

# PHILOSOPHY AND LOGIC

## Lecture and Contact Information

**Class:** PHIL 1102-H71

**Lecture Times:** T/TH 9:30-10:45AM

**Room:** HART 216

**External Site:** TBA

**Instructor:** Nathan Kellen

**Email:** nathan.kellen@uconn.edu

**Office Hours Location:** Cafeteria

**Office Hours:** T/TH 11:00AM-12:00PM

## Course Description

Logic is the study of what follows from what. This course will be an introduction to formal logic, specifically propositional logic of four different varieties (C,  $K_3$ , LP, FDE). Because this course is an introduction to formal logic, it will be largely mathematical in nature. We will also discuss the philosophical implications of various different formal logics, including connections to logical paradoxes, Eastern philosophy and contemporary philosophy of logic.

## Course Textbook

The **required textbook** for this course is Nicholas J.J. Smith's *Logic: The Laws of Truth*. The book can be purchased from Amazon here, or from the university bookstore. I expect you to have purchased the textbook (preferably the physical version) and to bring it to class every day, as we will refer to it and work through problems during class.

## Course Assignments and Grades

In this course you will be evaluated via multiple methods. The grading scheme is as follows:

- **Homework Assignments:** 35%
- **Participation:** 15%
- **Midterm Exam:** 25%
- **Final Exam:** 25%

## Homework Assignments

Each week (apart from the week of the midterm) there will be an assignment on the material covered during that week's lectures. The homework assignment will be given via email by midnight Friday, and will be due the following Thursday in class (the homework assignment must be handed in physically). You will receive your graded assignment back the Tuesday after it is handed in.

Because there is a substantial time between the actual lectures and your receiving your graded assignment back, you will be expected to check to make sure that you understood the lectures yourself. After the assignments are handed in, I will post the answer key so you can check your own answers against it.

## Participation

Participation is earned by coming to class, prepared and ready to engage with me and your peers. Occasionally during class we will break into groups to work on problem sets; your participation in these groups will count towards your participation grade.

In order to earn the full participation grade students must not have many absences and must fully participate in group work. **It is a necessary requirement of this course that you read the assigned readings before the lecture.** Part of your participation grade will be coming to class prepared by having read the reading. I expect you to bring your textbook with you to class everyday.

## Midterm Exam

The midterm exam will be an in-class exam on all the material covered up until that point. It will be given on March 9. There will be an in-class review for the exam on March 7; students will be expected to bring their questions **written down on paper** to class for review. I will not simply speed-rehearse previous lectures.

## Final Exam

The final exam will be a separately scheduled exam, covering all the material from the course. It will be given on a date/time TBA.

## Email Contact

During the academic year I get roughly 50 emails a day, *not* including any emails from students. In order to make sure that I receive your email and can respond in a timely fashion (usually within 24 hours), please make sure the subject of every email is **PHIL 1102: [your topic here]**. Feel free to email me any minor questions you have; if your question is more substantial, please stop by my office hours to get help instead.

## Office Hours

As your instructor, my aim is to help you do as well in this course as you want to do. The bulk of that aim is accomplished through lecture. My office hours are another place for you learn, but instead via one-on-one instruction. I encourage students to attend my office hours with any and all questions, as much as they need to or find helpful. My office hours are set aside time in my schedule with the express purpose of providing help to students - you are not in any way infringing upon my work or personal time by coming to office hours, so don't be shy.

If you cannot make it to my office hours, please do not go without the help you need! Contact me via email and we will set up an appointment that works for the both of us.

As a final note, office hours need not be used only for class purposes. I encourage students to stop by for any reason they'd like, including but not limited to: learning about other areas of philosophy, chatting about academic topics in general, etc. I am also a trained Husky Ally (for GLBTQ\*) for those in need.

## Plagiarism Policy

Cheating is reprehensible. Do not do it. Any case of plagiarism (that is, representing someone else's work as your own) results in an automatic failure in the entire course, as well as a report to the Office of Community Standards, which can impose penalties up to and including expulsion. You can find UConn's policy on academic policy here.

Activities that constitute plagiarism include copying off others assignments or tests, buying or selling answers to assignments or tests, working with others on assignments, as well as anything else classified as academic misconduct by the UConn Student Code. Please note that the passive forms of all of these activities (e.g. letting someone copy off your assignment or test) are considered plagiarism to the same degree that the active forms.

## Disability Policy

I'm an adamant supporter of the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD). Those with CSD-recognised disabilities should contact me as soon as possible with the requisite forms so we can set that up together with CSD.

## Course Schedule

The course schedule is subject to change at any time; all changes will be announced via email.

Date	Topic	Reading
<b>THE FORMAL LANGUAGE OF PROPOSITIONAL LOGIC</b>		
January 17	Introductions	
January 19	Propositions and Arguments	Ch. 1
January 24/26	The Formal Language	Ch. 2
January 31/February 2	Connectives and Translations	Ch. 2, 6
<b>THE SEMANTICS OF CLASSICAL LOGIC</b>		
February 7/9	Truth Tables	Ch. 3
February 14/16	Using Truth Tables	Ch. 4
February 21/23	Truth Trees	Ch. 7
February 28/March 2	Truth Trees	Ch. 7
<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>		
March 7	In-Class Midterm Review	
March 9	Midterm Exam	
<b>NON-CLASSICAL LOGICS: <math>K_3</math>, LP, FDE</b>		
March 21/23	Vagueness, Gluts and Gaps	TBA
March 28/30	Semantics for $K_3$	TBA
April 4/6	Semantics for LP	TBA
April 11/13	Semantics for FDE	TBA
April 18/20	Trees for Non-Classical Logics	TBA
April 25/27	Logic and Philosophy	TBA
<b>FINAL EXAM</b>		
TBA	Final Exam Out-Of-Class Review	
TBA	Final Exam	