

Phil 203: Elementary Formal Logic

Syllabus

Course Information:

Instructor: Dr. Audrey Yap (ayap@uvic.ca)

This course can be completed entirely asynchronously and online. However, there will be *optional* Zoom and in-person sessions each week. You are encouraged to attend at least one session per week to supplement the online material.

Zoom Tutorial Session: T 10:30am{11:20am.

In-Person Tutorial Sessions: WF 10:30am{11:20am (location TBA)

Office Hours: T/Th 9:30am{10:20am on Zoom (sign up required)

Course Website: Through Brightspace (<https://bright.uvic.ca/d2l/home>)

Textbook: Abridged Version of <http://forallx.openlogoproject.org/> PDF copy available through the course website. We will also use free web-based software at <https://carnap.io/>.

Course Description:

This is an introductory course in formal logic that covers the use of symbolic techniques for the analysis and construction of good arguments. Proofs in formal logic mirror the structure of good arguments in English generally, so to construct them, we learn about good methods of inference. Not every method of reasoning results in a valid argument, so it is useful to learn about ways of differentiating good from bad methods. Since this course covers the basics of modern symbolic logic, it is extremely useful for any students who might want to any

Course Logistics:

All lectures and graded activities for the course can be completed completely asynchronously. This means that there are no particular times of day when you need to watch course videos, post in discussion forums, or complete your assigned work. There are still regular deadlines for completing your assigned work, though, so you will still be expected to keep up with what we are covering on any given week. The textbook is available on the course website as a downloadable PDF file. Weekly quizzes and tests will be posted on the course website, and will be completed using a system called <http://carnap.io/>. This will not require you to download any software, as

Office Hours: I will be available for office hours on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. My default platform for office hours will be Zoom, but if that does not work for you, please feel free to email me in advance to suggest an alternative. You will need to schedule an appointment beforehand using the following link: <https://calendly.com/ayap/office>. Appointments can be scheduled in 15 minute blocks, up to a week in advance. If you are working with a study group and would like to attend office hours as a group, simply designate one person to reserve the appointment slot, and let me know who else will be attending.

Graded Items: In order to supplement my practice questions, and the ones from the book, you will also be generating practice questions for each other. You can receive up to 8 marks for engagement by posting original (not duplicates of textbook questions or those in the practice assignments) practice questions and solutions for your classmates on the course discussion forums. Guidelines for the questions and solutions will be posted for each forum. At the end of each week, there will also be either a problem set on the week's material (4% - 8 total) or a unit test (15% - 4 total) covering the last several weeks of material. These will be completed on carnap.io, and are untimed, which means that they only need to be turned in by the due date.

Academic Integrity: You are welcome and encouraged to discuss course material with others in your class, and work through modules and practice questions together. However, you are not allowed to provide the solutions for someone else's problem sets or tests, or vice versa. If you are ever unsure about what constitutes a violation of academic integrity, more information is provided on the University Calendar: <http://web.uvic.ca/calendar/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html>.

Extensions: If you are unable to attend a class, please email me at ayap@uvic.ca to request an extension. Extensions will be granted on a case-by-case basis. Please note that extensions are not granted for missed assignments or tests.

Grading Breakdown:

Gradable Item	Description	Value
Engagement	Posting practice questions on the course discussion boards.	1% x 8 weeks = 8%
Problem Sets	Questions about the week's material	4% x 8 problem sets = 32%
Unit Tests	Non-cumulative test on material from the whole unit.	15% x 4 tests = 60%
		Total = 100%

Accessibility:

If you notice any additional accessibility issues with respect to this class, please let me know and I will do my best to solve them. I would also encourage any students who might benefit from their services to yj@213d.uw5m8/T1_1 will

Schedule of Topics:

- Week One: Short week | Sep 8{12
Topic: Introduction to Arguments and Formal Logic (Chap 1-2)
- Week Two: Sep 13{19
Topic: Symbolizing English (Chap 4-6)
Practice Questions posted by Sep 16
Problem Set One completed by Sep 19
- Week Three: Sep 20{26
Topic: Introduction to Truth Tables (Chap 8-10)
Practice Questions posted by Sep 23
Problem Set Two completed by Sep 26
- Week Four: Sep 27{Oct 3
Topic: Truth Tables, Continued (Chap 11-13)
Practice Questions posted by Sep 30
Test One (Translation and Truth Tables) completed by Oct 3
- Week Five: Oct 4{10
Topic: Natural Deduction (Chap 14-15)
Practice Questions posted by Oct 7
Problem Set Three completed by Oct 12
- Week Six: Oct 11{17 (Thanksgiving is Oct 12)
Topic: Natural Deduction (Chap 15-16)
Practice Questions posted by Oct 14
Problem Set Four completed by Oct 17
- Week Seven: Oct 18{24
Topic: Natural Deduction (Chap 16)
Practice Questions posted by Oct 21
Test Two (Natural Deduction) completed by Oct 24
- Week Eight: Oct 25{31
Topic: Introduction to First-Order Logic (Chap 21-22)
Practice Questions posted by Oct 29
Problem Set Five completed by Oct 31
- Week Nine: Nov 1{7
Topic: More Complex Translations (Chap 23-24)
Practice Questions posted by Nov 4
Problem Set Six completed by Nov 7

- Week Ten: Nov 8-14 (Reading Break is Nov 10-12)
Topic: Grammar Review for FOL (Chap 25)
Practice Questions posted by Nov 14
Test Three completed by Nov 14
- Week Eleven: Nov 15{21
Topic: Truth and Interpretations in FOL (Chap 27-28)
Practice Questions posted by Nov 18
Problem Set Seven completed by Nov 21
- Week Twelve: Nov 22{28
Topic: Natural Deduction for FOL (Chap 32-33)
Practice Questions posted by Nov 25
Quiz Eight completed by Nov 28
- Week Thirteen: Nov 30-Dec 5
Topic: Natural Deduction for FOL (Chap 34-36)
Practice Questions posted by Dec 2
Test Four completed by Dec 5