

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
PHIL 279 Lec 02/03 — “Logic I”
Fall Term 2013
Course Outline

Meetings:	Lectures	Tutorials	
L02:	TuTh 12:30–1:45 Administration 140	W 1:00–1:50 (T04) W 2–12:50 (T05) Th 9:30–10:20 (T06)	Scurfield Hall 288 Scurfield Hall 280 Scurfield Hall 278
L03:	TuTh 5–6:15 Administration 140	W 1–1:50 (T07) W 2–2:50 (T08) Th 9:30–10:20 (T09)	Scurfield Hall 280 Scurfield Hall 278 Scurfield Hall 288
		After the third week of classes, tutorials will meet concurrently in one classroom and in the Arts Faculty Computer Lab, SS 018 in Section 1	
	Instructor	Teaching Assistants	
	Richard Zach	Jared Houston	Dan Kary
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Office Hours:	TuTh 2–3	WTh 11:30–12:30	TuTh 10:30–11:30
	or by appointment. Office hours subject to change; check BlackBoard for change notices.		

Course Description

The course will introduce you to the semantics and proof-theory of first-order logic (FOL). We will learn how to “speak” the language of FOL, study the method of truth tables, become proficient in giving formal and informal proofs, and learn how to construct and argue about first-order interpretations. These methods will enable you to answer, in particular cases, the questions that logic is primarily concerned with: When does something follow from something else? What are logical truths? Which arguments are logically valid? But the main payoff will be to get you to become comfortable with formal methods, and to use them to clarify and make precise logical relationships that are hard to understand or express otherwise. We will also look at some results and notions which are important for the applications of formal logic, such as the expressive power of propositional and first-order logic, as well as some important theorems relating semantics and proof theory (soundness, completeness). We will touch on applications of logic to philosophy, mathematics, and computer science.

Evaluation

Six (6) homework assignments, three (3) in-class tests (on October 18, November 15, and December 6), and participation in lecture, tutorial, and in discussions on BlackBoard. There will be no registrar-scheduled final exam. The lowest homework score will be dropped, the remaining 5 assignments each count 10% towards the final grade. The tests count 15%, 20%, and 10%, respectively. Participation counts 5%. You must hand in all 6 assignments, and you must take all three tests to pass the course.

Each assignment and test will be assigned a raw point score, which is then normalized to a score out of 100 points. The final score is then computed according to the percentages given above. The following table will be used to convert the final score to letter grades (the ranges include the lower score and exclude the upper, e.g., 83 earns a B, not a B-):

98–100	A+	87–90	B+	77–80	C+	67–70	D+
93–98	A	83–87	B	73–77	C	60–67	D
90–93	A–	80–83	B–	70–73	C–	< 60	F

The grades will not be curved.

If you are in the Computer Science BA or BSc Honours program or in the Philosophy BA Honours program, you must pass Phil 279 with a C– or better to register in required courses for which it is a prerequisite.

Textbook and Software

Dave Barker-Plummer, Jon Barwise, and John Etchemendy, *Language, Proof and Logic*, CSLI/Chicago University Press (2nd edition)

The book is available in the UofC bookstore; you can also buy an electronic-only copy online.

The Grade Grinder. The text comes with a CD and a non-transferable use license for software (the “Grade Grinder”) which you will be using to prepare your homework assignments. For this reason, **you have to buy a new copy of the text**. On the CD you find a registration ID. ***Write this ID down in a safe place***—without it, you will not be able to turn in your assignments.

If you have previously purchased a copy of the text and the ID is registered to you, or if you have a new copy of the 1st edition of the text, you can download the second edition of the book in PDF format as well as the new version of the software from lpl.stanford.edu. You do not need to buy another new copy of the text.

Contents of Software CD. The software CD that comes with the text contains three programs (*Tarski’s World*, *Boole*, and *Fitch*) which you will use to complete homework problems. The program *Submit* lets you turn in your completed solutions to the Grade Grinder. The CD also contains the entire textbook and the software manual in PDF format. ***Please take the time to read the software manual.*** It contains useful information, in particular, keyboard shortcuts for logical symbols, which will make typing formulas much easier.

