Philosophy 12A: Introduction to Logic

Syllabus 1.0, Spring 2020, MWF 1-2, Lewis 100

Contact information and office hours

Professor:

Seth Yalcin
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MW: 10-11am 138 Moses

Section instructors:

Monika Chao	Yifeng Ding	Daniel Villalon
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OH: MW12-1	OH: T2-4	OH: F10-12
301 Moses	301 Moses	301 Moses

Required materials

There is no textbook you need to buy for this course. Required readings will be posted to bCourses. Slides and notes will be made available on bCourses. Links to videos of the lectures will be available on bCourses.

You will however need a **smart phone** or **tablet** for **Socrative**, an audience response system we'll sometimes use during lecture in the course. You should download the app now. It is free.

The ways you can engage with this course

1. Lecture

2. Section

3. bCourses

4. Piazza

5. Office hours

How grades are calculated

Assuming that you are above the baseline (see the end of the syllabus), your grade depends on your total accumulation of grade points by the end of the semester. The maximum number of points you can earn is 100. You get grade points like this:

1. Problem sets: 50 points

   - All problem sets should be typeset, not handwritten. (Consider learning LaTeX, a free tool for producing nice technical documents.) For problems that defy your typesetting ability, handwriting is permitted, but only if you make everything super neat and clear.

   - There will be 14 problem sets assigned in the course. Your total problem set grade will be calculated based on your top 12 problem sets. (So we drop the two lowest grades.) Late problem sets will receive no credit.

2. Quizzes: 50 points

   - There will be 12 quizzes over the course of the semester (almost every Friday in lecture). Your total quiz score will be calculated based on your top 10 quiz grades—with the caveat that only one of the last two quiz grades can be dropped.

This course is not graded on a curve. Points map directly into letter grades, as follows (n.b.: I may rescale in order to raise grades):

90-100	A-/A/A+
80-89	B-/B/B+
70-79	C-/C/C+
60-69	D
0-59	F

Bonus points

Your activity in section can get you bonus points. Specifically, anything that you do in section that helps the students around you learn—asking and answering questions, making helpful comments, etc.—gets you bonus points (up to 3). Bonus points for section activity will be at the discretion of your GSI. GSI may also take your activity on Piazza into account.

Problem set due dates

These are due at noon unless noted otherwise in lecture.

Thurs Jan 30	Problem set 1 due
Thurs Feb 6	Problem set 2 due
Thurs Feb 13	Problem set 3 due
Thurs Feb 20	Problem set 4 due
Thurs Feb 27	Problem set 5 due
Thurs Mar 5	Problem set 6 due
Thurs Mar 12	Problem set 7 due
Thurs Mar 19	Problem set 8 due
Thurs Apr 2	Problem set 9 due
Thurs Apr 9	Problem set 10 due
Thurs Apr 16	Problem set 11 due
Thurs Apr 23	Problem set 12 due
Thurs Apr 30	Problem set 13 due
Thurs May 7	Problem set 14 due

Quiz dates

These occur during the usual lecture time (Lewis 100, 1-2pm).

Fri Jan 31	Quiz 1
Fri Feb 7	Quiz 2
Fri Feb 14	Quiz 3
Fri Feb 21	Quiz 4
Fri Feb 28	Quiz 5
Fri Mar 6	Quiz 6
Fri Mar 13	Quiz 7
Fri Mar 20	Quiz 8
Fri Apr 3	Quiz 9
Fri Apr 10	Quiz 10
Fri Apr 17	Quiz 11
Fri Apr 24	Quiz 12

The schedule is subject to revision. Any revisions to the schedule will be announced on bCourses.

Baseline expectations: integrity and respect

To be above the baseline, you must complete your work with integrity, and you must act with respect towards everyone connected to the course. Here's what that means:

- Integrity

  All work that you submit must be your own—the result of your own thinking and writing. You are not permitted to give or receive answers to problem set problems before the due dates. You are not permitted to consult problem sets, quizzes, or answers keys from earlier iterations of this course. **If you are found to have copied answers on a problem set or quiz, you will an assigned an F grade for the course**. (You might be subject to a lesser penalty, at the discretion of Prof Yalcin. But the safer bet is that you will be failed.)

  Of course, general discussion of the subject matter with your peers is encouraged. You can also discuss **general approaches** to problems on problem sets. What you cannot do is show your work to your peers or see their work before that work has been submitted for grading.

- Respect

  It is a requirement of the course that you **interact respectfully with faculty, GSIs, and other students in any forum, online or offline, related to the course**: this includes lecture, section, office hours, Piazza, problem sets, emails, texts, online posts, etc. Examples of disrespectful interaction include, but are not limited to: hostility, derision, insults, and trolling, especially (but not only) when directed at specific people; and any obviously disruptive behavior which undermines the learning environment of the course. Criticism of/disagreement about **ideas** is welcome, indeed essential. Fortunately it is easy to engage in criticism of ideas without crossing the line into disrespectful interaction. ("I think that's not correct because..." is fine; "Steve's comment is stupid because..." is not.)

  If you act with disrespect in the course, that drops you below the baseline of behavior, and you are subject to loss of grade points. (Example: "That seems dumb", posted on Piazza in response to a GSI comment. Grade points lost: 10. Example: "Lol noob" posted in response to a student question. Grade points lost: 10.) Instructors reserve the right to exclude students who have fallen below the baseline from Piazza.