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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** In this course we will explore some of the methods and principles that distinguish logically correct from incorrect reasoning. We will also learn to use formal techniques to evaluate the cogency of everyday argumentation. Most of the semester will be spent becoming familiar with a variety of elementary logical techniques and rules: analyzing simple and complex statements and arguments, distinguishing valid and invalid arguments, learning some of the rules for syllogisms, truth tables and propositional logic. To learn logic is to learn a set of skills; logic needs to be learned by practice, much like a foreign language. Coursework involves attending and taking part in classes, doing a relatively small amount of scheduled reading from the textbook, and working on the homework exercises at the end of each section in the textbook.

Some find this material fascinating in its own right. Others value logic for the light it casts on everyday argumentation, and for its uses in philosophy, mathematics, and computing. Logical skills are not only an important component of aptitude tests such as the GRE and LSAT, but are also valuable in almost any course or job that involves using analytical techniques. The course satisfies the General Education requirement in Quantitative and Formal Reasoning.

**TEXTS:** The only required text is: Hurley's *A Concise Introduction to Logic* 12<sup>th</sup> edition (Cengage, 2014). ISBN: 9781285196541.

**GRADING SCALE:**

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
100-99	98-93	92-90	89-87	86-83	82-80	79-77	76-73	72-70	69-67	66-63	62-60	59-0

**GRADING:** I'll use plus/minus grading, but note that I'll only award an "A+" in extraordinary circumstances. Your final grade will be calculated on the basis of 4 in-class exams, eight of nine quizzes, and one short assignment.

*EXAMS:* 72% of your grade comes from four exams (18% each). These exams will consist of a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and problem sets similar to those found at the end of each section in the book.

*QUIZZES (& HOMEWORK):* 18% of your grade comes from eight of nine quizzes throughout the semester. Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped. Each week I'll assign homework problems from the book. These homework problems will not be collected. *HOWEVER*, many of the quiz questions will be taken directly from the assigned homework problems.

*SHORT ASSIGNMENTS:* 10% of your grade comes from a short 1-2 page paper assignment.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:** I will use turnitin.com. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment and will be reported to the college. *Trust me... Plagiarism is not in your best interest.*

**NOTES ABOUT THE SCHEDULE:** On the next page you'll find a schedule for the semester. Readings are to be done *before* the class period for which they are listed.

**[COURSE SCHEDULE CAN BE FOUND ON THE NEXT PAGE]**

# TENTATIVE SCHEDULE\*

\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE

<b>Week 1</b>	1.1-1.3	
<b>Week 2</b>	1.4-1.5; 6.1-6.2	<i>Quiz #1</i>
<b>Week 3</b>	6.3, 6.4, & 6.6	<i>Quiz #2</i>
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>EXAM 1</b> ; 7.1-7.2	
<b>Week 5</b>	7.3-7.4	<i>Quiz #3</i>
<b>Week 6</b>	7.5-7.6	<i>Quiz #4</i>
<b>Week 7</b>	Catch up; Review; <b>EXAM 2</b>	
<b>Week 8</b>	4.1-4.3	<i>Quiz #5</i>
<b>SPRING BREAK</b>		
<b>Week 9</b>	Review; 4.5-4.7	
<b>Week 10</b>	5.1-5.3 & 5.5	<i>Quiz #6</i>
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>EXAM 3</b> ; Chapter 3	
<b>Week 12</b>	Ch. 3 Cont'd; 9.1	<i>Quiz #7</i>
<b>Week 13</b>	Chapter 11	<i>Quiz #8</i>
<b>Week 14</b>	Chapter 12	<i>Paper Assignment Due</i>
<b>Week 15</b>	Chapter 13; Review	<i>Quiz #9</i>

## Teaching Policies & Procedures

**Administrative Home.** The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) is the administrative home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions may be addressed to 120 Schaeffer Hall, or see the CLAS [Student Academic Handbook](#).

**Electronic Communication.** University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their University of Iowa e-mail address. Faculty and students should use this account for correspondences. (*Operations Manual*, III.15.2. Scroll down to k.11.)

**Accommodations for Disabilities.** A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet privately with the course instructor to make particular arrangements. See [www.uiowa.edu/~sds/](http://www.uiowa.edu/~sds/) for more information.

**Academic Fraud.** Plagiarism and any other activities when students present work that is not their own are academic fraud. Academic fraud is a serious matter and is reported to the departmental DEO and to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Curriculum. Instructors and DEOs decide on appropriate consequences at the departmental level while the Associate Dean enforces additional consequences at the collegiate level. See the CLAS Academic Fraud section of the [Student Academic Handbook](#).

**University Examination Policy** requires that students be permitted to make up examinations missed because of illness, mandatory religious obligations, certain University activities, or unavoidable circumstances. Excused absence forms are available at [www.registrar.uiowa.edu/forms/absence.pdf](http://www.registrar.uiowa.edu/forms/absence.pdf).

**Final Examination Policies.** Final exams may be offered only during finals week. No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes. Students should not ask their instructor to reschedule a final exam since the College does not permit rescheduling of a final exam once the semester has begun. Questions should be addressed to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Curriculum.

**Conflicts in Final Exams.** CLAS is instituting a new final exam scheduling process and, as such, the final exam time will not be scheduled until the 5th or 6th week of the semester. **It is your responsibility to notify the registrar if there is a conflict between the final exam for this class and your other final exams.** A student who has (a) two examinations scheduled for the same period or (b) more than three examinations scheduled for the same day, should file a request for a change of schedule at the Registration Center, 30 Calvin Hall.

**Making a Suggestion or a Complaint.** Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit the instructor, then the course supervisor, and then the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident. See the CLAS [Student Academic Handbook](#).

**Understanding Sexual Harassment.** Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI [Comprehensive Guide on Sexual Harassment](#) for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.

**Reacting Safely to Severe Weather.** In severe weather, class members should seek appropriate shelter immediately, leaving the classroom if necessary. The class will continue if possible when the event is over. For more information on Hawk Alert and the siren warning system, visit the Public Safety [web site](#).

**Student Classroom Behavior.** The ability to learn is lessened when students engage in inappropriate classroom behavior, distracting others; such behaviors are a violation of the [Code of Student Life](#). When disruptive activity occurs, a University instructor has the authority to determine classroom seating patterns and to request that a student exit immediately for the remainder of the period. One-day suspensions are reported to appropriate departmental, collegiate, and Student Services personnel (Office of the Vice President for [Student Services](#) and Dean of Students).

**Absences.** Except in cases of illness or emergency, you should let your instructor know beforehand if you need to be excused from attendance. You can do this either by providing an Explanatory Statement of Absence from Class form (available at <http://www.uiowa.edu/registrar/forms/absence.htm> or from the Registration Center, 30 Calvin Hall) or a statement from a responsible official documenting the times of your participation in an authorized University activity. In the case of emergency or serious illness, please contact your instructor as soon as possible and offer appropriate documentation so that we can discuss your options. If you are absent for more than five days, you may ask the Registration Center to tell each instructor the reason. Instructors may request further documentation of the absence. In addition, you may ask clinicians at Student Health (4189 Westlawn, 5-8392) to discuss your illness and possible accommodations with your instructor if you have health problems.