



Philosophy Syllabus

Introduction to Symbolic Logic, PHIL 2303-60456

Spring 2018, Web-Enhanced (3 Credit Hours)

HCC – Katy Campus

Room 219

M, W 11:00AM-12:20PM

Instructor: Nathan Poage

Learning Web Page:
<http://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/nathan.poage>

Email: nathan.poage@hccs.edu

Phone: (713) 718-6064

Office hours: by appointment

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to symbolic logic, including syllogisms, propositional and predicate logic, and logical proofs in a system of rules (Texas ACGM). It emphasizes the rules of translating language into symbols as well as the semantic and syntactic implications of the system of first-order logic, a method of reasoning ingredient to philosophy, mathematics, and computer programming (HCC Catalogue). This course stresses the HCC Core Objectives of Critical Thinking, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Literacy, and Teamwork.

PREREQUISITE(S):

- ENGL 1301 or higher

HCC CORE CURRICULUM:

This course satisfies the **Component Area Option** in the HCC Core Curriculum. If you are not sure that you need this course to graduate, please consult with your advisor.

Course Goals:

To learn to analyze the logical structure of sentences

To examine and translate categorical sentences and syllogisms

To learn the connectives of sentential logical

To understand and test arguments for validity

Student Learning Outcomes:

- 1. Determine** the logical structure of English arguments by identifying premises and conclusions.
- 2. Understand** basic concepts in logic, such as truth functionality, validity, soundness, counter-examples, tautology, self-contradiction, logical equivalence, logical contradictoriness, and logic consistency.
- 3. Translate** English statements into propositional and/or predicate notation.
- 4. Determine** the validity of symbolic propositional or predicate arguments using such methods as direct/indirect truth tables, natural deduction, and/or the finite universe method.

Learning Objectives:

To learn to analyze the logical structure of sentences

To examine and translate categorical sentences and syllogisms

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Notice About Online Learning Management Software:

This is a *web-enhanced* lecture course that uses the Learning Web:

<https://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/nathan.poage>

Adopted Texts:

TEXTS: Klenk, Virginia. Understanding Symbolic Logic. Pearson, 2008. ISBN: 0-13205-152-4

Course Calendar:

Weeks 1-3 General statements, arguments, argument forms

Weeks 4-8 Truth Tables

Weeks 9-12 Propositional Logic

Weeks 14-16 Prepositional Logic

Grading Components and Weights:

Three tests (100 points each) (**the final test/ third midterm is not cumulative**). **Make up tests are available only with prior approval.** This means if you miss the test and have not already cleared your absence with me in advance you will earn a "0" on the test and will not be able to make it up. I drop the lowest test score and replace it with the highest.

Homework counts for 100 points there will be approximately 20 homework assignments over the course of the semester. Homework is collect twice during the semester. The first time will be roughly halfway through the course. The second time is at the end of the course. Late homework is not accepted without prior approval or at the discretion of the instructor.

There will also be approximately 10 in class quizzes. (Homework and quizzes are graded: Credit, Half- Credit, and No Credit). Quizzes count for 100 points.

Participation counts for 50 points. (Participation means active, regular, punctual involvement in class discussions and assignments). Good participation also means that you refrain from disruptive activities such as walking around or out of class (repeatedly), various outbursts, sleeping etc. It is highly recommended that each student makes use of my office hours. During these times I can give individual attention to any concerns about grades, assignments, or difficult material. Students that make use of the office hour times generally do better in the class. In particular, they are better prepared and their commitment and interest in the class is reflected in their participation scores. In addition, completion of the assignments in an orderly thorough way also contributes to your participation score.

Grading Policy [Example]:

A = 100- 90	4 points per semester hour
B = 89 - 80:	3 points per semester hour
C = 79 - 70:	2 points per semester hour
D = 69 - 60:	1 point per semester hour
59 and below = F	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. 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.

For Health Science programs, see the Program/Discipline Requirements section for specific grading requirements.

The grade breakdown is as follows:

495-550 A
440-494 B
385-439 C
330-384 D
<329 F

300 Points possible tests
100 Points possible quizzes
100 Points possible homework
50 Points possible participation

Satisfactory completion of extra credit assignments allows you to increase your score

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 policy:

LATE HOMEWORK: Late homework is not accepted. If the homework assignment is turned in after class time the grade assigned is "0" at the discretion of the instructor. I do take these grades into consideration, however, when determining participation.

*!! Philosophy Tutoring is available at upswing.io **Please use it if you need it !!***

Academic Honesty:

PLAGIARISM/ CHEATING: Plagiarism and cheating are not tolerated. After one warning the professor reserves the right to assign a grade of "F" for the course. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, any of the following: copying a fellow student's paper, having notes/materials within view, writing notes on desks, walls within view etc.

GRADE UPDATES: Students will receive notification of their grade two times during the semester: once on the first midterm and again on the second midterm. If you require more frequent updates please let me know and I will be happy to update you.

FORMAT: Classes consist of lecture/discussion, small group assignments, film selections and other visual presentation. Questions are encouraged during lecture.

CLASS DISCIPLINE: Students who exhibit disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the class

Students with disabilities who may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to notify the instructor and contact Disabilities Support Services 713-718-6164 (voice) or 713-718-6332 (TTY) early in the semester so that reasonable accommodations may be implemented as soon as possible.

Make-up Policy:

ATTENDANCE/ MAKE-UPS: Regular and punctual attendance is essential to satisfactory completion of this course as many assignments/ quizzes are given at the beginning of class and cannot be made-up. If for some urgent reason you will not be able to attend class you should notify me in advance. However I will not respond to messages such as "what did we do in class today?" You should find some one in class to exchange e-mail/ phone numbers with who can take notes for you, in the event of an absence.

Homework and in class quizzes cannot be made up. In class tests can only be made up with prior approval or with documentation of a valid excuse of a serious nature.

Attendance and Withdrawal Policy:

HCC Students are expected to attend class regularly. A daily record of absences will be maintained throughout the semester. NOTE: It is the responsibility of the student to drop, or officially withdraw from this course. Your instructor will withdraw a student if and only if provided a written request from that student. 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 Spring semester is 04/03/2018. 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:

To visit the ADA Web site, log on to www.hccs.edu, click Future students, scroll down the page and click on the words Disability Information.

Students with disabilities who may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to notify the instructor and contact Disabilities Support Services 713-718-6164 (voice) or 713-718-6332 (TTY) early in the semester so that reasonable accommodations may be implemented as soon as possible.

Student Services Policies:

<http://hccs.edu/student-rights>

Title IX and Open Carry Verbiage:

Title IX Discrimination: Houston Community College is committed to cultivating an environment free from inappropriate conduct of a sexual or gender-based nature including sex discrimination, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual violence. Sex discrimination includes all forms of sexual and gender-based misconduct and violates an individual's fundamental rights and personal dignity. Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex including pregnancy and parental status-in educational programs and activities. If you require an accommodation due to pregnancy please contact an Abilities Services Counselor. The Director of EEO/Compliance is designated as the Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator. All inquiries concerning HCC policies, compliance with applicable laws, statutes, and regulations (such as Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504), and complaints may be directed to:

David Cross - Director EEO/Compliance - Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity

Open/Campus Carry of Handguns: At HCC the safety of our students, staff, and faculty is our first priority. As of August 1, 2017, Houston Community College is subject to the Campus Carry Law (SB11 2015). For more information, visit the HCC Campus Carry web page at <http://www.hccs.edu/district/departments/police/campus-carry/>.

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 near the end of the term, 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 department 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.

This syllabus is tentative and may be changed at the discretion of the professor.