PHIL 3203   Introduction to Formal Logic

MW 3   Mon, Wed   3:40 – 4:55pm

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We are often presented with arguments designed to convince us to believe certain things, or to act in certain ways. Most of the time we do pretty well at sorting out the bad arguments from the good ones, but we may not have a very clear of idea of what this involves. One requirement is surely that an argument should be valid, that its conclusion should follow from its premises, or to put it another way, that the premises should *entail* the conclusion. But just what is it for an assertion to follow from (be entailed by) others? In this course we will develop a formal framework within which entailment, along with other central concepts of deductive logic, can be rigorously defined and studied.