

PHIL 2305-D10 LOGIC AND CRITICAL REASONING
ONLINE ASYNCHRONOUS COURSE OFFERED THROUGH BLACKBOARD
SPRING 2022
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY

PROFESSOR

Name: Dr. Badiola
Office: RAS 219; [Virtual Office](#) (requires previous notification)
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Office Phone: (325) 942-6105
Office Hours: MW: 9:00AM-1:00PM; others by appointment

Do not hesitate to contact me during regular office hours. You can visit my local or virtual office, call me or send me an email. If you plan to meet me virtually, please let me know in advance. Also, I will be happy to schedule an appointment at a different time if those offered above do not work for you. 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.

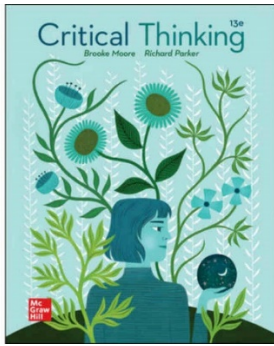
Assessment Type	Weight as a Percentage
Homework	25
Smart Book	15
Essay	15
Exams (2)	30
Participation (introduction, chapter specific discussion boards, group work, peer review, and two mandatory group sessions)	15
Total	100%

- ✚ **Tests:** Both tests allow for two attempts. The final grade will be the higher of the two
- ✚ **Extensions:** 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
- ✚ **Group Sessions:** You are required to participate in TWO group sessions via Blackboard Collaborate. Meet and greet sessions, Q&A sessions, review sessions, and Philosophy Club meetings are all group sessions opportunities

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

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

- The first option: Loose Leaf + Connect Plus (Access Card): ISBN 9781264085613
- Second option: Connect Plus (Access card) only with access to SB: Access card ISBN 9781260808018



CONNECTPlus, SB, and looseleaf bundle are all included in the price [Moore/Parker: Critical Thinking, 13th ed. McGraw Hill]

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: BE ACTIVE

- **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. Once the assignments are available, you can start working early. You can 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 five days a week
- **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

- **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. Remember to check my office hours and make sure to make an appointment with me if you cannot make it during those times

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

Title IX at Angelo State University:

The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU's Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

Michelle Miller, J.D.

Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator

Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

325-942-2022

michelle.miller@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form.

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the *University Health Clinic and Counseling Center* at 325-942-2173 or the *ASU Crisis Helpline* at 325-486-6345.

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit www.angelo.edu/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.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

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

COURSE OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE

Units and Readings	Weeks	LO	Assignments & Activities Contributing to a Grade
Unit 1 Some Basics about Critical Thinking Chapter 1	1/18-1/25	1-6	*Introduce yourself by 1/19 at midnight and respond to two videos by 1/21 at midnight *Meet and greet: Friday 1/21 12:00PM-1:00PM SmartBook and HW1 Due by 1/25 at 11:59 PM
Chapter 2	1/25-2/1	1-6	SB and HW2 Due by 2/1 at 11:59 PM
Chapter 3	2/1-2/8	1-5	SB and HW3 Due by 2/8 at 11:59 PM
Unit 2 Credibility and Rhetoric Chapter 4	2/8-2/15	1-5	*Assignment "First Draft" due by 2/17 at 11:59PM SB and HW4 Due by 2/15 at 11:59 PM
Chapter 5	2/15-2/22	1-8	SB and HW5 Due by 2/22 at 11:59 PM

Unit 3 Formal and Informal Fallacies Chapter 6 Chapter 7 Chapter 8	2/22-3/1 3/1-3/8 3/8-Spring Break-3/22	1-7 1-7 1-6	*Discussion Board #1 (Units 1 & 2) closes on 2/24 *Peer Review for essay due by 3/1 at 11:59PM SB and HW6 Due by 3/1 at 11:59 PM SB and HW7 Due by 3/8 at 11:59 PM SB and HW8 Due by 3/22 at 11:59 PM
Review Unit 4: Formal Deductive Logic: Categorical logic and Truth Functional Logic Chapter 9 Chapter 10* (skip conditional proof on pp. 347-350)	3/22-3/25 3/25-4/5 4/5-4/19	 1-5 1-4	*Discussion Board #2 (unit 3) closes on 3/25 Test 1 on units 1, 2, and 3 due on 3/25 (11:59 PM) *Assignment "Final Draft" due by 3/29 (11:59PM) *Discussion Board #3 (unit 4) closes on 4/19 SB and HW9 Due by 4/5 at 11:59 PM SB and HW10 Due by 4/19 at 11:59 PM
Unit 5 More about Inductive reasoning Chapter 11* (Skip pp. 373-406) Chapter 12* (Skip aesthetic reasoning on pp. 444-449) Review	4/19-4/26 4/26-5/3 5/3-5/10 5/10	 1-4 	SB and HW11 due by 4/26 at 11:59 PM SB and HW12 due by 5/3 at 11:59 PM Final exam due by 5/10 at midnight (comprehensive)

*All deadlines are at midnight

*Bb: Blackboard

*SB: SmartBook

*HW: Homework

HELP CONTACTS

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- For technical issues regarding Connect (interface for all assignments, and SB) call: (800) 331-5094
 - 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
 - **Title IX: Michelle Miller, J.D.**, 325-942-2022 michelle.miller@angelo.edu; www.angelo.edu/incident-form
 - *University Health Clinic and Counseling Center* at 325-942-2173 or the *ASU Crisis Helpline* at 325-486-6345.
 - Questions about the course, the material, or any other issue: sbadiola@angelo.edu; Office Phone: (325) 486-6105