



FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

**PHIL 275 Lec 01 – “Scientific and Critical Reasoning”  
Fall Term 2011**

**Course Outline**

**Lectures:** MWF 13:00-13:50, in A 140

**Instructor:** Dr. Megan Delehanty

**Office:** SS 1240

**Email:** [mdelehan@ucalgary.ca](mailto:mdelehan@ucalgary.ca)

**Office Hours:** Wednesday 2:00-3:00 or by appt.

**TA:** Caleb Lee

**Office:** SS 1215

**Email:** [callee@ucalgary.ca](mailto:callee@ucalgary.ca)

**Office Hour:** Mon & Fri, 10:00-11:00

***Course Description***

This course is an introduction to techniques for evaluating arguments. Arguments are crucial to philosophy, but we also encounter them all the time in everyday life. Should gay marriage be legalized? What should be done about global warming? Does the scientific data at hand prove that X (X = the climate is changing, Vioxx is safe, etc.)? Who—you or I—should pay for the movie tonight? Answering each of these questions involves an argument. Some arguments are good, others are really bad. This course will help you to identify and make good arguments and avoid those embarrassing bad ones. We will examine primarily arguments in ordinary language as they occur in areas of everyday life, but we will also learn some elementary symbolic logic.

We will go through many problems and exercises in lectures. Nevertheless, it is crucial that you go through many more problems on your own. Some problems will be assigned as part of the homework assignments, but it is the student’s responsibility to go through additional problems on his/her own. There are many problems in the text and some of these will be assigned as suggested (non-graded) homework each class. You are encouraged to do as many of the problems in the book as you can, however, particularly if you are finding the material in a given section to be difficult. The role of tutorials is to address questions or difficulties with the exercises. Any questions of a conceptual nature will be taken up in lectures, but we will not address in lectures questions regarding the problem sets.

***Course Text***

Copi, I.M., and Cohen, C. (2011). *Introduction to Logic* (14th edition) Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall.

***Course Evaluation***

30% Five assignments (6% each)

70% Four in-class exams (Exams 1-3, 20% each; Exam #4, 10%)

There will not be a Registrar-scheduled final exam.

***Grading Scale***

95-100 = A+	80-84 = B+	65-69 = C+	50-54 = D+
90-94 = A	75-79 = B	60-64 = C	45-49 = D
85-89 = A-	70-74 = B-	55-59 = C-	< 45 = F

### ***Policy on Late Assignments***

No late assignments or make-up exams are permitted unless a medical note is provided and/or permission is granted by the instructor *prior* to the set date. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with the lectures, assignments, and due dates for assignments. Assignments will be announced and their due dates announced in class. This information, *and the assignments themselves*, will also be posted on Blackboard.

### ***Schedule (subject to change)***

Week 1 M Sept 12 Introduction

W Sept 14 Chapter 1 – Basic Logical Concepts

F Sept 16 Chapter 1 (cont'd)

Week 2 M Sept 19 Chapter 1 (cont'd)

W Sept 21 Chapter 2 – Analyzing Arguments **HW #1 DUE**

F Sept 23 Chapter 2 (cont'd)

Week 3 M Sept 26 Chapter 3– Language and Definitions

W Sept 28 Chapter 3 (cont'd)

F Sept 30 **Exam #1**

Week 4 M Oct 3 Chapter 5 - Categorical Propositions

W Oct 5 Chapter 5 (cont'd)

F Oct 7 Chapter 5 (cont'd)

Week 5 M Oct 10 **THANKSGIVING - NO CLASS**

W Oct 12 Chapter 6 - Categorical Syllogisms **HW #2 Due**

F Oct 14 Chapter 6 (cont'd)

Week 6 M Oct 17 Chapter 6 –(cont'd)

W Oct 19 Chapter 8 - Symbolic Logic

F Oct 21 **Exam #2**

Week 7 M Oct 24 Chapter 8 (cont'd)

W Oct 26 Chapter 8 (cont'd)

F Oct 28 Chapter 8 (cont'd) **HW #3 Due**

Week 8 M Oct 31 Chapter 9 - **NO CLASS** (instructor away)

W Nov 2 Chapter 9 - Methods of Deduction

F Nov 4 Chapter 9 (cont'd)

Week 9 M Nov 7 Chapter 9 (cont'd)

W Nov 9 Chapter 10 – Quantification Theory **HW #4 Due**

F Nov 11 **NO CLASS (Reading break)**

Week 10 M Nov 14 Chapter 10 (cont'd)

W Nov 16 Chapter 10 (cont'd)

F Nov 18 **Exam #3**

Week 11 M Nov 21 Chapter 11 – Analogical Reasoning

W Nov 23 Chapter 12 – Causal Reasoning

F Nov 25 Chapter 12 (cont'd)

Week 12 M Nov 28 Chapter 13 – Science and Hypothesis

W Nov 30 Chapter 13 (cont'd) **HW #5 DUE**

F Dec 2 Chapter 14 - Probability

Week 13 M Dec 5 Chapter 14 (cont' d)

W Dec 7 Review or catching up

F Dec 9 **Exam #4**

## **INTELLECTUAL HONESTY**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. As a result, cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as **an extremely serious academic offence**, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. The University Calendar states that plagiarism exists when:

- *the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test;*
- *parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;*
- *the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source; and/or*
- *a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.*

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial FOIP Act in all aspects of its operations as a publicly funded institution. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student's right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments, papers, and exams be returned to the student directly from the instructor unless other arrangements have been made in writing and approved by the Department Administrator.

## **FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING & STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts. Drop in at SS110, phone 403-220-3580 or email at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre at 403-220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.
- Email Contact Addresses for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

[arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca)   [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca)  
[arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca)   [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)