UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 275 Lec 03 – "Scientific and Critical Reasoning"
Winter Term 2010

Course Outline

Lectures: TR 5:00-6:15pm in MFH 164

Instructor: Megan Delehanty
Office: SS 1240
Phone: 403-220-2828
Email: mdelehan@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: Thursdays 4-5pm, and by appt.

Teaching Assistant: Brandon Holter
Office: SS 1215
Phone: 403-220-6524
Email: bdholter@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: Wednesdays 3-4pm
 and Thursdays 12:30-1:30pm

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.

The class lectures are designed to explain the conceptual aspects of the material. 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., *Introduction to Logic,* 13th edition (2009: Pearson Prentice-Hall).

Course Requirements
    30%   Five assignments (6% each, due dates TBA)
    70%   Four in-class exams (Exams 1-3, 20% each; Exam #4, 10%)

Grading Scale
95-100 = A+	78-80 = B+	68-70 = C+	58-60 = D+
85-94 = A	75-77 = B	65-67 = C	50-57 = D
81-84 = A-	71-74 = B-	61-64 = C-	< 50 = 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	T Jan 12	Introduction
	Th Jan 14	Chapter 1 - Basic Logical Concepts
Week 2	T Jan 19	Chapter 1 (cont'd)
	Th Jan 21	Chapter 2 – Analyzing Arguments
Week 3	T Jan 26	Practice worksheet
	Th Jan 28	**No class - instructor away**
Week 4	T Feb 2	Chapter 3 - Language and Definitions
	Th Feb 4	***Exam #1***
Week 5	T Feb 9	Chapter 5 - Categorical Propositions
	Th Feb 11	Chapter 6 - Categorical Syllogisms
Week 6	T Feb 16	**NO CLASS (Reading break)**
	Th Feb 18	**NO CLASS (Reading break)**
Week 7	T Feb 23	Chapter 6 – (cont'd)
	Th Feb 25	Chapter 8 – Symbolic Logic
Week 8	T March 2	***Exam #2***
	Th March 4	Chapter 8 (cont'd)
Week 9	T March 9	Chapter 9 - Methods of Deduction
	Th March 11	Chapter 9 (cont'd)
Week 10	T March 16	Chapter 9 (cont'd)
	Th March 18	Chapter 9 (cont'd)
Week 11	Tu March 23	Chapter 10 – Quantification Theory
	Th March 25	***Exam #3***
Week 12	Tu March 30	Chapter 11 – Analogical Reasoning
	Th April 1	Chapter 12 – Causal Reasoning
Week 13	Tu April 6	Chapter 13 – Science and Hypothesis
	Th April 8	Chapter 14 - Probability
Week 14	Tu April 13	catch-up or review
	Th April 15	**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 is an extremely serious offence. 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, please 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.

STUDENTS' UNION REPRESENTATIVE

The Humanities Representative is Britney Luimes, MSC 251, humanitiesrep@su.ucalgary.ca or 220-3913.