Because the text is bundled with software, the book cannot be returned once the seal is broken. But LPL software and textbook are available on the computers in the Arts Faculty Computer Lab (AFCL) in the basement of Social Sciences (018 SS), and you can use the software and read the textbook there before buying a copy (or breaking the shrink-wrap). You will, however, have to buy a new copy of the textbook by the third week of class in order to submit your homework assignments.

LPL Website. The LPL team maintains a website with helpful information. Check it out at lpl.stanford.edu. Among other things, the website contains hints and solutions to selected exercises, and a download area where you can obtain the contents of the CD with your registration ID. Thus, if you lose your CD, you will still have access to the software.

Assignments and Policies

Exercise sets will in general be due on Fridays at noon. Written parts of the assignment should be dropped off in a box just inside the Philosophy Department (Social Sciences, 12th floor), electronic parts have to be submitted online using Submit (one of the four programs in LPL). The written parts of the assignments must be turned in on paper; emailed copies will in general not be accepted. You do not have to type your assignments, but **please write legibly**.

Your TAs are in charge of the homework marking; please pick up your marked assignments during tutorial or in office hours from them.

Late work and extensions. The lowest homework score is dropped, this allows you to hand in one assignment late without penalty. Therefore, ***late assignments will not be accepted for credit and will not be marked***. However, ***you have to turn in each of the six assignments within one week of the due date to pass the class***.

There will be no extensions or make-up tests under normal circumstances.

Collaboration. Collaboration on exercises is encouraged. However, you must write up your own solutions. This means that for the electronic parts, ***you must create solution files completely from scratch***. The LPL software can tell if you've copied someone else's exercise files. You are also required to list the names of the students with whom you've collaborated on the assignment. ***If the Grade Grinder flags an exercise on your assignment as not being created independently (i.e., it is "similar" or "identical" to another student's), your assignment and those of whoever you received the file from or from whom you received the file will receive a score of 0.***

You're not allowed to collaborate on the tests, of course. Tests will be closed-book. Be aware that cheating on an exam is a serious academic offense and can result in suspension or expulsion.

Participation. 5% of your grade will be determined by class participation. This includes participation in discussions on the class website. Five serious posts on the website (asking a question, giving a hint, providing an answer to someone else's question) over the course of

the term will earn you full marks (5 points) for the participation part of your final grade. If all your posts occur within one 7-day period, you will receive a maximum of 3 points. Consistent participation in class discussions during lecture or tutorials of course also counts.

Attendance. Some students have no problem picking up the material on their own, and the software makes self-directed study particularly easy. Note, however, that only very good students can get away with that. Many students who don't attend lecture or tutorial just end up failing the class; thus, although attendance in lecture and tutorial is not mandatory, it is highly encouraged. Although, generally, studying the textbook and class handouts is sufficient for completing the homework assignments and passing the exams, you are nevertheless ***responsible for knowing what is covered in lecture.*** Conversely, you are also responsible for studying the assigned chapters in the textbook.

Tutorials, Lab Workshops, PASS Sessions

This class is accompanied by scheduled tutorials. Tutorials are led by the Teaching Assistants, who guide you through the material in a more in-depth manner than is possible in lecture. This is where you should go to pick up tips for the assignments, ask questions, and go over problems in detail.

Tutorials begin in the second week of classes. Starting the third week of classes, you will have a choice between a regular classroom tutorial led by a TA, and a workshop in the AFCL (SS 018), supervised by a TA. In the classroom tutorial, the TA will lead the discussion, review material from lecture, go over problems for the homework assignment. In the workshop, you will be able to work on the assignments in small groups, directly on the computer, and with a TA present who can help and explain things.

This course also offers Peer Assisted Study Sessions, which will be organized during the first two weeks of class.

Course Website

A course website on U of C's BlackBoard server has been set up. You should be automatically registered on the first day of class if you're registered in the class. To access the BlackBoard site, you can either go directly to blackboard.ucalgary.ca and log in with your UCIT account name and password, or you can access it through the myUofC portal at my.ucalgary.ca. If you don't have an eID or IT account, see www.ucalgary.ca/it/gettingstarted/student. ***Please log on at least once by the end of the second week of classes.***

If you are not registered in the course on the first day of class, you will be added to the website within a day of registering.

