Symbolic Logic

Philosophy 315
Spring 2009

Time and Location:	MWF 10:00-10:50 am, Knox 14
Instructor:	Professor David Braun, Department of Philosophy
Office, Phone, E-mail:	Park 115, (716) 645-0162, dbraun2@buffalo.edu
Office Hours:	Mondays 2:00-4:00 pm, and by appointment
Course Web Page:	UBLearns

This course will be dedicated to learning symbolic techniques for evaluating the validity of arguments. We will formulate a symbolic language and learn to translate ordinary English sentences into it. We will then apply precise formal techniques for determining whether the symbolic versions of the arguments are valid.

Textbook

John G. Bennett, *Introductory Logic*. This is a course pack available at the campus bookstore.

Required Supplies

1. A stapler.
2. Standard-sized (8 ½ x 11 inch) looseleaf paper (for homework assignments).

Required Work

1. Weekly homework assignments (see below for further information).
2. Three midterm examinations. **Tentative dates**: Wednesday, February 18; Wednesday, March 25; and Wednesday, April 15.
3. A final examination during finals week. Date to be announced when available. **No exceptions**.

Homework Assignments

I will assign a set of homework problems once a week. The homework problems will be due ***at the beginning of class every Monday***, unless I announce otherwise. The pages of your homework assignments must be **stapled**. ***Late homework will not be accepted***. Solutions to homework assignments may be discussed in class and will be available on UBLearns shortly after the assignments are due. Each homework assignment will be graded on a 5 point scale.

5 = excellent work
4 = good to fair work
3 = some sincere effort on all problems

Homework assignments that are incomplete may receive a lower score. There will also be deductions of up to 5 points for each assignment that is illegible, unstapled, or written on inappropriate paper. At the end of the course, I will drop your lowest two homework grades, sum the remaining points, and use the sum in calculating your homework grade. I encourage you to work together on the homework assignments.

Website for Proofchecker
I recommend that you use the following website to check your derivations:
http://www.courses.rochester.edu/bennett/PHL110/proofchk/proofcheck.html

Grading
Each exam will be graded on a 100-point scale.

1.	Homework assignments:	10%
2.	Midterm exams:	60% (20% each)
3.	Final exam:	30%

Final Exam
All students must take the final exam at the scheduled time and date. There will be **no exceptions**. You should arrange your plans for the end of the semester (including your transportation plans) accordingly.

Conflicts
Those of you who have out-of-town commitments due to membership in a college organization (e.g., sports teams) must let me know *no later than the second week of class* if you anticipate having a commitment that conflicts with an exam.

In-Class Announcements, E-mail Announcements, and UBLearns
I will make various announcements in class, including homework assignments, changes to homework assignments, and definite dates for midterm examinations. I will also periodically e-mail announcements through UBLearns. You will be responsible for all of these announcements. Some of them will appear on the class's UBLearns site.

Contacting Me
Please use e-mail to contact me: dbraun2@buffalo.edu. Use your buffalo.edu e-mail account and put "Logic" in the subject line. I am likely to delete messages from non-buffalo.edu accounts.

Special Needs
If you have a disability that you think requires special accommodations (e.g., note-takers or extended time on exams), then inform me immediately and contact Disability Services, 25 Capen Hall, 645-2608, to receive documentation of your disability. You are responsible for notifying me and assuring that I receive documentation from DS *by the end of the second week of class*.

Academic Honesty and Student Conduct
I expect you to conform to all University policies regarding academic honesty and conduct. For information about UB's policies, see the following URLs.
Academic Integrity: http://academicintegrity.buffalo.edu/policies/index.php
Student Conduct: http://www.ub-judiciary.buffalo.edu/rulereg.php