

PHILOSOPHY 12: INTRODUCTION TO LOGIC

Course Syllabus

Fall Semester 2016

Long Beach City College



LONG BEACH
CITY COLLEGE

Class Meetings: M, W 4:00 pm – 5:25 pm, T1311

Instructor: Michael Monge

Class number 70089

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Website: www.monge.net/phil12mm/

Text: *Logic for Beginners*, 2nd edition by Michael J. Monge



Course Student Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

1. Analyze the components of arguments and types of arguments.
2. Distinguish between examples of deductive and inductive arguments.
3. Evaluate inductive arguments for strength, cogency, and/or presence of fallacies in speeches and text.
4. Evaluate deductive arguments for validity, soundness, and the presence of fallacies.

- Competently use basic logical terms, such as valid and sound, and be able to apply them.
- Demonstrate proficiency in identifying, explicating, and criticizing arguments.
- Recognize and avoid using common fallacies.
- Use proof techniques, including Venn diagrams and Truth Tables, to decisively establish validity.
- Use symbolic representations to capture and evaluate arguments based on truth-functional logic.
- Apply these techniques to actual arguments which they may encounter in their lives, whether in the academic world or outside it.

Grading: Exams will be taken on scantron forms 886E, and will include true/false and multiple-choice type questions, as well as problems for which written work must be shown. Each exam will be subject to a curve, if appropriate. The final exam will include material from throughout the entire course. If you participate regularly in the class, and thus enrich the educational experience for the rest of the students, you may receive up to an additional point and a half, so you might still receive an A for an 88.5%.

Percent value for each exercise	
45%	Mid-term exams (3 of 4)
35%	Final Exam
15%	Quizzes
5%	Attendance
(50%)	Optional Paper

Final Grade Scale	
90%-100%	A
80%-89.9%	B
70%-79.9%	C
60%-69.9%	D
Below 60%	F

Homework and Assignments: Homework will be assigned, generally every day. It will not be graded, but I may collect it on occasion. Your completion of homework may be used as a basis to judge participation. This class is a collaborative effort by all students and as such homework assignments, written essays, and quizzes might be examined, corrected, and even graded by other students, for everyone's benefit. Please inform me at the beginning of the semester if you have any objections to this policy.

Attendance and Participation: I expect you to attend all of the scheduled class meetings. Your attendance will count as 5% of your grade. You may miss three classes without affecting this portion of your grade, but for any absence beyond this you will lose one percentage point. You may be dropped from the class if your attendance grade reaches zero. *Showing up after roll has been taken will count as one half of an absence.* I will generally take roll at the beginning of class. If you are tardy, it is your responsibility to inform me at the end of class.

Make-up work: There will be no make-up exams. Your lowest mid-term exam score will be dropped. Don't worry about missing quizzes; your grade will only reflect quizzes which you take. When absent, you may obtain the assignment on the day you return to class, and then turn in the assignment the following class period. Otherwise, no assignments will be accepted late.

Drop Policy and Distractions: It is your responsibility to drop this course. See below for relevant dates. If you fail to drop yourself and do not complete the course, you will likely receive an 'F' for the course. Although it is your responsibility to drop the course, you may be dropped if your attendance grade reaches zero. All students have a right to an undisturbed and undistracted learning experience, and so all disruptions or distractions in the classroom will be considered a violation of this right. You will receive one warning for the entire semester for any distraction or

disruption you cause, which includes, but is not limited to, a ringing cell phone. On the second offense, you will lose your attendance point for the day. On your third violation, you will be asked to leave the classroom for the day.

Students with Disabilities: Students who believe that they have some disability and that they are entitled to academic accommodations should notify me and contact Disabled Students Programs and Services. They are located in A-1134, and their phone number is (562) 938-4558, TTY (562) 938-4833. They can also be reached online at dspd.lbcc.edu. I would be happy to work with any student who is academically disadvantaged in any way.

Free Tutoring: Your professor is willing to meet with students outside of class. Just ask, and we will try to schedule a meeting. Free tutoring for this class and others may also be available from the PCC Multidisciplinary Success Center. They are located in EE-206, and their phone number is (562) 938-3991. You can also find them online at the following website: <http://lbcc.edu/SuccessCenters/pccmultidisciplinary.cfm>.

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on exams, plagiarism, copying assignments, and collaborating on an assignment without explicit permission. Punishment for academic dishonesty can range from getting a zero on the assignment to expulsion. Please review your school's policies regarding academic dishonesty, or ask me if you have any questions.

Note: For me to assign you a grade means I am certifying that you have earned it. I cannot give you a grade unless I am confident that you have completed the assignment on your own. This means that if I have presumptive evidence that you have cheated on an assignment, or that the work is not your own, then I have the right to withhold a grade for the assignment, which would be equivalent to a zero for the assignment. I do not have to prove that you cheated in order to give you a zero for an assignment. In this event, I will work with you if you think you can demonstrate that the work was your own.

Incompletes: Incomplete grades will be assigned only in the case of documented medical emergencies. Otherwise each student will receive a zero for any incomplete assignments, and the appropriate grade will be recorded.

Tacit Agreement to the Syllabus: *Should you disagree to any of the policies in this syllabus, you may withdraw yourself from the course and take the course with another professor. If you remain enrolled in the course, you are tacitly agreeing to be bound by all policies, procedures, and guidelines stated in the syllabus. See your school catalog for more details of your rights and responsibilities.*

Tentative Schedule: Underlined dates are holidays. Do the assigned reading BEFORE the class meeting.

Week	Days	Topics	Reading Assignments
Week #1	8/29, 31	Introduction to the course / Truth, Logic and the Difference / Recognizing arguments	Chapters 1 / 2
Week #2	9/5, 7	<u>Labor Day</u> / Standard form arguments / Classifying arguments	Chapter 4
<u>9/6</u> Last Day to Drop, request a refund and without a "W" on your transcript			
Week #3	9/12, 14	Classifying arguments / Evaluating deductive and inductive arguments	Chapters 5 / 6 / 7
Week #4	9/19, 21	Evaluating arguments / First Exam	
Week #5	9/26, 28	Categorical statements / Square of Opposition	Chapters 8 / 9
Week #6	10/3, 5	Statement Operations / Circle of Opposition	Chapters 10 / 11
Week #7	10/10, 12	Categorical Syllogisms / Translation into Standard Form	Chapters 12 / 13
Week #8	10/17, 19	Second Exam / Truth Functional Connectives	Chapter 14
Week #9	10/24, 26	Compound statements / Propositional agreement and conflict	Chapters 15 / 16
Week #10	10/21, 11/4	Truth tables for arguments / Indirect truth tables	Chapters 17 / 18
Week #11	11/7, <u>9</u>	Common argument forms / Third Exam	Chapter 19
Week #12	11/14, 16	Inductive arguments / Rhetorical Pitfalls	Chapters 23 / 24
<u>11/14</u> Last Day to Drop with a "W" on transcript			
Week #13	11/21, 23	Argumentative fallacies / Disputational Fallacies	Chapters 25 / 26
Week #14	11/28, 30	Fourth Exam / Logic Puzzles	Chapter 27
Week #15	12/5, 7	Logic puzzles / Advanced logic preview	Chapter 28
Week #16	<u>12/12, 14</u>	Final Exam week	

I do my best with grading deadlines, but you should check with Admissions for the official dates.