We will use the email function on BlackBoard to send out important notices. Therefore, ***please make sure your email address in BlackBoard is current.*** For instructions on how to update your email address, see elearn.ucalgary.ca/blackboard/email.

What You Have to Do Now

1. Attend lecture and tutorial the first two weeks of classes (tutorial starts the second week).
2. Buy the textbook (remember, you need a new copy) or go to the Arts Faculty Computer Lab to view an electronic copy.
3. Make sure your email address is current on the myUofC portal.
4. Log on to the class website and familiarize yourself with the discussion board.
5. When you register your email address with *Submit*, make sure you choose an email address which will be working throughout the semester.

Three Most Frequently Asked Questions

This is a philosophy course at an introductory level. So it's really easy, right?

No. This is a course in formal logic. Some people find the material easy. Some people find the material very hard. In terms of work required and “feel” it is much more like a math course than a philosophy course. You don’t need to know (much) math to do well here, but you do need a certain ability to think in abstract terms.

The median grade is C+. Last year, roughly 10% of students finishing end up getting A-range grades; 35% between B– and B+; 35% between C– and C+; 10% a D or D+; 10% an F. Women do slightly better than men on average. If you’re worried that only science majors do well here: Some of the top students in previous classes majored in fine art, religious studies, philosophy, and management.

So how much work does it require?

It is not unusual for students to spend 10–15 hours on an assignment (including studying the material in the notes and reading the textbook). It takes less time if you keep on top of the reading and do the assignments as we cover the material in class. Some students aren’t very good at budgeting time and leave assignments to a day before the due date. Then it certainly will take a lot of time, and it will be difficult to complete the assignment.

10–15 hours per assignment isn’t that much on average. With six assignments, this works out to about 5–7 hours a week, or about 2 hours per hour spent in class. The rule of thumb for class work in North American universities is 2–3 hours of work outside of class for every hour in class.

What’s with the grade scale? 60 points for a D, 93 for an A! That’s harsh!

The scores assigned to the problem sets and exams are *not* percentages. The point values of individual problems and the conversion scale are designed to produce approximately the “right” marks. 80 points on a test does not mean that you got 80% of the answers right.

In many courses (including other sections of PHIL 279/377) the grade scale is set so that 50 is a D, and sometimes anything over 90 is an A. In those other courses, however, it is much harder to attain these scores. In this course, our assignments count for 50% of the final grade, in others it is usually much less. It is easier in general to score well on

homework assignments: there is no time pressure, you have textbook and notes available, and you can talk to the instructors about the problems. In this course, in addition, you are encouraged to collaborate with your colleagues, and the final score is the average of your five best assignments (lowest score dropped). Also, since about 75% of the problems are done on the computer, you can have the computer check your solutions before you submit them. Thus, for 75% of your assignments, there is almost no reason other than lack of time for you not to get a perfect score. In addition, 5% of your grade consists in participation (in class, on the website). That is another 5% which are (almost) “free.”

So, the grade scale, although it “looks” harsh, is in fact just as harsh (or lenient) as in other courses. Experience shows that the grade scale, as it stands, results in a perfectly average grade distribution, and the final letter grades students receive on the whole correspond closely to the definitions of those letter grades in the University Calendar.

More questions and answers at www.ucalgary.ca/rzach/279/faq.html.

Syllabus

This is a tentative syllabus to give you a rough idea what parts of the book we will cover when. The assignment and midterm dates are firm, however.

Week 1 (Sept 10, 12)

Introduction Course aims, requirements and policies. History and relevance of formal logic. Syntax of FOL.

The Language(s) of FOL Chapter 1.

Learning goals: Understanding formal first-order languages. Syntax of FOL: Predicate symbols, individual constants, function symbols. Examples of first-order languages: the blocks language, the language of arithmetic. First-order structures.

Week 2 (Sept 17, 19)

The Logic of Atomic Sentences Chapter 2.

Learning goals: Understanding logical validity of arguments. How to show arguments are valid: Basic properties of the identity predicate: reflexivity, principle of the substitutability of identicals. Basic properties of other predicate symbols (transitivity, reflexivity, symmetry, inverse relations). Informal proofs. Fitch and formal proofs. How to show that arguments are not valid: the method of counterexamples.

