2016

311-01 Symbolic Logic

Eleni Tsalla
tsallae@xavier.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://www.exhibit.xavier.edu/philosophy_syllabi_fall_2016

Recommended Citation
Tsalla, Eleni, "311-01 Symbolic Logic" (2016). Philosophy Syllabi Fall 2016. 44.
http://www.exhibit.xavier.edu/philosophy_syllabi_fall_2016/44

This Restricted-Access Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by the Philosophy Syllabi 2016 at Exhibit. It has been accepted for inclusion in Philosophy Syllabi Fall 2016 by an authorized administrator of Exhibit. For more information, please contact exhibit@xavier.edu.
Symbolic Logic

(i) Texts
Required:
   a. Harry Gensler, Introduction to Logic, Routledge 2010
   c. Supplementary material on Canvas and/or in class according to need

(ii) Description
The course is an introductory 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 developing skills to read a text from a logical point of view by identifying argument forms, analyzing, and evaluating them.

In addition to Xavier core learning objectives (see next section), this course includes these other key learning objectives:
   • to comprehend valid reasoning and distinguish it from invalid reasoning;
   • to distinguish between validity and truth;
   • to grasp the significance of logical reasoning in acquiring and increasing knowledge and in addressing controversies in ethics, politics, science or religion;
   • to understand various symbolic systems as ways to articulate the relation between thought, language, and reality.

(iii) The Course role in Xavier’s Core
This course satisfies the Humanities elective requirement in the core curriculum. Study of the humanities has always been at the heart of a Jesuit education. Xavier’s Humanities elective can be fulfilled by taking a course in addition to the designated E/RS Focus course in any of the following disciplines: Classics, Modern Languages, English, History, Philosophy, or Theology. In this course you will encounter significant issues about the broad range of human experience. You will learn to recognize and evaluate various ways in which people understand and express the human experience.

This course is part of the Xavier Core Curriculum, which aims to develop people of learning and reflection, integrity and achievement, in solidarity for and with others. It addresses the following core learning objectives at the intermediate level:
   1a: Students recognize and cogently discuss significant questions in the humanities, arts, and the natural and social sciences.

(iv) Course Requirements and Evaluation of Learning Objectives
• Attendance and class participation (10%)
• Homework (15%)
• Three in class exams (25% each – one of the three exams will be the final)

The following Xavier resources are available to facilitate student success:
1. Learning Assistance Center (LAC)
The Learning Assistance Center (LAC) provides support services to facilitate learning. The LAC has two main purposes: tutoring and disability services. Our tutoring services include subject specific tutoring, study skills assistance, study groups, and Supplemental Instruction (SI). For students with documented disabilities, our disability services provides accommodations such as extended time on exams, reduced

1 http://www.xavier.edu/core/core-classes.cfm
distraction testing environment, note-taking assistance, and assistive technology. We provide these services in a positive and encouraging environment which promotes appreciation for diversity and *Cura Personalis*. Location: Conaton Learning Commons, Suite 514. Phone: (513) 745-3280 http://www.xavier.edu/learning-assistance-center/index.cfm

2. Office of Student Success
The Staff in the Office of Student Success is available to assist students to make the most of their Xavier experience. Personal staff consultations, success coaching, referrals to on-campus Solution Centers, and guiding students to effectively navigate their college experience are central to our work. Please visit www.xavier.edu/student-success to learn more or visit us in the Conaton Learning Commons. Location: Conaton Learning Commons, Suite 514 Phone: 513-745-3036 Email: studentretention@xavier.edu

(iv) Meetings and Assignments

Main Concepts of Logic

Week 1: August 23/25

Syllogistic Logic

Week 2: August 30/September 1
Week 3: September 6/8
Week 4: September 13/15
Week 5: September 20/22
Week 6: September 27/29
Week 7: October 4
November 6 Fall Holiday

Propositional Logic and Propositional Proofs

Week 8: October 11/13
Week 9: October 18/20
Week 10: October 25/27
Week 11: November 1/3
Week 12: November 8/10

Predicate or Quantificational Logic

Week 13: November 15/17
Week 14: November 22
November 26 Thanksgiving Holiday
Week 15: November 29/ December 1

Meaning, Reference, and Inductive Reasoning

Week 16: December 6/8
Week 17: Final Examinations

---

2 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.