PHIL 1320 A01 Introduction to Logic (Part A)

Fall 2019

Instructor: Adam Murray
Office: 457 University College; Hours: Wednesdays, 2:30–3:30 p.m., or by appointment
Email: adam.murray@umanitoba.ca
Lectures: MWF; 10:30–11:20 a.m.; 401 Tier

1 Course Description

This course provides a broad introduction to contemporary formal logic, and the philosophy of logic. The plan is to work through selected chapters in *Forall x: An Introduction to Formal Logic*, by P.D. Magnus and Tim Button. *Forall x* is free and open source, and is available here: http://forallx.openlogicproject.org/. We will be using the ‘Calgary Remix’ of the text, compiled by Aaron Thomas-Bolduc and Richard Zach.

Among other topics, the fall term of the course will cover:

- Logical consequence, and the formal validity of arguments;
- The syntax and semantics of propositional (‘sentential’) logic;
- Parallel topics in first-order logic with identity;
- Various systems of natural-deduction proof-theory, for both propositional and first-order logic;
- Topics in the metatheory of first-order logic.

2 Evaluation

Final grades in the course will be determined as follows:

1. A mid-term test (20%), date TBD;
2. A final in-class exam (30%), date TBD;
3. Semi-weekly problem sets (10 × 5% = 50%); due Mondays, in class.

We will have a lecture on Mondays and Wednesdays. Friday meetings will be structured as ‘tutorial’ sessions, and will be devoted to working through examples of the material introduced during the Monday and Wednesday meetings. (It is highly recommended that you attend all class meetings, though no new or examinable material will be introduced on Fridays). The Friday meetings will also be an opportunity to work through/ask questions about the weekly assignments. More details will be discussed during our first week.
3 Additional Course Information

3.1 Course contact

In addition to the course lectures, I will hold a set of weekly office hours on Wednesday afternoons, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., in 457 UC. Please feel welcome to attend these should you wish to speak with me on matters pertaining to the course, or to ask any questions.

Outside of class and office hours, the absolute best way to reach me is by email. However, please note that email is an inappropriate format for asking substantive philosophical questions about the course material. Those sorts of questions are encouraged, but you should bring them to class, or to my office hours, in order that we may discuss the issues properly.

Note: When emailing me, it is imperative that you use your .umanitoba.ca or .myumanitoba.ca email address, in order that your message is not treated as spam. You should also include ‘PHIL 1320’ in the subject line of your message. ‘Hey’ and ‘Yo’ and their ilk are unacceptable salutations.

3.2 Style and formatting of written work

Where relevant, your submitted work should always conform to a standard formatting and citation style, such as MLA, APA, or Chicago. Please note that any written work submitted to me electronically must be in .pdf format. ‘.doc’, ‘.docx’, ‘.pages’, etc., are not cross-platform stable formats, and are therefore unsuitable formats for transmitting your academic work.

3.3 Deadlines and late work

Your assigned work for this course must be submitted on time. Late penalties on assigned work are set at 1/3 of a letter grade per day, to a maximum of five days, unless accompanied by a documented medical explanation or due to a family emergency (note that this includes weekends and holidays). Any work outstanding beyond this point will receive a grade of 0. If you foresee any difficulty submitting your work on time, speak to me before—not after!—the deadline. In all likelihood, we will be able to work something out.

3.4 Academic honesty

As you are undoubtedly aware, using someone else’s ideas without explicit acknowledgement is stealing, and constitutes plagiarism. It is your responsibility to understand the nature of plagiarism, and what to do to avoid it in your writing. For more information on academic infractions at the University of Manitoba, and how to avoid them, see here. Note that the common penalty in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences for plagiarism in a written assignment, test, or examination is F on the piece of work. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as the purchase of an assignment 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 or from all courses taught in this Faculty.

If you are ever in any doubt about plagiarism, and other related academic offenses, it is always best to simply speak to your instructor about whatever issues are causing the problem. I encourage you to speak with me if you have any concerns about academic integrity, either in this course or in other courses you are taking.
3.5 Accessibility accommodations

Should you require any accessibility-related accommodations in this course due to a disability, please do not hesitate to communicate this fact to me either in person or by email. Click here to learn more about accessibility-related resources available to students at the U of M.

3.6 University of Manitoba Policies and Resources

The University of Manitoba provides resources and has established policies to assist students during their term of study. The university’s policy is set out in a document called ‘Responsibilities of Academic Staff with Regard to Students’ (‘ROASS’, for short.) You should take some time to review this document.

Specifically, on our UMLearn course page there is a document called ‘ROASS Schedule A’ that provides a thorough synopsis of important information about various UM policies and resources. It also contains URLs for various resource agencies. If you determine that you require the assistance of one of these agencies, then you should refer to this document to find their contact information.

4 Significant Dates

You may wish to note the following on your calendars:

- Classes begin ................................................................. Sept. 4
- Fall reading break (no classes) ........................................ Nov. 12–15.
- Last day to withdraw from this course without academic penalty ............ Nov. 18.
- Fall classes end ............................................................... Dec. 6.