

PHIL 1290 Critical Thinking – FA04

Time: Tues-Thurs: 10:00-11:30 (Slot 5)

Location: 240 University College

Instructor: Mark Rosner

Office Location: TBA

Email and phone: TBA

Office Hours: TBA

Course Description:

This course offers a brief introduction to critical thinking. It aims to provide students with the ability to identify, evaluate and construct arguments; identify and evaluate deductive and inductive arguments; to recognize informal fallacies; and to acquire other basics of critical reasoning. Assignments and examples will be drawn from philosophical and non-philosophical sources. We will also discuss the philosophical relevance of the issues and problems covered in class.

Required Text:

Seay, Gary & Nuccetelli, Susana, How To Think Logically, Penguin Academics-Pearson Longman, 2008. (Available from Bookstore)

Course Resources:

Further resources will be available online. More details to follow.

Evaluation:

Evaluation will consist of 2 small assignments, a mid-term and a final examination. In-class participation is very much welcomed and encouraged, but does not count towards your final grade.

First Test	October 4 th	15%
Mid Term	November 1st	30%
Second Test	November 29th	15%
Final Exam	TBA	40%

Letter Grades will be assigned as follows:

A+ 90-100	A 80-89	B+ 75-79	B 70-74
C+ 65-69	C 55-64	D 50-54	F 0-50

Outline:

What follows is a tentative outline that may be subject to change. We may spend more or less time on a particular section depending on a number of factors, including, but not limited to, class discussion and interest.

Tentative Schedule:

Sept. 8 – Course Intro – Course Text Part 1, Chapter 1

Sept. – 13, 15 – Course Text Part 1, Chapter 1, 2

Sept. 20, 22 – Course Text Part 1 Chapter 2,3

Sept. 27, 29 – Course Text Part 1 – Chapter 3

Oct. 4, 6 – Course Text Part 2 – Chapter 4 (**TEST** – October 4th)

Oct. 11, 13 Course Text Part 2, Chapter 5

Oct. 18, 20 – Course Text Part 4, Chapter 11

Oct. 25, 27 – Course Text Part 4, Chapter 12

Nov. 1, 3 – Course Text Part 2, Chapter 6 (**MID-TERM** November 1st)

Nov. 8, 10 – Course Text Part 3, Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10

Nov. 15, 17 – Course Text Part 3, Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10

Nov. 22, 24 – Course Text Part 3, Chapters 7, 8, 9,10

Nov. 29, Dec 1 – Course Text Part 4, Chapter 13 (**TEST** – November 29th)

Dec. 6 (Last Class) – Recap

Final Exam: TBA (Exam period: December 9 – 21)

Other Important Dates:

November 16: Last date for voluntary withdrawal from Fall courses.

POLICY ON EXAMS:

Extensions for tests or exams will not normally be granted except on medical or compassionate grounds. Requests for an extension or make-up test must be made directly to the instructor, prior to the date in question, together with appropriate documentation (e.g., doctor's note).

Should you miss an exam or test, you must report to your instructor as soon as possible and provide written proof supporting your absence from the test or mid-term examination. Missing an exam is serious. There are different ways an instructor can accommodate you and the options are up to the instructor and the department.

For more information on tests and exams, please consult the General Academic Regulations, Section 5 (Academic Evaluation) of the university calendar:

<http://crscalprod1.cc.umanitoba.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx>

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Students should familiarize themselves with the University's policies on academic integrity (see Section 8 in the University of Manitoba's Undergraduate Calendar 2011-2012, available here: <http://crscalprod1.cc.umanitoba.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx>).

Plagiarism or any other form of cheating in examinations, term tests or academic work is subject to serious academic penalty (e.g. suspension or expulsion from the faculty or university). Cheating in examinations or tests may take the form of copying from another student or bringing unauthorized materials into the exam room (e.g., crib notes, pagers or cell phones). Exam cheating can also include exam impersonation. (Please see Section 5.2.9 on Exam Personation). A student found guilty of contributing to cheating in examinations or term assignments is also subject to serious academic penalty.

The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism in a written assignment, test, or examination is F on the paper and F for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as the purchase of an essay or cheating on a test or examination, the penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty. The faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism.

Best practice: if you ever have any questions about academic integrity, it is always best to ask.

STUDENT RESOURCES

- The Learning Assistance Centre is located in 201 Tier Building (Phone: 480-1481). Advisors provide a wide range of services focused on improvement of academic learning skills. In addition to individual consultations, the Centre offers workshops on test-taking, note-taking, essay and term paper writing, and listening skills. Further info: <http://umanitoba.ca/u1/lac/>
- The Virtual Learning Commons is a unique learning and social networking site at the University of Manitoba. Students can access Writing Tutors and a variety of Learning Assistance Centre resources on-line at <http://www.umanitoba.ca/virtualllearningcommons/index.php>
- Disability Services, (http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/disability_services/)
- Student Counselling and Career Centre (<http://umanitoba.ca/counselling/>)