

PHI 221: Logic

Fall 2010

TTH 2:00 - 3:15 pm

TBA

Instructor Information:

Shawn E. Klein

sklein@rockford.edu

Office: Lang 114

Office Phone: 815-226-4115

Office Hours: MW: 12-1:30pm; TTH: 12:30-1:30 pm; M: 4-5pm; and by appt.

Class Website: <http://www.whoneedsphilosophy.com/>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/rcphil>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Rockford-College-Philosophy-Department/120214339280>

Catalog Description:

A study of principles and methods of correct reasoning. Topics include fallacies, definition, syllogistic logic, some truth-functional logic, and inductive reasoning. PRQ: None. Credits: 3.00

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Identify the structure of categorical propositions and the logical relationships among them.
- Evaluate the validity of classical syllogisms.
- Use truth tables to test for validity.
- Use rules of inference to construct proofs.

Textbook:

The Art of Reasoning, 3rd Ed. By David Kelley. W.W. Norton. ISBN: 0393972135.

There may also be reading assignments handed out in class and some may be available for download from class website.

Grading and Evaluation:

Final grades are based on a 500-point system consisting of the following:

Quizzes:	100 pts
Exams (3 @ 100pts)	300 pts
Total:	400 pts

The grading scale is as follows:

374 – 400	94 – 100 %	A
358 – 373	90 - 93 %	A-
346 – 357	87 - 89 %	B+
334 – 345	84 – 86 %	B
318 – 333	80 - 83 %	B-
306 – 317	77 - 79 %	C+
294 – 305	74 – 76 %	C
278 – 293	70 - 73 %	C-
238 – 277	60 – 69 %	D
0 – 237	0 – 59 %	F

Class Participation & Attendance:

Class participation is an essential part of the philosophical process and classroom learning. Class participation includes actively taking part in class and group discussions, student presentations, and other in-class assignments. Out of class homework assignments may be included as part of the student’s class participation grade.

Attendance as such is not required, but students are expected to attend every class. Regular class attendance is necessary in order to understand the material in this class and to participate. Students should plan to attend all classes and participate in discussions and class exercises. Absences, tardiness, or leaving early *will* affect your final grade.

If students miss a class, for whatever reason, it is *their* responsibility to find out what work was missed. They should always get class notes from another student. Students are responsible for the work from any missed class for whatever reason.

Any in-class work, including unscheduled quizzes, missed due to any absence cannot be made up.

Quizzes:

There will be regular short quizzes. Each quiz is usually worth 10 points and will cover material from the book and class. There are more quizzes administered than one needs for the quiz points, so there are no make up quizzes for tardiness or absences, excused or not. Quiz points max out at 130 points.

Exams:

There will be three in-class exams. The structure is open to change by the instructor based on class needs and the final composition of each exam will be explained in class prior to the exam period.

Each of the exams will cover an instructor designated selection of material. The homework exercises will be a major source of test questions. Unless explicitly declared otherwise, students should expect any material covered in any reading, lecture, or discussion to be fair game for an exam question.

Tentative Exam Dates:

- Exam 1: September 28
- Exam 2: October 26
- Exam 3: Scheduled final time slot

Homework Exercises:

The class will largely be built around each chapter's practice quizzes and exercises. Homework will not be collected, but will be periodically spot-checked. Students will be required to demonstrate individual exercises to the class, either on the chalkboard or verbally. Regular failure to be able to participate when called upon will result in loss of grade points. While homework doesn't directly count towards your grade, if you do not keep up with the exercises, you will be lost in class and will do quite poorly on the exams. Put bluntly, if you don't do the homework exercises you will fail the class.

Academic Misconduct:

Students are expected to adhere, completely, to the Rockford College Academic Honor Code. Plagiarism and cheating of any kind will not be tolerated under *any* circumstances. Please see the Student Code section of the Student Handbook (available from the Rockford College website: <http://www.rockford.edu/handbook/studentcodes.htm>) for a full explanation of plagiarism and Academic Misconduct.

If you are unsure if a situation falls under academic dishonesty or not, consult the instructor prior to doing the work.

If you turn in a plagiarized paper, exam, or any other product of academic misconduct, this will result, at instructor's discretion, in a failing grade for the *entire* course, appropriate college authorities will be notified, and disciplinary procedures will be initiated.

Classroom Behavior:

It is expected that all students will behave in a polite, respectable manner at all times, and that they will always be tolerant and civil towards their fellow students and instructor. Any other behavior at any time will not be tolerated. The instructor reserves the right to remove a student if they fail to follow this policy.

Dropping/Withdrawal:

It is part of a student's academic responsibility to decide whether or not to drop or withdraw from a course once enrolled. If you find this course does not meet your needs or that you need to withdraw for some other reason, you must take the appropriate actions to drop or withdraw from the course. If you need to withdraw but are unable to come to campus, please contact me via telephone or email. *Instructor will not drop any students for non-attendance.*

Electronics:

All cell-phones, pagers, and other electronic devices must be turned off during class times. *Texting or messaging of any kind is not permitted during class*. See the instructor if there is a reason that you need such a device on.

