PHIL 2050.001
Fall 2006
MW 1-1:50 p.m.

Dr. Wilkerson
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565-2256
Office: ENV 320C
Hrs: M 2-3 p.m.

INTRODUCTION TO LOGIC

Course Description: This course focuses on critical thinking. By emphasizing the structures and principles of argumentation, *Philosophy 2050: Introduction to Logic* seeks to help students develop the skills necessary both for making their own sound arguments and for evaluating fairly and reasonably the arguments of others. In order to achieve these goals, which are essential for the success of a democratic society, we will highlight deductive and inductive modes of practical reasoning in natural language, offer a careful study of common fallacies, and build a solid foundation for understanding the formal rules of categorical and prepositional logic. Over the course of the semester, students will also gain a working knowledge of Truth tables, Venn diagrams, and various Rules of Inference. And, as with all of our studies, this knowledge will be directed toward the practical aim of being able to recognize the difference between arbitrary judgments and those based upon well-reasoned premises and well-constructed formal structures.

Required Text: Patrick J. Hurley's *A Concise Introduction to Logic* (9th edition); new copies of this text include the useful *Hurley's Logic CD-ROM*, which is highly recommended; the course *Study Guide* contains a brief summary of each chapter and additional exercises for practice; the workbook is recommended but not required.

Course Requirements: Students are expected to keep up to date with all of the assigned readings and Exercises. Students will take five quizzes and a final exam. The quizzes will each count 17.5% towards the final grade, with the lowest quiz score being dropped. The final exam will count 25% towards the final grade, and a student participation grade for the Thursday and Friday Recitation sections will make up the remaining 5%. Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes. Excessive absenteeism (i.e. 5 or more absences) will lead to a loss of points in the final evaluation.

Weekly Schedule

Week:

1-3	Chapter One: "Basic Concepts"/Chapter Two (2.1, 2.3, and 2.4) QUIZ: THURSDAY/FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 AND 15
4-5	Chapter Three: "Informal Fallacies" QUIZ: THURSDAY/FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 AND 29

(OVER)

6-8	Chapter Four: “Categorical Propositions” QUIZ: THURSDAY/FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19 AND 20
9-11	Chapter Five: “Categorical Syllogisms” QUIZ: THURSDAY/FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9 AND 10
12-14	Chapter Six: “Propositional Logic” QUIZ: THURSDAY/FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30 AND DECEMBER 1
15	REVIEW
16	**FINAL EXAM: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13 AT 10:30 A. M.**