

PHIL-150: *Principles of Logic*

(Bernd Buldt, S08)

Course Description

Contact information

Office: CM 021

Office hours: Mo, Wed, Fr, 10:00am–11:00am, or by appointment

Phone: (260) 481-6091

E-mail: buldtb@ipfw.edu (I don't reply to e-mails over the weekend)

Course description

To understand, examine, and critically assess principles and methods employed in the logical appraisal of deductive arguments. Topics covered will include consistency, truth, consistency and validity tests, grammar and translation, logical analysis, sentence tableaux, the propositional calculus, designators and identity, the logic of relations, quantifiers, and some first-order logic.

Course objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students are expected (GenEd skills):

- To demonstrate the ability to think critically and to solve problems using the foundation skills:
 - a. evaluate their ideas and the ideas of others based upon disciplined reasoning;
 - b. understand the traditions that have formed one's own and other cultures;

and in particular (transferable skills):

- to have further improved critical thinking skills;
- to have an improved understanding of language and its underlying logic, syntax, and semantics.

In addition, students are expected to be able (disciplinary skills):

- to identify and critically assess the validity of deductive arguments;
- to formalize arguments within a first-order language;
- to have mastered the basic concepts and elementary methods of logic.

Course text

Wilfried Hodges: *Logic*, London: Penguin, 2005.

Attendance policies

All class sessions take place in KT242. Attendance is required for a successful completion of the course; if you can't attend, you must notify me before class starts. Missing class unexcused three times means you can't receive a better grade than "D;" missing class unexcused five times means you'll receive the grade "F;" two tardinesses or early departures equal one unexcused absence. That attendance is required also means that you are responsible for all material covered in class including handouts, changes in deadlines, and announcements generally. Use of cell phones in class is not permitted.

Grading policies

The book contains a number of exercises for many of its sections together with model solutions in the back of the book. Students are expected to do the majority of these exercises as homework assignments and compare their answers with the model solutions; these exercises then serve as preparation for three written in-class and one final exam.

Remember: Students are expected to know and to follow all applicable policies on academic honesty; see your student handbook and the bulletin for regulations and policies on academic honesty. **Cheating** will result in an “F” in this class and possibly further disciplinary action by the department, school, and university.

The final grade will be determined as follows:

Class participation	20%
Each exam	15%
Final exam	20%

and the following grade scale will be applied (although final grades won't show tendencies):

100%–97%	A+	
96%–93%	A	Excellent
92%–89%	A-	
88%–85%	B+	
84%–81%	B	Good
80%–77%	B-	
76%–73%	C+	
72%–69%	C	Sufficient
68%–65%	C-	
64%–61%	D+	
60%–57%	D	Weak
56%–53%	D-	
below 53%	F	Failure

Disabilities statement

If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. Contact the Director of Services for Students with Disabilities (Walb, room 113, telephone number 481-6658), as soon as possible to work out the details. Once the Director has provided you with a letter attesting to your needs for modification, bring the letter to me. For more information, please visit the web site for SSD at <http://www.ipfw.edu/ssd/>.

Final Remark

Remember that your academic success and your personal well-being are important to us. Please, do not hesitate to contact me, whenever you feel like doing so or something is on your mind.