PHIL 2305-D10 LOGIC AND CRITICAL REASONING
ONLINE ASYNCHRONOUS COURSE OFFERED THROUGH BLACKBOARD
FALL 2019
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY

PROFESSOR

Name: Dr. Badiola
Office: RAS 219
Email: sbadiola@angelo.edu
Office Phone: (325) 486-6105
Office Hours: MW: 11:00AM-2:00PM;
TR: 11:00AM-12:00PM

Do not hesitate to contact me during regular office hours. You can come and visit, call me or send me an email. Let me know if we need to schedule an appointment for a different time that is convenient for both. Please allow me 24 hours to respond to your emails before you feel abandoned. I will be happy to assist you with any difficulty you may have regarding the course or any question about a particular issue.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Why do we find people convincing? Why do we prefer certain arguments? What does it mean to say that an idea follows from another? Can we learn to think better? By learning logic we learn the tools for good thinking since we become aware of the rules governing the structure of our thought. This course provides the means to distinguish good from bad arguments, to evaluate problems and the solutions to them, and to identify fallacies and non-reasonable conclusions.

The course consists of two parts: informal logic, which deals with natural language, critically explores arguments used in ordinary life to see strengths and weaknesses in the way we support our beliefs. The second part of the class is formal logic, which translates arguments into symbolic form. This type of logic is more abstract and explores the laws of deductive arguments. We will learn the basics of syllogistic or categorical logic (chapter 9), and truth-functional logic or propositional logic (chapter 10).

COURSE OBJECTIVES (See learning objectives by chapter below)

1. To help students improve their analytical skills so their thinking and writing can get better
2. To help develop fundamental philosophical skills, such as examination and critique of arguments to better produce their own
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (IDEA)

Upon completion of this course, you will:
✓ Gain factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends)
✓ Learn to apply course material (to improve thinking, reading, and listening)
✓ Develop skills in expressing yourself orally or in writing
✓ Learn to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view

STUDENT LEARNING ASSESSMENT

Student learning assessment will be measured by homework, essays, a final exam, and participation in some group work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Type</th>
<th>Weight as a Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LearnSmart</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (2)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation (discussion boards, peer review, and two mandatory group sessions)</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Both tests allow for two attempts. The final grade will be the higher of the two.
Late submissions will be penalized (5% off per late day) unless extension has been granted.
Make up tests and homework extensions will only be allowed if you contact me at least 24 hours before the deadline.
Discussion Board activities and group work cannot be given extensions on individual basis.
You are required to participate in TWO group sessions via Blackboard Collaborate. More information will be provided in due course.

As a rule, please contact me BEFORE the deadline if you foresee any problems meeting deadlines.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

- The first option: looseleaf with Connect Plus: ISBN 9781259916472
- Second option: Connect Plus only with access to LearnSmart: ISBN 9781259845772
Other Required materials:

- Computer with a MAC or Windows operating System, Microsoft Office Word
- High Speed Internet
- Webcam (optional)
- For further technology requirements, please visit: http://www.angelo.edu/distance_education/

If you have general technical issues please contact the IT Helpdesk at 325-942-2911 or 1-800-942-2911. You can also email them at helpdesk@angelo.edu. For technical issues regarding Connect (interface for all assignments, and LearnSmart) call: (800) 331-5094

Required students’ skills:

- No prior knowledge of philosophy or logic is required for this course
- Some basic computer skills will be expected, such as writing documents in Word processor or equivalent. Also the course will be delivered through Blackboard and thus the student is expected to feel comfortable with the platform and encouraged to navigate until this is so
- Patience and a sense of humor are highly recommended

GENERAL CLASS RULES

- KEEP UP WITH THE MATERIAL: As an online student, you can choose when to work. But you will need to work. Read the assigned chapters from your book, study key concepts, and learn to apply what you have read through the material provided for each unit. All assignments are made available. You can start working early, save your work, and submit it when you are ready. If you
wait until an assignment is due to start working on the chapter, you may find the amount of work overwhelming

- PARTICIPATE: Active engagement with other members of the class and with me is a vital component of the philosophical learning experience. Participation in blogs or Discussion Boards will help you understand the material and share joys and sorrows with others. Please do not wait until the last minute to complete your contribution to class discussions. It is supposed to be an ongoing process. In fairness to others, you should plan ahead and be an active member of the class. Communicating with me is also considered a form of participation. This category makes up 15% of your final grade

