



AMBROSE

PH 201 Logic Winter 2010

Time: Wednesday & Friday @ 11:15 to 12:30
Location: G2195

Instructor Information:
Kenneth M. Nickel (MAR, MSc, PhD ABD)
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Course Description

This course introduces students to a variety of concepts, rules, strategies, and methods that are necessary and useful for the analysis and critical evaluation of arguments in ordinary language. This involves both learning the logical principles which underlie good, sound reasoning and becoming discerning and skilled in applying those principles to the arguments we are exposed to everyday.

Course Objectives

1. Students should learn basic logical concepts that are necessary and useful for evaluating and constructing arguments.
2. Students should learn basic rules of inference, the traditional square of opposition, categorical syllogisms, and various related methods and techniques for testing for truth and validity.
3. Students should learn the basics of symbolic logic and its value in evaluating arguments for truth and validity.
4. Students should learn to detect good and bad, sound and unsound reasoning whenever and wherever they discern it in the various media, in public discourse, as well as in their own thinking and writing.

Textbook

Copi, Irving M, and Carl Cohen. 2009. *Introduction to Logic*. 13th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Course Requirements

1. **Weekly Quizzes** 40%
 - Students will write 10 weekly quizzes each worth 4%.

2. **Attendance and Participation** 10%
 - Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Students are expected to attend each class session **with assigned text material and an engaged frame of mind**. Students should be prepared to contribute meaningful conversation to the topics under discussion. **Each absence from class merits an immediate .5 deduction** and class participation is assessed on the balance. For example, if a student misses two classes and generally participates excellently in class he or she generally cannot achieve more than 9/10 for this portion of his or her grade. **Students in class without text material and otherwise engaged in non-class activities are simply in the same room and may be assessed as absent.** Students who miss no more than two lectures with demonstrably good reasons (e.g., athletic participation) will have their participation assessed on the basis of 10/10.
 - Students who arrive late to class or leave early may be marked as absent. As a general rule **two late arrivals or early departures** will amount to one absence.
 - **Laptops are completely unnecessary and are strongly discouraged.** They are deleterious to student participation.

3. **Midterm Examination** 20%
 - February 12th

4. **Final Exam** 30%
 - Date: Thursday April 15th @1:00 in 2145
 - Students **must pass the final exam to ensure a passing grade in the course.** A student who performs well during the term but fails the final exam may fail the course.
 - Students should refrain from scheduling flights or travel of any sort that will conflict with the final examination schedule. Final examinations will not be rescheduled to accommodate travel arrangements.

Grading: The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
A+	4.0		96-100 %
A	4.0	Exceptional	91-95 %
A-	3.7		86-90 %
B+	3.3		82-85 %
B	3.0	Exceeds Expectations	75-81 %
B-	2.7		72-74 %
C+	2.3		68-71 %
C	2.0	Meets Expectations	63-67 %
C-	1.7		60-62 %
D+	1.3		56-59 %
D	1.0	Minimal Pass	50-55 %
F	0.0	Failure	49 < %

Important Dates

- Last day to enter a course without permission and to withdraw from course and receive tuition refund is January 15th.
- Last day to withdraw from courses or change to audit without academic penalty is March 12th.
- Last day to request revised time for a final examination is March 29th.

Important Notes

- *Cell phones, recording devices, head phones, and all other technology that is not essential for class by the instructor's criteria are prohibited.*
- *Lap top computers, when not used exclusively for taking class notes, are often a distraction to classmates and even the individual user. Their use is discouraged.*
- *Lap tops used for purposes unrelated to taking lecture notes are prohibited. Violators will be asked to leave the class. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Academic Vice President's Office.*
- *Students are expected to respect the learning environment of the classroom. Make every attempt to be on time. Be prudent and careful in your consumption of food and drink. Keep unnecessary conversations and comments to a minimum as they are distracting to both the instructor and fellow classmates. As well, they are often deleterious to a student's performance in the class.*
- *Ambrose is committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar and the Student Handbook that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean.*

- *Students are responsible to check their Ambrose e-mail account regularly. E-mail may be used to notify students of cancelled classes or other important details relating to the course.*
- *Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.*
- *Students are advised to retain this syllabus for their records.*