2013

311-01 Symbolic Logic

Eleni Tsalla
tsallae@xavier.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://www.exhibit.xavier.edu/philosophy_syllabi_fall_2013

Recommended Citation
https://www.exhibit.xavier.edu/philosophy_syllabi_fall_2013/40

This Restricted-Access Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by the Philosophy Syllabi 2013 at Exhibit. It has been accepted for inclusion in Philosophy Syllabi Fall 2013 by an authorized administrator of Exhibit. For more information, please contact exhibit@xavier.edu.
Symbolic Logic

(i) Texts
Required:  
b. LogiCola program – available at  
http://www.harryhiker.com/lc/index.htm  
c. Supplementary material on Blackboard and/or in class according to need

(ii) Description
The course is a study of syllogistic, propositional, and predicate or quantificational logics, i.e., of  
the main systems which, as part of the history of philosophy, aimed at formalizing the content of  
natural language. The focus will be on how to read a text from a logical point of view by  
identifying argument forms, analyzing, and evaluating them.

(iii) Course Goals
In accordance with the core curriculum goals of Xavier’s liberal education, the course aims to  
give students intellectual tools by means of which they will be able:  
- To comprehend valid reasoning and distinguish it from invalid reasoning  
- To understand various symbolic systems as ways to articulate the relation between  
thought, language, and reality.

(iv) Learner Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:  
- Distinguish between argument and non-argument  
- Identify the formal/structural features of valid arguments and differentiate these  
arguments from invalid arguments  
- Understand the relationship between validity and truth  
- Grasp the significance of logical reasoning for acquiring and increasing knowledge  
- Recognize the relevance of logical reasoning for controversies in ethics, politics, science  
or religion  
- Relate their comprehension of valid reasoning to the role of human beings as actors in  
their culture

(iii) Course Requirements and Evaluation of Learner Outcomes
- Attendance and class participation (10%)  
- Homework (5%)  
- Three in class exams (20x3%)  
- Cumulative Final Exam (25%)

(iv) Meetings and Assignments
Main Concepts of Logic and Syllogistic Logic  
Week 1: August 27/29

1 See http://www.xavier.edu/cas/core.cfm for a description of Xavier’s Core Curriculum.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>September 3/5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>September 10/12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>September 17/19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>September 24/26</td>
<td>Fall Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>October 1/3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>October 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>October 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>October 15/17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>October 22/24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>October 29/31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>November 5/7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>November 12/14</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>November 19/21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>November 26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>December 3/5</td>
<td>Final Examinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td>December 10/12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- The syllabus is subject to change.
- It the responsibility of the student to familiarize him/herself with the full text of the University Policies included in the most recent Undergraduate Catalogue and especially with the Academic Honesty policy.