ELEMENTARY FORMAL LOGIC  PHIL203 (A01)

Explores the fundamentals of good reasoning by means of symbolic techniques in both propositional and predicate logic. Students will learn to translate English sentences into logical notation, as well as how to use truth tables and derivations to demonstrate the validity of arguments.

PLACE/TIME  ELL 167, Mon/Thu 1:00pm-2:20pm

INSTRUCTOR  DR Mike Raven (✉️ mike@mikeraven.net • ✉️ mikeraven.net)
OFFICE HOURS • CLE B323 Mon/Thu 2:30-3:30pm, or by appointment.

ASSISTANT  TBA (☎️)

COURSESPEACE  🍀 coursespaces.uvic.ca/course/view.php?id=22326 (Consult for all official course documents.)

TEXTS  Barker-Plummer, Barwise & Etchemendy, Language, Proof and Logic (2nd ed)
• Available in physical or digital form (✉️ ggweb.gradergrinder.net/store).
• An unused registration ID is needed and obtained by buying the text new.
(Used copies likely won’t have a usable ID, and so should be avoided.)
• When registering, write your name as it appears on University records.

QUESTIONS  Email questions about the content of the course to: logic.uvic@gmail.com

EVALUATION


WORK  ☀️ PROBLEM SETS (40%): 11 problem sets; lowest 1 dropped (4% each).
• Most problem sets are submitted online to Submit:
  — Problem sets may be submitted any time before their due dates.
  — Follow the problem set’s instructions to submit files.
  — When submitting to Submit, use logic.uvic@gmail.com.
  — Submitted files are graded automatically by the GradeGrinder software.

☐ CHECKPOINTS (20%): 20 reading comprehension quizzes; lowest 3 dropped (1.2% each).
• Complete these online at CourseSpace prior to the designated class.
  — Submissions are unlocked after the previous class ends.
  — Submissions are locked 30 minutes before the designated class starts.

♦ EXAMS (40%): 2 cumulative in class exams (weighted comparably).
• Exam 1 will be Monday February 24; Exam 2 will be Thursday April 2.
• Read Exam Study Guide posted on CourseSpace.

GRACE POINTS  A grace point can be used to delay a problem set’s due date by 1 day. Each student begins with 5. Points can be used in any combination at the students’ discretion (no justification needed). Points cannot be reused, traded, or earned.
• To use, click Add Text Message in Submit when submitting your problem set and write in the text box ‘Using # grace points’ (replace # with the number of grace points). This is the only acceptable way to use grace points.

LATENESS  No work submitted after a due date will be accepted, except for appropriate accessibility reasons (see ACCESSIBILITY).
Policies

Conduct

Enrolling binds you to a social contract with your instructor and classmates:

- **Be prepared**. Read the syllabus. Do the reading before class. Attend class.
- **Be respectful**. In class, don’t bully or distract.
- **Be professional**. Check sources first (don’t expect replies to questions answered by the syllabus). Follow etiquette. Allow time for replies.

Accessibility

Arrange accommodations with CAL. Other accommodation requests (e.g. extra credit, extensions, alternate/make-up work) will not be considered, except in extraordinary cases (instructor’s discretion) and when both the request and documentation are received within 3 days of the due date.

Privacy

Course documents are instructor’s intellectual property. Do not distribute. Recordings permitted only with instructor’s consent. Do not distribute.

Guests

Guests permitted only with instructor’s prior consent.

Integrity

Plagiarism and cheating are not tolerated. Ignorance is no excuse. Read:  
[web.uvic.ca/calendar2019-09/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html](web.uvic.ca/calendar2019-09/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html)

Additionally, GradeGrinder checks all submissions for plagiarism. Read:  
[ggweb.grade-grinder.net/grade-grinder/timestamps](ggweb.grade-grinder.net/grade-grinder/timestamps)

Schedule

Tentative: see website for updates.

Predicate Logic

**Jan**  
6 • All course documents  
9 • Introduction, 1.1-1.3  
13 • Validity and Soundness, 2.1, 2.5  
16  
20 • Boolean Connectives, 3.1-3.3, 3.5-3.7  
23 • Conditionals, 7.1-7.2  
27 • Truth Tables, 4.1-4.4  
30

**Feb**  
3 • Formal Proofs: Boolean Connectives, 2.2-2.4, 6.1-6.6  
6  
10 • Formal Proofs: Conditionals, 8.2, 8.4  
13 • Catch-up and Review  
17 NO CLASS (READING BREAK)  
20 NO CLASS (READING BREAK)  
24 ✦ Exam #1

First-Order Logic

**Mar**  
27 • Introduction to Quantifiers, 9.1-9.6  

**Apr**  
2 ✦ Exam #2

Due: Problem Set 1  
Due: Problem Set 2  
Due: Problem Set 3  
Due: Problem Set 4  
Due: Problem Set 5  
Due: Problem Set 6  
Due: Problem Set 7  
Due: Problem Set 8  
Due: Problem Set 9  
Due: Problem Set 10  
Due: Problem Set 11