



SYLLABUS

Academic Discipline
Philosophy

Contact Hours, Length
48 Contact Hours, 16 weeks

Course Title
Symbolic Logic

Learning Web Page
<http://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/gina.calderone>

Course Rubric and Number
PHIL 2303 – CRN 30922

Type of Instruction
Lecture—Web Enhanced

Location and Meeting Days/Times
West Loop, WLOPC255
MW, 11am-12:30pm

Instructor Contact Information
Gina Calderone, Ph.D., Instructor
Department of Philosophy
E-Mail Conferencing:

Semester Credit Hours (SCH)
3 SCH – Fall 2014 RT

gina.calderone@hccs.edu

Course Description

The purpose of the course is to introduce the student to symbolic logic, including syllogisms, propositional and predicate logic, and logical proofs in a system of rules.

This course fulfills a philosophy requirement for many academic and professional 4-year programs as well as the HCC Philosophy AA-degree plan. It also satisfies the **HCC Core Curriculum** requirement for the **Content Area Option**.

In keeping with the guidelines of the Texas Higher Education Curriculum Board, this course will provide a solid foundation in the following **Core Objectives: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility**.

NOTICE: Students who have questions about whether their enrollment in this course will satisfy their degree objectives should immediately see an HCC academic advisor who can review their academic degree plans.

Prerequisites

Must qualify to take college-level reading (or take GUST 0342 as a co-requisite) and qualify to take college level writing (or take 0310*/0349* as a co-requisite). OR take INRW 0420 as a co-requisite.

Course Goals

This course settles on the technical side of deductive reasoning and its correct applications for the construction and testing of formal symbolized arguments. Students learn how to recognize and analyze the intricacies of relational meaning in language while they acquire the tools to best express such meaning in a systematically ordered, clear and concise fashion.

Expected Learning Outcomes

1. Recall and Identify the core components of articulated meaning understood from a logical perspective, both classical and contemporary.
2. Construct arguments using English sentences, then Interpret sentences in a manner that preserves their precise *truth-value* when translated into *standard form*.
3. Apply "Truth Table" method to arguments in order to determine whether valid, or not-valid, then Articulate the understanding that Truth Tables provide for distinguishing between kinds of truth-functional statements, and sets of statements, *logical equivalence*, and *logical implication*.
4. Apply the rules of inference and replacement rules to Construct justified proofs of symbolic arguments, then Implement methods of conditional and indirect proof, including the proof of theorems.
5. Construct proofs in predicate logic that Incorporate the quantification of complex subjects and predicates.

Instructional Methods and Internet Component

This is a web-enhanced lecture course that uses Eagle Online 2. The Eagle Online login page is: <https://eo2.hccs.edu/login/index.php>

Your Eagle Online username is the same as your HCC Eagle ID (or User ID) which is used for Online Registration (for example: W0034567). Your password is the same password you use to log in to PeopleSoft, HCC Webmail, and Active Directory (computer terminal login). For any questions about your Eagle ID or password, please go check online [here](#).

IMPORTANT: Eagle Online works best with the latest version of Mozilla Firefox. Download it free, [here](#).

Text Information

NOTE THAT ALL REQUIRED READINGS AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE IN EAGLE ONLINE—YOU MUST MAINTAIN CONSISTENT ACCESS TO THE INTERNET TO RETRIEVE WHAT IS NECESSARY TO SUCCEED IN THIS COURSE.

Grading Components and Weights

EXAMS: You will have 4 exams worth 100 points each. You will take these in the classroom. These account for ~73% of your final grade.

PRACTICE EXERCISES: You will have around 15 sets of assigned exercises. We will work on these in class and they will be turned in for credit. Each set is worth 10 points, or 150 points total, which is ~27% of your grade. They will not be graded for accuracy—you just need to show that you have made a good faith effort to complete the exercises. Questions should arise from these problem sets and be addressed in class. If you are not in attendance when the exercises are done in class, you are expected to complete them at home and turn them in.

Grading Policy

All grades will be calculated according to a percentage of *total points*. The total number of points for this term is 550. The term grade legend follows:

A = 90% to 100% (495 to 550 points)	4 points per semester hour
B = 80% to 89.9% (440 to 494 points)	3 points per semester hour
C = 70% to 79.9% (385 to 439 points)	2 points per semester hour
D = 60% to 69.9% (330 to 384 points)	1 point per semester hour
F = 0% to 59.9% (000 to 329 points)	0 points per semester hour
FX (Failure due to non-attendance)	0 points per semester hour
IP (In Progress)	0 points per semester hour
W (Withdrawn)	0 points per semester hour
I (Incomplete)	0 points per semester hour
AUD (Audit)	0 points per semester hour

- IP (In Progress) is given only in certain developmental courses. The student must re-enroll to receive credit. COM (Completed) is given in non-credit and continuing education courses.
- FINAL GRADE OF FX: Students who stop attending class and do not withdraw themselves prior to the withdrawal deadline may either be dropped by their professor for excessive absences or be assigned the final grade of "FX" at the end of the semester. Students who stop attending classes will receive a grade of "FX", compared to an earned grade of "F" which is due to poor performance. Logging into a DE course without active participation is seen as non-attending. Please note that HCC will not disperse financial aid funding for students who have never attended class.
- Students who receive financial aid but fail to attend class will be reported to the Department of Education and may have to pay back their aid. A grade of "FX" is treated exactly the same as a grade of "F" in terms of GPA, probation, suspension, and satisfactory academic progress.

