PHIL 2050
Summer I, 2007
MTWTh, 10-11:50am
EESAT/ENV, rm. 391

Instructor: Nathan Bell
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Hrs: MTWTh, 12-1pm, or by appt.

INTRODUCTION TO LOGIC

Course Description: This course focuses on introducing you to the principles of logical argumentation, with a focus on both abstract logical principles and "real world" arguments, as well as applying the former to the latter. At the end of this course, you should be able to use logical principles to evaluate the arguments that one encounters throughout the media and everyday life. Arguments appear just about everywhere; the things you learn in this course should help you no matter your chosen field of study.

Required Text: Hurley's *A Concise Introduction to Logic* (9th edition). This book contains the majority of the information to be discussed in the course, and should be brought to every class session. New copies contain a corresponding CD-Rom, which is a valuable study tool. Additional materials (beyond the Hurley text) will be provided.

Course Requirements and Grading:

1) 15% - *Quizzes* – Short quizzes will be given throughout the course to mark off significant blocks of material. These quizzes will be short and should be easy for anyone who has attended class regularly and paid attention.
2) 30% - *Written Assignments* (3 at 10% each) – There will be three written assignments due for this course, in which you are to take an argument for one side of a debatable issue and evaluate the argument. The due dates for each of these will be given once enough material to evaluate arguments has been covered.
2) 30% – *Exams* (2 at 15% each) – There will be two longer exams which will consist of both multiple choice and short answer questions. These will be significantly more difficult than the short quizzes, and are meant to test your mastery of the material. You will always be given two days notice of an exam.
3) 25% - *Final Exam* – There will be a comprehensive final exam, which will test your knowledge of and ability to apply the logical principles covered in class. Due to the difficulty of comprehensive exams, there will be at least half of one class session devoted to review for the final. The final will take place during the Friday of the 5th (and last) week of class.

Class Schedule: The course meets Monday through Thursday, from 10 am until 11:50 am. There will be no class on July 4th. There will be an exam on July 6th, the last day of the Summer I semester.

The *tentative* course schedule is as follows:

Part 1: Critical Thinking *Basic Concepts* -Separating arguments from non-arguments -Deduction vs. Induction -Validity, Strength, Cogency -Diagramming Arguments	*A Concise Introduction to Logic*, Ch. 1	Week 1
Evaluating Arguments -Evaluating Argument Forms Dependent Reasoning Independent Reasoning Missing Premises(Enthymemes) Missing Conclusions	*ACIL*, Ch. 1 (Sec. 6) Additional Materials	Week 2
-Evaluating Content/Premises Language and Meaning Informal Fallacies -Application to Real Arguments *EXAM 1 (tentative)*	*ACIL*, Ch. 2, 3	Week 3
Part 2: Symbolic Logic *Ordinary Language Translation* -Translating arguments to propositional form *Truth Tables* -Extended Truth Tables Evaluating Statements Evaluating Arguments -Indirect Truth Tables Evaluating Arguments	*ACIL*, Ch. 6	Week 4
Argument Proofs -Setting up proofs -Rules of inference *EXAM 2 (tentative)*	Additional Materials	Week 5
Review Session	All Course Material	
FINAL EXAM		Friday, July 6th