- CHECK BLACKBOARD FREQUENTLY: It is your responsibility to check due dates for all assignments and to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I have set the calendar on Blackboard so you can see at a glance (check month view) what is due. Also the schedule offers an overview of all due assignments. I will communicate with you as a group or as an individual throughout the semester. I may use Blackboard or regular email (please make sure to check the angelo.edu account). Being in touch means checking no less than three days a week

- CONTACT ME. Online does not mean “on your own”. I will be more than happy to discuss the material with you or any other concern that you may have. Please contact me before any assignment is due if you will not be able to meet the deadline. Let me know if your preferred name is not the same as the one on the roster or about your preferred gender pronoun. Please check my office hours and make sure to make an appointment with me if you cannot make it during those times

- NETIQUETTE: Be respectful when you address other people (either other students or me). You may disagree with what other people are defending. The challenge is to show the weaknesses in their arguments and to build better ones. Insults do not make good arguments. Attack arguments, not people. Also when you send me an email, remember my name (Dr. Badiola) and make sure you tell me yours. Always keep in mind the golden rule of cyberspace: Never say online what you would not say face to face.

THE ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY HONOR CODE

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook.

In other words, when you submit your work, you claim that the work is yours. If someone else wrote it for you or you got it from someone else (internet, other student’s class…), then you are not the author and thus will get a zero for that assignment. Any idea which is not yours should be properly referenced.

Title IX
DISABILITIES

Please let me know if you have any special need due to any learning disability. Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

ATTENTION

All students need to send me an email acknowledging that they have read the syllabus and agree with its terms. Please write your name on the subject line and let me know you are ready to start doing logic! sbadiola@angelo.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Units and Readings</th>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>LO</th>
<th>Assignments &amp; Activities Contributing to a Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit 1</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Introduce yourself by 8/30 at midnight Orientation sessions 8/28 @2:00PM or 8/29 @11:00PM or 8/30 @12:00PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some Basics about Critical Thinking</td>
<td>8/26-9/3</td>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>LearnSmart and HW1 Due by 9/3 at 11:59 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
<td>9/3-9/10</td>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>LearnSmart and HW2 Due by 9/10 at 11:59 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
<td>9/10-9/17</td>
<td>1-5</td>
<td>LearnSmart and HW3 Due by 9/17 at 11:59 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>*Assignment “First Draft” due by 9/26 at 11:59PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credibility and Rhetoric</td>
<td>9/17-9/24</td>
<td>1-5</td>
<td>LearnSmart and HW4 Due by 9/24 at 11:59 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
<td>9/24-10/1</td>
<td>1-8</td>
<td>LearnSmart and HW5 Due by 10/1 at 11:59 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit 3</td>
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<td>*Discussion Board #1 (Units 1 &amp; 2) closes on 10/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Formal and Informal Fallacies</td>
<td>10/1-10/8</td>
<td>1-7</td>
<td>*Peer Review for essay due by 10/10 at 11:59PM</td>
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<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<td>LearnSmart and HW6 Due by 10/8 at 11:59 PM</td>
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<td>Chapter 7</td>
<td>10/8-10/15</td>
<td>1-7</td>
<td>LearnSmart and HW7 Due by 10/15 at 11:59 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
<td>10/15-10/22</td>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>LearnSmart and HW8 Due by 10/22 at 11:59 PM</td>
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</tbody>
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| Review | **Unit 4:** Formal Deductive Logic: Categorical logic and Truth Functional Logic  
Chapter 9  
Chapter 10 | **10/22-10/29**  
**10/29-11/12**  
**11/12-11/26** | **1-5**  
**1-4** | *Discussion Board #2 (unit 3) closes on 10/24  
Test 1 on units 1, 2 and 3 due on 10/29 (11:59 PM)  
*Assignment “Final Draft” due by 11/7 (11:59 PM)  
*Discussion Board #3 (unit 4) closes on 11/28  
LearnSmart and HW9 Due by 11/12 at 11:59 PM  
LearnSmart and HW10 Due by 11/26 at 11:59 PM |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Unit 5** More about Inductive reasoning  
Chapter 11* (Skip last 3 sections)  
Review | **11/26-12/3**  
**12/3-12/10** | **1-4** | LearnSmart and HW11 due by 12/3 at 11:59 PM  
Final exam due by 12/10 at midnight (comprehensive) |