- To compute grade point average (GPA), divide the total grade points by the total number of semester hours attempted. The grades "IP," "COM" and "I" do not affect GPA.

Late Work and Make-up Policy

If you miss exams 1, 2, or 3, you will have an opportunity to make-up a comparable test in the testing center. Make-up exams must be completed within one week of the original exam and it is your responsibility to make an appointment with the testing center for some period of time when they are open and we are not in class. The final exam cannot be made up. Exercise sets may be turned in any time prior to the test for which they are relevant. After that time, this work will not be accepted for credit. It is your responsibility to be in class, on time, and prepared.

Academic Honesty

The pressure to earn high grades and belief that *a good end can justify any means whatsoever* leads many students to try cutting corners by resorting to less than honest methods. Do yourself a favor by avoiding that trap. The HCC *Student Handbook* lists cheating, plagiarism, and collusion as scholastic dishonesty. It defines *plagiarism* as "the appropriation of another's work and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one's own written work offered for credit." It defines *collusion* as "the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work for credit."

Work submitted for this course that is determined to be the result of either cheating, plagiarism, or collusion will earn a "0" for that assignment, which cannot be made up. A second attempt to plagiarize will result in failure of the course and possibly disciplinary action by the college. See Student Handbook.

Attendance and Withdrawal Policies

HCC Students are expected to attend class regularly. This includes logging into the website **frequently** to stay on top of readings, online discussions, and meet deadlines for writing assignments and quizzes. A daily record of participation will be maintained throughout the semester.

NOTE: IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO DROP, OR OFFICIALLY WITHDRAW FROM THIS COURSE IF, FOR ANY REASON, THAT STUDENT IS NO LONGER ATTENDING. YOU WILL NOT BE WITHDRAWN FROM THIS COURSE BY YOUR PROFESSOR. Additionally, system wide rules affect withdrawals:

1. Students who repeat a course for a third, or more times, may face a significant tuition/fee increase at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities.
2. The Texas Legislature passed a law limiting new students (those starting college in Fall 2007) to no more than six total course withdrawals throughout their academic career in obtaining a baccalaureate degree. There may be future penalties imposed.
3. **No student may withdraw from a course following the set "last date to withdraw", which for Fall 2014 is Friday, October 31st.** After that date and time, a student can only be given a grade earned, or an "I" for incomplete. Incompletes must be made up by

the end of the following long semester, after which they will automatically change to a grade of "F". Students receiving an "I" for a course are ineligible for graduation until the "I" has been removed from a student's transcript.

Students with Disabilities

Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty is authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office, and to do so in a reasonable manner. To visit the ADA Web site, follow this link:

<http://www.hccs.edu/district/departments/accessibility/>

For questions, please contact Donna Price at 713.718.5165 or the Disability Counselor at your college.

EGLS3 -- Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System

At Houston Community College, professors believe that thoughtful student feedback is necessary to improve teaching and learning. During a designated time, you will be asked to answer a short online survey of research-based questions related to instruction. The anonymous results of the survey will be made available to your professors and division chairs for continual improvement of instruction. Look for the survey as part of the Houston Community College Student System online near the end of the term.

HCC Student Services Information

SOUTHWEST COLLEGE STUDENT SERVICES provides master's and doctoral-level counseling for high-quality support services for the Southwest College student body. Counselors are available at each campus to assist students in creating class schedules, evaluating college transcripts and completing degree/certificate plans. For information regarding this and other Student Services available at HCC Southwest, please visit the following site:

<https://learning.hccs.edu/programs/counseling/southwest>

EARLY ALERT: HCC has instituted an Early Alert process by which your professor will "alert" you through counselors of concerns that you might fail a class because of excessive absences and/or poor academic performance.

ALL STUDENTS ARE ADVISED: Contact your professor/counselor about opportunities for private tutoring and other assistance prior to considering withdrawal, or if you are not receiving passing grades. There are many opportunities available to assure your success.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: Receiving either a "W", or "I" in a course may affect the status of your student Visa. Once a W is given for the course (after you have formally submitted a withdrawal form), it will not be changed to an F because of the visa consideration. An "I" does convert to an "F", but only after six months have passed from the end of the term it was received. Please contact the International Student Office at 713-718-8520, if you have any questions about your visa status and other transfer issues.

Tutoring Information

Limited face-to-face tutoring is available from the course instructor by appointment. In addition, all PHILOSOPHY students are encouraged to use HCC's online tutoring system for help with any philosophy class. Questions submitted to the ASK queue will be answered within 24 hours – and usually much before that. Tutors are on duty 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Online tutors will not do homework for you, but they will guide you in the right direction. To maximize the effectiveness of the system, be specific when you ask questions, and let the tutor know what class you are taking. You will receive two responses – one from an English tutor and one from a philosophy tutor.

Register for online tutoring by going to www.hccs.askonline.net. Select a user name and password that you will remember. Use any e-mail address, and add your student ID number (W number). It will probably take five minutes to set up your Askonline account. After that, you can submit questions in seconds. Tutor responses are not e-mailed to you. To see the answers, log back in to the system and click the bright yellow NEW button.

Online tutoring is also available for accounting, history, government, chemistry, physics, biology, math, English, and papers in all disciplines.