

PHIL 1313.701 Logic and Critical Thinking  
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 10:30 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.  
HSCI 326  
Spring 2015

Instructor: Dr. Mary Gwin  
Office: 250 Murray Hall  
Office Phone: 744-9231  
Email: gwinm@okstate.edu  
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and by appointment.

**Texts:** James Cain, *Logic Exercises*. This text is available for free on D2L.

Hurley, *A Concise Introduction to Logic: Custom Edition for PHIL 1313*, ISBN: 9781305010284. This text is available in the bookstore.

Supplementary postings to D2L.

**Course Description:** The aim of this course is to develop skills at formal reasoning and critical thinking. We will place special emphasis on:

Argument evaluation and analysis-we will learn the basics of identifying argument components, deductive/inductive arguments, valid and sound arguments.

Truth-functional logic-we will learn to translate natural language propositions and use truth tables and truth trees for compound propositions to test validity, statement properties, and equivalence.

Venn diagrams-we will learn to diagram categorical statements and to use these diagrams to evaluate arguments as valid or invalid and collections of statements as consistent or inconsistent.

Informal fallacies-we will examine common informal mistakes in reasoning.

Analogical reasoning-we will look at arguments from analogy in moral and legal reasoning.

Probability-we will learn elementary probability.

Statistical reasoning-we will learn elementary statistical reasoning concepts and methods.

**Prerequisites:** None.

**Course Requirements:** There will be 4 exams. Each exam is equally weighted and worth 100 points. Since each exam is worth the same amount, each exam will be cumulative, but not comprehensive.

There will also be 17 homework assignments distributed throughout the semester worth 10 points each. Homework assignments are not graded, but are checked for completion

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and effort. Developing reasoning and critical thinking skills requires practice. We will go over the material on the homework assignments in class before you turn the assignment in.

Class participation and attendance are expected. Attendance will be taken at every class meeting. Because there may be times when you must miss a class for purposes such as study tours, professional development opportunities, job interviews, illness, doctor appointments, weddings, funerals, etc. you are allowed 6 absences (the equivalent of two weeks). You will be rewarded for regular attendance in the form of 30 points for the semester for up to 6 absences. ***Each absence exceeding 6 will result in a reduction of 5 points from your total grade. No absences are excused, so budget accordingly.*** (Note: It is possible to lose points from your exam and homework grades due to lack of attendance.) When homework is due during a missed class you will receive a “0” for those points. It is not necessary to contact me in the event of an absence. Additionally, to earn attendance credit, you must be punctual and remain in class until you are dismissed.

Class participation will be considered in borderline grade cases.

Exams	400 points
Homework	170 points
Attendance	30 points

The total number of points possible for the course is 600, and grades will be assigned from the following scale:

600-540	A
539-480	B
479-420	C
419-360	D
Below 360	F.

**Late and Make-up Work Policy:** Exceptions to my policy on missed homework and exams are at my discretion and are only made in *extraordinary* circumstances and when the student is prompt in communicating their situation. *In the rare event that an exception is made*, requiring documentation is at my discretion and will not excuse the absence (i.e. buy back attendance points) but may buy the student an opportunity to make up missed work.

**It is the student’s responsibility to keep all assignments that have been returned to them. If there is ever a dispute over the grade assigned after an assignment has been handed back, it is the student’s responsibility to provide proof.**

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

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Oklahoma State University is committed to the maintenance of the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct of its members. This level of ethical behavior and integrity will be maintained in this course. Participating in a behavior that violates academic integrity (e.g., unauthorized collaboration, plagiarism, multiple submissions, cheating on examinations, fabricating information, helping another person cheat, unauthorized advance access to examinations, altering or destroying the work of others, and fraudulently altering academic records) will result in your being sanctioned. Violations may subject you to disciplinary action including the following: receiving a failing grade on an assignment, examination or course, receiving a notation of a violation of academic integrity on your transcript (F!), and being suspended from the University. You have the right to appeal the charge. Contact the Office of Academic Affairs, 101 Whitehurst, 405-744-5627, [academicintegrity.okstate.edu](http://academicintegrity.okstate.edu).

Any violation of academic integrity will result in the student receiving an F for the course, and I will recommend suspension from the University.

#### **LINK FOR SYLLABUS ATTACHMENT**

<http://academicaffairs.okstate.edu/images/Patty/FacultyandStaffResources/Syllabus/spring%202015%20syllabus.pdf>

**Office of Student Disability Services** (015 University Health Services) - According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, each student with a disability is responsible for notifying the University of his/her disability and requesting accommodations. If you think you have a qualified disability and need special accommodations, you should notify the instructor and request verification of eligibility for accommodations from the Office of Student Disability Services. Please advise the instructor of your disability as soon as possible, and contact Student Disability Services, to ensure timely implementation of appropriate accommodations. Faculty have an obligation to respond when they receive official notice of a disability but are under no obligation to provide retroactive accommodations. To receive services, you must submit appropriate documentation and complete an intake process during which the existence of a qualified disability is verified and reasonable accommodations are identified. Call 405-744-7116 or go to <http://sds.okstate.edu/>.

#### **Policy on the Use of Electronic Devices**

Use of any electronic device is prohibited without the expressed permission of the instructor. Cell phones are to be turned off when class begins; text messaging is strictly forbidden. Any student caught text messaging during class will be asked to leave the class for that class period.

The date of our last exam for this course is: Friday, May 8, 2015 @ 10 a.m.

Have a good semester!