Introduction to the Boolean Connectives Chapter 3.

Learning goals: Syntax and semantics of Boolean connectives: Formation rules for sentences of FOL using \wedge , \vee , \neg . Truth tables for the Boolean connectives.

Tutorials start Wednesday, September 18, and cover Chapters 1 and 2 (First-order languages, structures, properties of relations)

Week 3 (Sept 24, 26)

The Boolean Connectives and Expressive Power of FOL Chapter 3.

Translating sentences from English into FOL using the Boolean connectives. Expressive power of the Boolean connectives: “neither . . . nor —” and “not both . . . and —”; how to express complicated things using the blocks language and the Boolean connectives. Ambiguity.

The Logic of Boolean Connectives Chapter 4.

Learning goals: First-order structures and truth-value assignments. Understanding logical truth, tautologies, and TW-necessities. Tautological equivalence, consequence, and validity. The method of truth tables.

You must complete the “You try it” exercise on pp. 8–10 of the text and submit “World Submit Me 1” by Tuesday, Sept 24, midnight.

Tutorials cover Chapters 3 and 4 (translation truth-tables, tautologies and tautological consequence). Check BlackBoard for tutorial classroom changes. Tutorials now held concurrently with workshops in the computer lab.

Assignment 1 due Friday, September 27, at noon (covers Ch. 1–3)

Week 4 (Oct 1, 3)

Informal and Formal Proofs with \wedge , \vee Chapters 5, 6.

Learning goals: Proving arguments valid by informal and formal proofs. Basic properties of \wedge and \vee . Formal rules for \wedge and \vee .

Proofs for the Boolean Connectives Chapter 6

Learning goals: Proof by cases (\vee Elim). Basic properties of \neg . Indirect proof and formal proofs with \neg .

Tutorials cover Chapters 4, 5 (truth tables, notions of consequence)

Week 5 (Oct 8, 10)

Proofs for the Boolean Connectives Chapter 6

Learning goals: Arguments with inconsistent premises. Informal proofs about FOL. Formal proofs for tautologies. Strategies for formal proofs.

The Conditionals Chapters 7 and 8.

Learning goals: Truth tables for \rightarrow and \leftrightarrow . Translations from English to FOL using the conditionals. Conversational implicature. Rules for formal proofs involving \rightarrow and \leftrightarrow . The semantic deduction theorem.

Tutorials cover Chapters 5, 6 (informal and formal proofs).

Assignment 2 due Oct 11 (covers Chapters 4–5, parts of 6)

Week 6 (Oct 15, 17)

Introduction to Quantifiers Chapter 9

Learning goals: Syntax of quantifiers: well-formed formulas, free and bound variables, scope. Satisfaction, semantics of quantifiers. Everything, something, nothing. Determiner phrases.

Test 1 Oct 17, in class, covers Chapters 1–5

Tutorials cover Chapters 5 and 6 (strategies, indirect proof).

Week 7 (Oct 22, 24)

Single Quantifiers Chapter 9

Learning goals: Restricted quantification: the Aristotelian forms. Expressing simple sentences involving no nested quantifiers. Quantifiers and function symbols.

First-order Validity and Consequence Chapter 10

Learning goals: The truth-functional form algorithm: when are sentences of FOL tautologies? The replacement method. First-order interpretations. First-order validity and consequence.

Tutorials cover Chapters 6–8 (formal proofs including the conditionals).

Assignment 3 due Oct 25 (covers Chapters 6–8)

Week 8 (Oct 19, 31)

First-order Structures Chapter 10.

Learning goals: Constructing first-order structures. Using diagrams to specify structures. Relations between logical notions. First-order equivalences.

Intro to Multiple Quantification Chapter 11

Learning goals: Meaning and use of multiple occurrences of the same quantifier. Translation mistakes: different variables does not mean different objects. Meaning and use of mixed quantifiers. The step-by-step method of translation. Understanding why the order of quantifiers matters, ambiguity.

Tutorials cover Chapters 9, 10 (translation, first-order logical notions, first-order structures).

