate (Strategy for Success):** Approximately 10% of your grade will be based on evidence of your consistently using CourseMate as described in the **Approach to Learning Logic** document. If you carefully follow the instructions in this document, do the work, and meet the deadlines, you should meet with success in the course.

V.

Point Values		
Threaded Discussions	12 discussions at 30/discussion	360
Problem Sets	Variable	1880
Examinations	3 examinations at 200/examination	600
Use of CourseMate		300
Total Points		3140

Grading:

Your grade will be based on the Threaded Discussions, Problem Sets in Aplia, Examinations, and Evidence of Consistent Use of CourseMate. **Again note that late assignments will not be accepted.**

Your overall grade will be determined according to the following scale:

100	90	A	>2826 Points
89.99	87	A-	2736 - 2825
86.99	84	B+	2638 - 2735
83.99	81	B	2543 - 2637
80.99	78	B-	2449 - 2542
77.99	75	C+	2355 - 2448
74.99	72	C	2261 - 2354
71.99	68	C-	2135 - 2260
67.99	64	D+	2010 - 2134
63.99	59	D	1853 - 2009
58.99	0	F	< 1853

Attendance Policy

Your attendance will be monitored in terms of the assignments submitted. Most weeks will have two assignments, each consisting of various problem sets.

Plagiarism Policy:

Under NO circumstances are students permitted to plagiarize **(This includes copying and pasting information from web sites into the discussion board.)** If you take more than four words from a textbook or other published material (including web sites) you must use quotation marks and cite the source appropriately (using footnotes/endnotes/parenthetical noting, etc., AND a bibliography or works cited page).

Plagiarism is considered academic dishonesty and students whose work is plagiarized will receive a zero for their assignment/paper.

Incomplete Policy:

According to the JCC Student Handbook, "The incomplete is designed for passing students with extenuating circumstances to allow them to complete the course requirements after the semester or session has ended. You may receive an "I" if, in the opinion of the instructor, your work is sufficient in quality but is lacking in quantity to meet the course objectives specified in the course syllabus. The course objectives must be satisfactorily completed within six (6) weeks of the end of the term. If you have not finished the course within the designated time period, the "I" will remain permanently on your transcript. You will then have to register and repeat the course to receive a grade and credit for degree purposes.

The grade of "I" is not awarded to students who did not attend or seldom attended, or to those who simply are not pleased with their final grades. An "I" grade may be changed only upon the written request of the instructor who awarded the Incomplete."

The above is copied from: <http://www.jackson.cc.mi.us/Catalog/CATALOG.HTM#Drop>

In short, incompletes will be given at the discretion of the instructor. In the very least, to be eligible for an incomplete a student must have completed 2/3 of the required work for the semester and be in "good standing" in the course (2.0 or better).

Course Outline: Please see **JetNet Online** and **Aplia**.