It is permissible to use a laptop to take notes. This privilege will be suspended if the laptop is used for a purpose unrelated to classroom activities.

You must get instructor approval for recording of classroom activities.

Statement of Accommodation:

If you believe you are eligible to receive an academic accommodation, through such federal laws as the ADA, contact the Rockford College Disability Services Office, 815 226-4022.

Course Schedule:

Attached to this syllabus is the course schedule for this course. Keep in mind that the schedule is tentative and open to change at the instructor's discretion.

Addendums:

- Confirmation form: This form must be signed and returned to instructor.
- Information on being a philosophy major

		Topic	Chapter	Exercises
Week 1:	26-Aug	Introducion	Chapter 1	N/A
Week 2:	8/31 9/2	Classification	Chapter 2	PQ 2.1; 2.2; 2.3; Ex.A; B; D
Week 3:	9/7 9/9	Definitions	Chapter 3	PQ 3.1; 3.2; 3.3; 3.4; Ex. A (odd); C (1-10) F (odd);
Week 4:	9/14 9/16			
Week 5:	9/21 9/23	Propositions	Chapter 4	PQ 4.1; 4.2; 4.3; 4.4; 4.5; 4.6
Week 6:	9/28 9/30	Argument Analysis; Exam 1: 9/28	Chapter 5; Chapter 7 (167-173)	PQ 5.1; 5.2; 5.3; 5.4; 5.5; 5.6; 7.1; Ex A (odd); B (odd); D 1-10
Week 7:	10/5 10/7			
Week 8:	10/12 10/14			
Week 9:	10/19 10/21	Catch up; Fall Break: No Class 10/21		
Week 10:	10/26 10/28	Categorical Propositions: Standard Form and Square of Opposition; Exam 2: 10/26	Chapter 8, 195-210	PQ 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4; Ex B
Week 11:	11/2 11/4	Categorical Propositions: Immediate Inferences	Chapter 8, 213-220	PQ 8.6, 8.7, 8.8, Ex C
Week 12:	11/9 11/11	Categorical Propositions: Venn Diagrams	Chapter 8, 221-226	PQ 8.9, Ex D, F
Week 13:	11/16 11/18	Categorical Syllogisms: Form & Validity	Chapter 9, 233-240, 252-260	PQ 9.1, 9.2, 9.6, Ex A, B (1-15, Odd);
Week 14:	11/23 11/25	Catch up; Thanksgiving: No Class 11/25		
Week 15:	11/30 12/2	Disjunctive and Hypothetical Syllogisms	Chapter 10, 281-294	PQ 10.1, 10.2, 10.3, Ex. A, B (Odd)
Week 16:	12/7 12/9	Syllogisms in Ordinary Reasoning	Chapter 11, 301- 308	PQ 11.1; Ex A, B
Finals		Exam 3: Scheduled Final Slot		

This schedule is a tentative and rough guide to the semester.
It is subject to change depending on the needs and contingencies of class.

Majoring in Philosophy: Graduate School and Career Benefits

Socrates famously said “The unexamined life is not worth living.” We might update that to say “The *examined* life will make you a living.” Majoring in philosophy prepares you not just for a life of rational reflection, but for your career and professional life.

Graduate School Information:

- LSAT (Law School Admission Test) is required for most laws schools.
 - Philosophy majors consistently score well, second only to physics/math majors, with an average score of 157.4 on the test, 5.2 points higher than the overall (weighted) mean.
- GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test) is required for most graduate business programs, including MBAs.
 - Philosophy majors scored the fourth highest overall on the GMAT with a mean score of 580, trailing only the majors from physics, mathematics, and engineering.
- GRE (Graduate Record Exam) is required for many graduate programs.
 - According to the Educational Testing Service (ETS), philosophy majors rank first on the Verbal Reasoning and the Analytical Writing sections of the exam.

Careers and Professions:

- Law
- Business/Management: from entrepreneurs and executives to marketing and public relations
- Government Service
- Clergy
- Publishing and Writing
- Medicine
- Journalism

A Few Notable Philosophy Majors:

- Stephen Breyer and David Souter, Supreme Court Justices,
- Phil Jackson, NBA coach,
- Steve Martin, actor, author and comedian,
- Carl Icahn, billionaire financier,
- Carly Fiorina, former CEO, Hewlett Packard,
- Stone Philips, broadcaster
- Rudi Giuliani, former mayor of New York.

For more information, check out www.whoneedsphilosophy.com

Syllabus Confirmation Form

I acknowledge that I have read and understood the course syllabus, in particular the policies regarding academic misconduct, for [class:]_____. I agree to bring any questions or concerns to the instructor immediately.

This form must be completed, separated from the syllabus, and returned to the instructor prior to the last day to drop class (Fall 2010: 9/8/10).

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____