Week 9 (Nov 5, 7)

Expressive Power, Anaphora and Ambiguity Chapter 11

Learning goals: Expressing complicated properties using quantifiers, in particular in the language of arithmetic. Recognizing ambiguity and translating ambiguous sentences. Understanding and formalizing anaphora.

Formal Proofs with Quantifiers Chapter 13

Learning goals: Understanding and applying the introduction and elimination rules for \forall , \exists . Strategies for proofs with quantifiers.

Tutorials cover Chapters 10 and 11 (complex translations, interpretations for sentences with nested quantifiers, FO consequence).

Assignment 4 due Nov 8 (covers 9–11)

Week 10 (Nov 14)

Test 2 Nov 14, in class, covers Ch. 6–11

Tutorial covers Chapters 10 and 11.

Reading days Nov 11 and 12. No class Tuesday.

Week 11 (Nov 19, 21)

Advanced Formal Proofs with Quantifiers Chapter 13

Learning goals: Proofs with multiple and mixed quantifiers. Proofs with equality.

Numerical Quantification and Definite Descriptions Sec. 14.1, 14.3

Learning goals: Understanding numerical quantification: how to express ‘there are exactly/at most/at least n things of a certain kind.’ Russell’s and Strawson’s analyses of definite descriptions. How to express ‘both’ and ‘neither’ in FOL.

Tutorial covers Chapter 13.

Week 12 (Nov 26, 28)

Truth-functional Completeness Section 7.4.

Learning goals: Understanding the aims of meta-theory. Definition and proof of truth-functional completeness for \wedge , \vee , and \neg . Truth-functional completeness of “neither . . . nor”.

Basic Metatheory Section 8.3

Learning goals: Understanding the significance of soundness and completeness. Sketch of a soundness proof.

Tutorial covers Chapter 13, 14.

Assignment 5 due **Mon Nov 25** at noon (covers Chapters 11, 13)

Week 13 (Dec 3, 5)

Outlook *Learning goals:* Understanding the ‘big picture.’ Significance and application of logic. Limitations of logic: undecidability, incompleteness.

Test 3 Dec 5, in class, covers Ch. 7.4, 11, 13, 14

Tutorial covers Chapters 13, 14, 7.4.

Assignment 6 due Dec 6 (covers Chapters 11, 13, Sec. 14.1–2, Sec. 7.4)

Academic Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offence, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment, an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw from the University. See the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in the current University Calendar. Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about correct referencing, consult your instructor.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a permanent disability or temporary impairment who may require academic accommodation, you must first register with Student Accessibility Services, located in MacEwan Student Centre 452; phone 403-220-8237; email access@ucalgary.ca. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course. Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/> for further information.

Blackboard Help

Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/computersupport/onlineservices/blackboard> for Student Help and FAQs about Blackboard. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are available at <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/blackboard/students>.

Student Advising and Information Resources

- General Academic Concerns—Have a question but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts. Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> for detailed information on common academic concerns.
- Program Planning—For assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation, contact the Student Success Centre at 403-220-5881 or visit it on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- Advice on Philosophy Courses—You may find answers to your more specific questions about a philosophy degree on the Department of Philosophy website <http://phil.ucalgary.ca> or contact one of Philosophy current Undergraduate Advisors (see below).
- Registration Overload/Prereq Waivers—If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prereqs for a course, email the instructor of the course.

Protection of Privacy

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The Department of Philosophy ensures the students right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments be returned to the student directly from the instructor.

Student Ombudsperson and Students Union Representatives

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial, and confidential support for students who require assistance or advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. For more information, see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>. For the Students Union Faculty of Arts rep: arts1@ucalgary.ca.

Safewalk

Call 403-220-5333 (24/7/365) for a Safewalk volunteer to accompany you safely to your destination on campus including parking lots, housing, and the LRT station or use a Campus Help Phone.

Philosophy Department

The Department of Philosophy is located on the 12th floor of the Social Sciences Building and on the web at www.phil.ucalgary.ca.

Philosophy Undergraduate Program Advisors for Fall 2013:

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For assistance with registration issues in Philosophy courses, contact Merlette Schnell (schnell@ucalgary.ca)