

Irvine Valley College
Introduction to Logic - Philosophy 3 Online - Course Syllabus
Term: Spring 2012
Section: 61820

Instructor: Hollenberg

Office Location: via e-mail: rhollenberg@ivc.edu

Office Hours: via e-mail; e-mail is checked Monday through Thursday, starting the first day of class. **Allow 48 hours, counting Monday through Thursday only**, for a response to your e-mail.

Required Text: Hurley, Patrick J.; A Concise Introduction to Logic: Custom Edition; 10th edition; Belmont, CA; Thomson / Wadsworth, 2008.

Required CD-Rom : Hurley's, Learning Logic 5.0 (or 4.0) CD-Rom.

*You may buy other, older, or cheaper editions, but be aware that the discussion board problems may be different. This may or may not cause confusion, and could affect your quiz grades. The edition you purchase should have all of the chapters listed in the tentative schedule.

*An unabridged copy of the Hurley text will be on reserve in the library for those unable or unwilling to purchase the text. The 9th edition of the custom edition will be available as well. Please be aware that there are potentially a large number of students sharing this text.

Course Description: This introductory logic course will focus on informal and formal logic. Informal logic will focus on basic concepts in argumentation, and various types of inductive reasoning, as well as fallacies. During formal deductive logic, we will cover basic concepts of both categorical and propositional logic, including, but not limited to, categorical propositions and categorical syllogisms, and truth tables. All of the tools of formal deductive logic are designed to equip students to assess deductive arguments.

The course goals are to:

1. understand the basic concepts involved in arguments;
2. ascertain the components, (statements, premises, and conclusions) of arguments;
3. recognize the difference between arguments and non-arguments;
4. identify different types of arguments as deductive or inductive;
5. assess ordinary language deductive arguments as valid or invalid, and sound or unsound;
6. assess ordinary language inductive arguments as strong or weak, and cogent or uncogent;
7. ascertain the formal structure of arguments;
8. identify fallacies in ordinary language arguments;
9. name and describe the components of categorical propositions;
10. analyze the meanings of categorical propositions and the relationships between those propositions;
11. translate categorical propositions and categorical syllogisms to Venn diagrams;
12. evaluate the validity of arguments using Venn diagrams and the squares of opposition;
13. translate ordinary language statements into propositional logic; and
14. utilize various tools to determine the validity of deductive arguments.

Tentative Schedule: In order to do well in the course, it would be best for students to read the PowerPoint presentations, review the CD-Rom, and review the study guide, BEFORE participating in the discussion board. In addition, students should do all of the discussion board problems on their own, as well as read the discussion board, as they are designed to prepare the students for the exams.

Chapter 1, "Basic Concepts"

- 1.1 Arguments, Premises, and Conclusions
- 1.2 Recognizing Arguments
- 1.3 Deduction and Induction
- 1.4 Validity, Truth, Soundness, Strength, Cogency
- 1.5 Argument Forms: Proving Invalidity

Exam #1 – Chapter 1 – Wednesday, February 8

Chapter 3, "Informal Fallacies"

- 3.1 Fallacies in General
- 3.2 Fallacies of Relevance
- 3.3 Fallacies of Weak Induction

Exam #2 – Chapter 3 – Wednesday, February 29

Chapter 4, "Categorical Propositions"

- 4.1 The Components of Categorical Propositions
- 4.2 Quality, Quantity, and Distribution
- 4.3 Venn Diagrams & The Modern Square of Opposition
- 4.4 Conversion, Obversion, and Contraposition
- 4.5 The Traditional Square of Opposition
- 4.6 Venn Diagrams & The Traditional Standpoint

Exam #3 – Chapter 4 – Wednesday, April 4

Chapter 5, "Categorical Syllogisms"

- 5.1 Standard Form, Mood, and Figure
- 5.2 Venn Diagrams
- 5.3 Rules and Fallacies

Exam #4 – Chapter 5 – Wednesday, April 25

Chapter 6, "Propositional Logic"

- 6.1 Symbols and Translation
- 6.2 Truth Functions
- 6.3 Truth Tables for Propositions
- 6.4 Truth Tables for Arguments
- 6.5 Indirect Truth Tables

Exam # 5 – Chapter 6 – Wednesday, May 16

Class will not "meet" on the following dates: Monday, January 16, Martin Luther King Day; Friday, February 17 or Monday, February 20, Presidents' Days; Monday through Friday, March 12 through 16, Spring Recess.

Grading Policy:**Exams: 100% of grade**

The exams will be posted ONLY on the day that they are due. The exams will be posted no later than 9 a.m. and removed no later than 11:59 p.m. Adjust your schedules accordingly.

The exams will be multiple choice.

The lecture notes are at Blackboard in the form of PowerPoint presentations. Reading these notes before taking the exam, as well as reading the text, listening to the CD-ROM, doing the practice problems on the CD-ROM, reading and participating in the discussion board, and reading and understanding the study guides will help you to prepare for the exams.

If an exam is missed, or turned in late and thus treated as a missed exam, it may be made up at the end of the session during the same time as the final exam. There will be a 10% penalty for missing a quiz on the originally announced date, and taking it at the end of the session. The penalty will apply to EVERY quiz that is taken late.

Any and all makeup quizzes – Wednesday, May 16

The makeup exams are NOT for re-taking an exam that was already taken in order to improve your grade.

The discussion board will be used to assess borderline grades. Borderline grades are grades that are 1 point away from the next higher grade. Both the **QUALITY** and **quantity** of discussion board posts will be used to determine whether a grade will be raised. Notice the emphasis on the word "quality". The discussion board posts will have to be of a quality that warrants the higher grade. Regular discussion board posts equivalent to the higher grade will raise the grade. Discussion board posts equivalent to the lower grade will not raise the grade. Occasional discussion board posts will not change the grade one way or another. The idea is to participate regularly in the discussion board in such a way that illustrates your understanding of the material.

There will NOT be any extra credit offered.

Attendance:

The instructor reserves the right to potentially drop students who do not log on enough hours at Blackboard. Students should log on at least 3 hours per week. Missing 2 or more weeks may result in the student being withdrawn from the class. However, **it is the student's responsibility to withdraw from the class. If the final withdrawal date passes, students who have not completed the requirements of the course and who have not withdrawn, will fail.**

Points may be deducted for cyberstalking, inappropriate comments at the discussion board, or inappropriate e-mails sent to the instructor.

Cheating Policy

*Exams are individual projects.

*Do not use or refer to your book, the course web site, or any other web site when taking your exam. The exam is designed to test what you remember learning, not what you can look up and copy from another source.

*Those students who are found to be cheating will earn a 0 for the exam, may be referred to the dean of students, and will possibly be dropped from the class. Students who cheat on an exam may not take the makeup exam.

The quizzes and final course grade are based on the following rubric:

Exam Grading Scale:

A = 90 – 100 points

B = 80 – 89 points

C = 70 – 79 points

D = 60 – 69 points

F = 0 – 59 points

Course Grade Scale:

A = 90 – 100%

B = 80 – 89%

C = 70 – 79%

D = 60 – 69%

F = 0 – 59% points

Students with Disabilities:

Irvine Valley College makes reasonable accommodations for qualified students with documented disabilities. If you have a disability that qualifies under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), impacts your work for this class, and necessitates accommodations, you should contact Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSPS) at 949-451-5630 or Student Services Center SC 171 for information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by ADA may include learning, psychiatric, physical disabilities, or chronic health disorders, among others. Students can contact DSPS if they are uncertain whether a medical condition/disability qualifies or if they feel they may have a learning disability.