

PHIL 114 - Introduction to Symbolic Logic

Spring Term 2016

Primary Instructor:

Contact Info: UNLV Department of Philosophy, CDC 429

Office Phone:

Office Hrs

Email:

Teaching Assistant:

Office Hrs:

Email:

Course Objective: Our task this semester is to master the symbolization of natural language statements and arguments into propositional and predicate logic, and also to master derivation (or "proof") systems for these logical systems.

Text: Our on-line "text" (and tutoring system) shall be *Logic and Proofs*, developed by Wilfred Sieg and available through Carnegie Mellon's Open Learning Initiative. The content of this course is the product of many years of extensive development, and is under continuing revision in light of student achievement and feedback. It is the single best presentation of introductory symbolic logic and on-line support I have ever encountered.

Registration at OLI: Your first task this semester will be to register for the on-line course content and lab and homework support. There is a fee of \$80 for the service (think of that as replacing your ordinary textbook costs). In order to register, you must first click on the external link <http://oli.cmu.edu>. When you reach the OLI site, go to the left of the blue upper bar that says 'Learn With OLI' and then click on the link that says 'sign in to Your Class.' Follow the instructions for academic students regarding account creation. When prompted for a course key, enter "unlv-landp", and when asked, enter the payment information for your credit card (required).

Schedule: Basically, we will be covering a chapter of *Logic and Proofs* every week (except for those weeks on which there is a scheduled exam).

PHIL – 114: Introduction to Symbolic Logic
Spring 2016 Schedule

Week 1: Jan 19, 21	Logic and Proofs (L&P), Chapter 1 (Quiz #1)
Week 2: Jan 26, 28	L&P, Chapter 2 (Quiz #2)
Week 3: Feb 2, 4	L&P, Chapter 3 (Quiz #3, P.S. #3)
Week 4: Feb 9, 11	Exam #1 (Feb 11)
Week 5: Feb 16, 18	L&P, Chapter 4 (Quiz #4, P.S. #4)
Week 6: Feb 23, 25	L&P, Chapter 5 (Quiz #5, P.S. #5)
Week 7: Mar 1, 3	L&P, Chapter 6 (Quiz #6, P.S. #6)
Week 8: Mar 8, 10	L&P, Chapter 7 (Quiz #7, P.S. #7)
Week 9: Mar 15, 17	Exam #2 (Mar 15) , Begin Chapter 8
SPRING	BREAK (Look at Chapter 13 over break....Please!)
Week 10: Mar 29, 31	L&P, Chapter 8 (Quiz #8, P.S #8)
Week 11: Apr 5, 7	L&P, Chapter 9 (Quiz #9, P.S. #9)
Week 12: Apr 12, 14	Exam #3 (Apr 14)
Week 13: Apr 19, 21	L&P, Chapter 10 (Quiz #10, P.S. #10)
Week 14: Apr 26, 28	L&P, Chapter 11 (Quiz #11, P.S. #11)
Week 15: May 3, 5	L&P, Chapter 12 (Quiz #12, P.S. #13)
Finals Week	Final Exam – And Cake!

Homework: You can't master a derivation system by passively sitting in a classroom, staring

at a computer screen, or reading a book. You have to apply yourself to problems (practice, practice, practice!). Quizzes and Problem Sets follow each chapter of "Logic and Proofs." These are key to succeeding in the class, and I am requiring you to do each and every one. You will need to complete these assignments and to submit them online through OLI, where they will be automatically graded. Since I will be looking at our collective performance on these assignments in preparation for class, *I must have you complete both the homework and the lab assignments **by Midnight on the Monday** of the week following (that gives you the entire weekend to complete the labs and homework).*

Course Requirements: There will be 3 in-class exams (each comprising roughly 15% of your final grade) and a cumulative final (worth 25%). **You must take all of the exams to pass the course.** These will be graded on the standard numerical scale (90-100%=A, 80-90%=B, etc.), which means that you should not expect a curve.

The remaining 30% of your final grade will be split between the quizzes and the problem sets found at the end of every chapter. You must score at least 75% on a homework assignment to receive full credit for it. Don't fret about it— You will receive automatic and immediate feedback on these assignments, and I will give you two chances to achieve that score. To receive full credit for a lab assignment, you must complete at least two-thirds of the assigned problems.

As always, borderline cases will be decided at the whim of management.

A Final Word of Caution!!: Many past students will attest that this is a challenging course, which will require you to devote several hours each week to the text and to the assignments. It demands that you develop certain reasoning *skills* rather than retain a storehouse of information. The time commitment will only increase as you proceed. This means that it is *tremendously* difficult to catch up once you've fallen behind. **You cannot put off preparing for exams until the last minute and expect to pass this course!** Many have tried, ... and many have failed.

UNLV Required Syllabi Addenda:

Academic Misconduct - Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV's function as an educational institution.

An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the *Student Academic Misconduct Policy* (approved December 9, 2005) located at: <http://studentconduct.unlv.edu/misconduct/policy.html>.

Copyright - The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. **You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws.** Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: <http://provost.unlv.edu/copyright/statements.html>.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)— Disability Resource Center (DRC)—The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, <http://drc.unlv.edu/>, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

Religious Holidays Policy— Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor **within the first 14 calendar days of the course for fall and spring courses (excepting modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for summer and modular courses**, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess.

For additional information, please visit: <http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531>.

Incomplete Grades - The grade of I – Incomplete – can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed all course work up to the withdrawal date of that semester/session but for

reason(s) beyond the student's control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. A student who receives an I is responsible for making up whatever work was lacking at the end of the semester. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

Transparency in Learning and Teaching—The University encourages application of the transparency method of constructing assignments for student success. Please see these two links for further information:

<https://www.unlv.edu/provost/teachingandlearning>

<https://www.unlv.edu/provost/transparency>

Tutoring and Coaching—The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, visit <http://www.unlv.edu/asc> or call 702-895-3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of the SSC (ASC Coaching Spot). Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library and College of Engineering TEB second floor.

UNLV Writing Center - One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 895-3908. The student's Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at:

<http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/>

Rebelmail - By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students' Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV's official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students' e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @univ.nevada.edu.

Final Examinations – The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: <http://www.unlv.edu/registra/calendars>.

Library statement - Students may consult with a librarian on research needs. For this class, the Subject Librarian is (https://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians_by_subject). UNLV Libraries provides resources to support students' access to information. Discover, access, and use of information are vital skills for academic work and for successful post-college life. Access library resources and ask questions at <https://www.library.unlv.edu/>.