



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMME  
PHIL 211: Introduction to Logic**

**TRIMESTER 2 2012  
16 July to 17 November 2012**

**Trimester dates**

Teaching dates: 16 July to 19 October 2012  
Mid-trimester break: 27 August to 9 September 2012  
Study week: 22–26 October 2012  
Examination/Assessment Period: 26 October to 17 November 2012

**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 above.*

**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**

Course Coordinator: Professor Ed Mares  
Room No.: Murphy (MY) 618  
Email: [ed.mares@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:ed.mares@vuw.ac.nz)  
Office hours: Mondays 1-2 or by apt.

Lecturer: Dr Cei Maslen  
Room No.: Murphy (MY) 707  
Email: [cei.maslen@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:cei.maslen@vuw.ac.nz)  
Office hours: Tuesdays 1-2 or by apt.

**Class times and locations**

Can be found on the Victoria website at:  
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/subjects/coursecatalogue.aspx>  
It is advisable to check the above for any changes to the timetable programme.

**Lecture Time:** Monday, Wednesday, 2.10 – 4.00 pm  
**Lecture Venue:** Monday Laby (LB) LT118  
Wednesday Hunter (HU) LT119

**Tutorials**

Tutorial times are to be announced. Students may sign up for tutorials on Blackboard and will be told how to do so in lecture.

**Teaching learning summary**

This course will involve two two-hour lectures per week and one fifty-minute tutorial. Students are encouraged to take part in discussion.

**Communication of additional information**

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and tutorial programme will be announced in lectures, and posted on the PHIL 211 Blackboard site.

**Course prescription**

An introduction to the analysis of arguments using the methods of symbolic logic. Students are introduced to the use of techniques such as truth tables, trees and natural deduction to test arguments for validity.

**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 be able to:

1. 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.
2. will be prepared to take higher level logic courses.

**Graduate attributes**

As with all Philosophy courses, learning objectives of this course contribute to the attainment of specific attributes in the areas of logical and critical thinking, conceptual analysis and rational and ethical decision-making. For more details please consult our website <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/hppi/about/overview-of-the-school/phil-overview#grad-attributes>

**Expected workload**

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to PHIL 211 throughout the trimester. This includes weekly attendance at lectures, completion of all set weekly readings and research and writing for set assessment tasks.

**Readings****Set texts:**

Roderic A Girle, *Introduction to Logic*, Auckland, Prentice Hall, 2002 (either 1st or 2nd edition is fine), available from vicbooks, Student Union Building.

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 9–27 July 2012, 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 4 of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto: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), four homework assignments (5 % each, total 20%), and a final exam (50%).

The first test will be on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August during lecture time. The second test will be on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September during lecture time. The tests will act as indication of the students' grasp of the material covered in the early stages of the course.

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).

The final examination will be a three hour, closed book examination. The date of the examination is set later in the trimester but will fall within the date range indicated below.

Examination dates for the second trimester 2012 are Friday 26 October to Saturday 17 November 2012 – see also Trimester Dates above.

### **Penalties**

Philosophy Programme policy stipulates that late submission of essays is penalised. **Students lose 5% for the first day late and 2% thereafter for a maximum of 10 weekdays.** After 10 days, work can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked. Extensions may be granted in exceptional circumstances, but **all extensions require the student to provide documentation.** If granted an extension, students must agree to a new due date. Contact your lecturer as soon as a problem emerges. Extension forms are available in the School office.

### **Mandatory course requirements**

There are no mandatory course requirements.

### **Return of marked course work**

Essays and tests will be returned at times to be advised. If students fail to attend these times, they may collect their essay from the School Office, Room 518, Murphy Building between the hours of 2.00 and 3.00 pm from Monday to Friday and must show their Student ID card before collection.

### **Class representative**

A class representative will be elected in the first week, 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.

### **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>

### **Use of Turnitin**

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

### **Where to find more detailed information**

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study). Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress.aspx>. Most statutes and policies are available at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy](http://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](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx) (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the Academic Office website, at

[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/avcacademic](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic).