



SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**Philosophy Programme
Phil 211: Introduction to Logic**

TRIMESTER 1 2011
28 February to 2 July 2011

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 28 February to 3 June 2011

Mid-trimester: 18 April to 1 May 2011

Study week: 6–10 June 2011

Examination/Assessment period: 10 June to 2 July 2011

Please note: Students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

Names and contact details

Ed Mares (Course Coordinator)

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Office Hours: by appointment

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Tutor: Agata Orłowicz

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Office Hours: TBA

Class times and locations

Lecture Times: 10:00 am – 10:50 am, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

Lecture Venue: Murphy lecture theatre (MY)220.

Tutorial Times: Tutorial times and locations, along with sign-up forms, will be posted on Blackboard in the first week of lectures.

Course delivery

This course will be taught by Dave Gilbert and John Matthewson. There will be three lectures and one tutorial session per week. Primary course content will be delivered during lectures. The tutorial sessions are intended as an opportunity for students to work through problems with an instructor. Students are expected to take a hands-on approach to tutorials.

Communication of additional information

Any additional information or notices about this course will be posted on the Blackboard site for this course.

Course content

The primary focus of this course is the rigorous assessment of argument structures using the methods of symbolic logic. This will involve learning how to symbolise arguments and determine their validity through the use of truth tables, truth trees, and the construction of appropriate models.

Learning objectives

Students who pass this course will understand the basics of propositional and predicate calculus. This includes the translation of arguments from English into a formal language (and vice versa), the construction and evaluation of truth tables and truth trees, and an understanding of how these are interrelated. In addition, students who successfully complete this course will be prepared to take higher level logic papers.

Expected workload

University guidelines suggest that each course point equates to ten hours of work. Since this course is 20 points, the average student should expect a total of 200 hours of work for the entire course. This equates to approximately 13 hours per week. This includes the time spent in lectures and tutorials, with the rest spent preparing assignments, reading the course-book, and revising for tests and exams.

Readings

Essential texts:

Roderic A. Girle, *Introduction to Logic*, Auckland, Prentice Hall, 2008 (2nd ed.)

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 7 February to 11 March 2011, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of Vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from Vicbooks on Level 3 of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Assessment requirements

There will be two in-class tests (50 minutes, 15% of total course marks each), eight homework assignments (2.5 percent each, total 20%), and a final exam (50%).

The first test will be on April 1st during lecture time. The second test will be on May 13th during lecture time. The tests will act as indication of the students' grasp of the material covered in the early stages of the course.

There is an assignment due on the Friday of every teaching week except the first, last, and test weeks. These assignments are intended to ensure that students practice the required skills and application of concepts as they go. They will be made available on Blackboard and in the lecture the week before the due date.

Completed assignments must be in the course drop-box by 4:15 pm. The location of the drop-box will be announced in the first lecture (and posted on Blackboard). Late assignments will not be accepted, and will receive a mark of 0.

The final examination will be a three hour, closed book, registry-administered examination. The date of the examination is set later in the trimester by the registrar but will fall within the date range indicated above.

Penalties

Late homework assignments will not be accepted, and will receive a mark of 0.

Mandatory course requirements

None.

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator, and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

Statement on legibility

Students are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', the options are:

- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame after which penalties will apply;
- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) and lateness penalties apply;
- if the student does not transcribe it to an acceptable standard, the work will be accepted as 'received' (so any associated mandatory course requirements are met) but not marked.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.