Course Information  Phil 380 Formal Logic  3 Units  Fall 2009
MW 1:05-2:30 pm, Duke 121
Final Exam: Thurs. Dec. 16th, 12:15-2:15 pm

Instructor Information  Teri Merrick
Office: Duke 240  (626) 815 – 6000 ext. 5614
Hours: MW 10:30 – 12:30 & by appt.

University Mission and Purpose
Azusa Pacific University is an evangelical Christian community of disciples and scholars who seek to advance the work of God in the world through academic excellence in liberal arts and professional programs of higher education that encourage students to develop a Christian perspective of truth and life.

Course Description  (from the Course Catalogue)
This course provides a basic introduction to logic and is intended to help you improve your critical reasoning skills in two ways. First, it will help you learn to recognize arguments in a natural language (namely, English) and translate those arguments into a systematic formal language (that is, a language of symbols that are each given a precise meaning). Second, it will help you learn to use this systematic formal language so that you can distinguish, in a precise way, valid deductive arguments from those that are invalid.

Desired Learning Outcome
All students will demonstrate increased ability to understand, construct, and reflect critically on philosophical arguments, calling upon the best of the philosophical tradition and their own analytical and expressive skills towards application of such reflection to a current social or moral issue.

Desired Faith Integration Outcome
All students will demonstrate increased confidence in the compatibility of sincere Christian faith and robust philosophical reflection, growing into a greater awareness of the intellectual depth, strength, and coherence that is possible for construction of a comprehensive Christian worldview.

Assignments Designed to Assess Outcomes & IDEA Objectives
• Exams, problem sets and critical analysis paper are all designed to measure students’ ability to articulate the structure of argument and assess its strengths and weaknesses as well as formulate philosophical questions with precision and clarity. Objectives: Gaining factual knowledge; learning fundamental principles and theories; learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view.

Required Texts
• Other required readings online at http://groups.apu.edu/theophil, unless otherwise specified.
**Course Requirements**

**Participation (10%)** – This portion of your grade will be based on the quantity and quality of your course participation inside and outside the classroom.

**Lecture analysis or logic article review (10%)** – Throughout the semester, lectures are sponsored by various departments or programs. Often times the lecturers are arguing for a particular thesis or position. To fulfill this requirement, you must attend one lecture that has been pre-approved by your instructor and turn in 500-750 word critical analysis of its content. The analysis is due no later than one week after the lecture. The critical analysis must include: 1) an exposition of the argument(s) presented. You should not summarize the speech, but rather identify the speaker’s primary thesis, the premises offered in support of that thesis, and the structure of the argument, i.e., how the premises relate to one another and the thesis; 2) a critique of the argument. Your critique should address the following questions. Did the speaker provide sufficient evidence for the truth of the premises? Even if the premises are likely true, are they relevant to the conclusions and sub-conclusions being drawn? In other words, does the thesis follow from the premises? Are there any relevant, unstated assumptions? Did the speaker consider and respond to strong objections or counter-examples? Even if the argument is relatively strong as presented, how could it be strengthened? If you cannot attend one of the lectures, then you may turn in a critical analysis of an article on the philosophy of logic. The choice of article(s) will determined by the instructor and made available online.

**Weekly problem sets (25%)** – These are problems drawn from your textbook and designed to give you lots of practice honing those skills required for translating natural language arguments into the appropriate formalism and assessing their validity.

**Midterms I and II (15% each)** – These exams will not necessarily be cumulative, but will certainly draw upon skills tested on prior problem sets and exams. Problems will resemble those practiced in class and on problem sets. The midterms cover concepts and proof techniques relevant to sentential logic.

**Final Exam (25%)** – Exam may include problems in sentential logic. However, the bulk of the exam will cover concepts and proof techniques in quantificational logic. Here too problems will resemble those practiced in class and on problem sets.

**Course and University Policies & Procedures**

1. **Attendance:** Absences will only be excused for personal illness, death in the immediate family, or required attendance at another college related event and only if the student notifies the professor before class. No absences will be excused after the fact. Any work that will be missed must be turned in prior to absence if at all possible.

2. **Grading:** Your grade will be determined by multiplying your raw score by the percentages allocated according to “Course Requirements” section above and then adding the scores together.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>A 98-100</th>
<th>B+ 87-89</th>
<th>C+ 77-79</th>
<th>D+ 67-69</th>
<th>A- 90-92</th>
<th>B- 80-82</th>
<th>C- 70-74</th>
<th>D- 60-62</th>
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   A grading rubric is available online indicating how grades for the content and structure of the paper and essay questions will be determined. Late papers cannot be turned in without a valid excuse (see above) and, even with such an excuse, will be docked a third of a grade for every late day. For example, a ‘B+’ paper will automatically drop to a ‘B’ the day after it is due.

3. **APU’s Final Exam Policy:** “No final examination shall be given to individual students BEFORE the regularly scheduled time. No exception can be made to this rule without approval of the instructor, the department chair, and the Dean of the School of Theology.”

4. **Academic Integrity Policy:** The mission of Azusa Pacific University includes cultivating in each student not only the academic skills that are required for a university degree, but also the characteristics of academic integrity that are integral to a sound Christian education. It is therefore part of the mission of the university to nurture in each student a sense of moral responsibility consistent with the biblical teachings of honesty and accountability. Furthermore, a
breach of academic integrity is viewed not merely as a private matter between the student and an instructor but rather as an act which is fundamentally inconsistent with the purpose and mission of the entire university. A complete copy of the Academic Integrity Policy is available in the Office of Student Life, the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Programs, and online.

5. **Expectations for this course regarding academic integrity in this class:**
   - Expectations are consistent with those outlined in the academic integrity policy available on [http://www.apu.edu/provost/facultyResources/integrity/](http://www.apu.edu/provost/facultyResources/integrity/)
   - Note especially III.B. Any paraphrasing of ideas or arguments obtained others, including fellow students and online sources, must be fully acknowledged and cited.
   - An assignment that consists primarily of paraphrases or quotes from other sources, even if properly cited, will result in a very low grade since it is the student’s attempt to express their own ideas and unique perspective that is of to this instructor. Evidence of the unacknowledged use of another’s work will result in a zero for that assignment and a report of the violation to the Office of the Provost.
   - Information regarding MLA style citations can be found on [http://libweb.apu.ac.uk/subjects/reference/citation.php](http://libweb.apu.ac.uk/subjects/reference/citation.php)
   - Your instructor will make it clear those assignments where collaboration is permitted and encouraged. On those assignments, any student’s contribution should be acknowledged and there should be a good faith effort for each collaborator to make an equal contribution.
   - The student is responsible to discuss any questions concerning academic integrity with the instructor prior to turning in the assignment.

6. **Consequences for violations of academic integrity in this class:** Consequences are consistent with those outlined in the academic integrity policy.