



FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 473 Lec 01 – “Philosophy of Logic”

Fall Term 2012

Course Outline

Lectures: TR 12:30 - 13:45 in Social Sciences 541

Instructor: Dr. Nicole Wyatt
Office: Social Sciences 1214
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Office Hours: Mondays 13:00-14:30 and by appointment

Course Description

Logic raises numerous philosophical problems. Not least of these is the problem raised by the fact that there is more than one logic on offer. We can it seems take one of three positions on the plurality of logics. We can affirm that there is a single correct logic (monism). We can allow that there is more than one correct logic (pluralism). In both these cases we are required to give an account of what it is for a logic to be correct. Finally we might disavow the notion of correctness for logic entirely, maintaining instead that there is only the question of whether a logic is useful for a given purpose at a given time (instrumentalism).

This course consists in a tour through a variety of problems in the philosophy of logic which are unified by their relevance to the over arching question of whether we should be monists, pluralists, or instrumentalists with respect to logic. Central stops on our tour will be logical constants, logical consequence, logical form, and truth. Detours are to be expected and welcomed.

The course will be conducted as a combination of lecture and seminar. Active participation, including leading discussion of some of the material from the readings, will be required.

Students without a solid grasp of the material in Philosophy 279 (which serves as a pre-requisite) will not be able to do well in this class.

Required Texts

Haack, Susan. 1978. *Philosophy of Logics*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN-13: 978-0521293297
Beall, JC and Greg Restall. 2006. *Logical Pluralism*. Clarendon Press. ISBN-13: 978-0199288410

Additional readings—primarily journal articles—will be made available through the course website (Blackboard).

Susan Haack's book provides a useful survey of issues in the philosophy logic, including ones that are not among the central stops. Beall and Restall's thorough defense of a form of logical pluralism will be the central reading in the last third of term.

A schedule of readings will be made available in the first week of classes.

Evaluation

In addition to the participation component, your grade in this class will be based on three problem sets and an essay (~2000 words). The due dates will be as follows:

Problem set 1:	Thursday September 27 th
Problem set 2:	Thursday October 25 th
Problem set 3:	Thursday November 22 nd
Essay draft:	Thursday November 29 th
Essay:	Monday December 17 th

THERE WILL BE NO REGISTRAR SCHEDULED FINAL EXAM.

- Each problem set will be worth 15%, the essay 35%, and participation 20%.
- You must receive a D or better on each component in order to pass the class.
- The essay draft is mandatory—failure to submit it will result in an F for the essay component.
- Each written assignment will be graded on both content *and* quality of presentation, which includes spelling and grammar.

Participation: The participation portion of the grade will be based on the following factors:

- Preparedness for class
- Contributions to class discussion
- Leading of discussion
- These components are not weighted: rather they represent ways one can participate. For example a student who comes prepared to class and does a good job of leading discussion when asked but who, due to inclination, is generally quiet in class discussion, can receive an A on this portion of the class. And similarly for a student who struggles when asked to lead discussion but who comes prepared and is active in discussions led by others.
- Students will be asked submit to the instructor at least two questions about the readings at the start of class, which will be used to assess preparedness. Discussion components will be evaluated in class. Later virtue may redeem earlier sin.

Grading

On each component you will receive a letter grade reflecting the level of mastery of the material shown by the work you submit. According to the Calendar, letter grades are defined as follows:

A	Excellent—superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
B	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
C	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.
D	Minimal pass—marginal performance.
F	Fail—Unsatisfactory performance.

In computing your final grade, your marks will be converted to grade points (A = 4, B = 3, C = 2, D = 1, F = 0; a + grade is worth .3 more than the letter grade, a - grade is worth .3 less than the letter grade) and averaged according to the weights given above. *Ceteris paribus*, the final mark is the letter grade corresponding to this average plus a margin of 0.2 (i.e., an average of 3.8 earns an A, an average of 3.5 an A -, etc.). The A+ grade is reserved for exceptional work.

Late policy

Failure to submit an assignment by the due date without special permission will normally result in a mark of zero. Students who cannot submit an assignment or a test due to medical reasons or other reasonable grounds should contact the instructor as soon as possible.

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.

STUDENTS' UNION REPRESENTATIVES

The Faculty of Arts Representatives are: Sarah Damberger arts1@su.ucalgary.ca; Hana Kadri arts2@su.ucalgary.ca; Kelsy Norman arts3@su.ucalgary.ca; Jack Mills arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

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 be returned to the student directly from the instructor.

SAFEWALK

Call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year) for a Safewalk volunteer to accompany you safely to your destination on campus including parking lots, housing, and LRT station. Or use a Campus Help phone.

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

The Department of Philosophy is located on the 12th floor of the Social Sciences Building and on the web at www.phil.ucalgary.ca

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