

SYLLABUS Reasoning Philosophy 3210, Fall 2012 Dr. Dena Shottenkirk

Text: *Informal Logic*, by Irving Copi & Keith Burgess-Jackson

- August 27 Introduction, Syllabus Review
- August 29 *Chapter 1.1 & 1.2 Premises and Conclusions assignment: exercises (1.2, page 12) 1,3,5,7,10, 13, 15, 18, 21, 25.*
- Sept. 3 SCHOOL CLOSED
- Sept. 5 *Chapter 1.3 Diagrams for Single Arguments assignment: exercises (1.3, page 21) 1,3,5,7, 10, 12, 16*
- Sept. 10 *Chapter 1.4 Recognizing Arguments assignment: exercises (1.4, page 31) 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 13, 17, 20, 23, 34.*
- Sept. 12 *Chapter 1.5 Passages Expressing Several Arguments assignment: exercises (1.5, page 44) 1, 4, 8, 10, 16, 19, 23, 26, 29, 32.*
- Sept. 17 SCHOOL CLOSED
- Sept. 19 *Chapter 1. 6 Induction and Deduction*
- Sept. 24 *Chapter 1.7 Truth, Validity, and Soundness*
- Sept. 26 SCHOOL CLOSED
- Oct. 1 *Chapter 1.8 The Use of Reason in Problem Solving assignment: exercises (1.8, page 62) 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 12*
- Oct. 3 *Chapter 2.1 Functions of Language & Chapter 2.2 Discourse Serving Multiple Functions & 2.3 Forms of Discourse assignment: (2.3, page 79) I: 1,4, 6, 9, 12, 15, 16, II: 2, 5, 8.*
- Oct. 8 SCHOOL CLOSED
- Oct. 10 (conversion day: classes follow a Monday schedule)  
*Chapter 2.5 Kinds of Agreement and Disagreement assignment (2.5) 1, 3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 16, 17.*
- Oct. 15 *Chapter 2.6 Emotively Neutral Language assignment: (2.6) 1.*
- Oct. 17 *Chapter 3.1 The Nature and Classification of Fallacies & 3.2 Common Informal Fallacies assignment: (3.2) 1, 4, 5, 7, 9.*
- Oct. 22 *Chapter 3.2 (con't from Missing the Point) assignment (3.2 page 110) 1,3, 4, 6, 7, 8.*

Oct. 24	<i>Chapter 3.2 (con't from Appeal to the People) assignment (3.2, page 120) 1, 2, 3, 4, 6.</i>
Oct. 29	<i>5.1 Uses of Analogy assignment (5.1, page 167) 2, 4, 6, 7, 9 16, 17.</i>
Oct. 31	<i>5.2 Evaluating Analogical Arguments assignment (5.2, page 176) I. 1, 2, 3. II. 12.</i>
Nov. 5	<i>5.3 Refutation by Logical Analogy assignment (5.3, page 185) 1, 2, 4, 12, 14.</i>
Nov. 7	<i>6.1 The Nature of Causation assignment (6.1, page 194) all of them.</i>
Nov. 12	<i>6.2 Mill's Methods assignment (6.2, page 198) 1, 2, 4. (6.2, page 203), 1, 3</i>
Nov. 14	<i>6.2 Mill's Methods assignment (6.2, page 209-10) 1, 3, 4.</i>
Nov. 19	<i>6.2 Mill's Methods (6.2, page 213) 1, 2 (6.2 page 218) 2.</i>
Nov. 21	<i>6.3 The Alleged Circularity of Mill's Methods assignment (6.3, page 226) 1, 4, 9</i>
Nov. 26	<i>7.1 Values and Disvalues of Science &amp; 7.2 Explanations: Scientific and Nonscientific assignment (7.1, page 244) only one exercise</i>
Nov. 28	<i>7.3 Evaluating Scientific Explanations &amp; 7.4 The Detective as Scientist</i>
Dec. 3	<i>7.5 Scientists in Action: The Pattern Of Scientific Investigation assignment (7.5, page 261) 1, 2.</i>
Dec. 5	<i>7.6 Crucial Experiments and Ad Hoc Hypotheses &amp; 7.7 Classification as Hypothesis assignment (7.7, page 271) 1, 2, 8, 15, 27.</i>
Dec. 10	Review

### **Requirements:**

**Attendance:** More than 3 unexcused absences, and the grade will be dropped one grade point for each absence. Students arriving more than 15 minutes late will not be admitted to class.

**Class participation:** Students are expected to participate in class discussions giving comments relevant to the text and readings. Texting on phones or surfing the internet will result in a dropped grade.

**All assigned exercises are due the next day of class. Assignments handed in late will receive a late grade (20% reduction for each day)**

Final Exam: Final, true/false test. Not graded on curve

**Assessment and Grading:**

Assigned Exercises	50%
Final Exam	30%
Class participation	10%
Attendance	10%

ASSIGNMENTS HANDED IN LATE WILL SUFFER A GRADE DEMOTION

Goals of Course:

1. Students will gain a basic understanding of the discipline of logical reasoning.
2. Students will develop their critical reasoning skills.
3. Students will develop their ability to write and verbally communicate their ideas.

**Contact:**

Email: [DSHOTTENKIRK@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:DSHOTTENKIRK@brooklyn.cuny.edu) office hours: Wednesday 4:30-5:30. My office is 3311 Boylan. I do not check email over the weekend. Please limit emails to essential communication; it is not necessary to email regarding missed classes. It is better to speak in person regarding that.

**How to succeed in this class:**

- Keep up on readings and the homework. Come to class prepared and expect to read the text at least twice. Outline the main points. Quiz yourself or have a classmate quiz you.
- Participate in Class Discussions. *If you have not understood some of the material, ask in class for a fuller explanation.*
- Study for the test with a study group.

**Regarding Plagiarism:** *Students, please note: I take this very seriously.*

The faculty and administration of Brooklyn College support an environment free from cheating and plagiarism. Each student is responsible for being aware of what constitutes cheating and plagiarism and for avoiding both. The complete text of the CUNY Academic Integrity Policy and the Brooklyn College procedure for implementing that policy can be found at this site:

<http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/policies>. If a faculty member suspects a violation of academic integrity and, upon investigation, confirms that violation, or if the student admits the violation, the faculty member MUST report the violation.

**Regarding Religious Holidays:**

Please note page 53 in the Bulletin and its reference to the state law regarding non-attendance because of religious beliefs.

**Regarding Disability:**

In order to receive disability-related academic accommodations students must first be registered with the Center for Student Disability Services. Students who have a documented disability or suspect they may have a disability are invited to set up an appointment with the Director of the Center for Student Disability Services, Ms. Valerie Stewart-Lovell at 718-951-5538. If you have already registered with the Center for Student Disability Services please provide your professor with the course accommodation form and discuss your specific accommodation with him/her.