

**COURSE INFORMATION**

Fall 2009: Symbolic Logic  
 PHIL 012: 001 [MWF 10.10–11a.m.]: [203 Willard]  
 PHIL 012: 002: WEB

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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 Office hours: By appointment (see email)  
 Office Location: 228 Sparks

**Texts**

Jacquette	<i>Symbolic Logic</i> by Dale Jacquette [ISBN: 0-534-43730-8]; Use of CD-ROM is optional.
Optional	Students Solutions Manual for <i>Symbolic Logic</i> by Jacquette and Martinez [ISBN: 0-534-53731-6]

**Reading List**

<b>Reading List</b>		
24 Aug	<b>Lessons 0–2</b>	Lessons 0–2: Getting Started, Propositions and Arguments, Propositional Semantics
26		Lessons 0–2: Getting Started, Propositions and Arguments, Propositional Semantics
28		Lessons 0–2: Getting Started, Propositions and Arguments, Propositional Semantics
31 Sep		Lessons 0–2: Getting Started, Propositions and Arguments, Propositional Semantics
2		Lessons 0–2: Getting Started, Propositions and Arguments, Propositional Semantics
4	<b>Quiz #1</b>	Quiz #1 will be posted in the <i>Assignments Folder</i> and is due in the ANGEL DROPBOX <b>before Noon on 4 Sept.</b>
7	<b>Lesson 3–4</b>	Lessons 3–4: Truth-Tables and Trees
9		Lessons 3–4: Truth-Tables and Trees
11		Lessons 3–4: Truth-Tables and Trees
14		Lessons 3–4: Truth-Tables and Trees
16		Lessons 3–4: Truth-Tables and Trees
18		Lessons 3–4: Truth-Tables and Trees
21	<b>Quiz #2</b>	Quiz #2 will be posted in the <i>Assignments Folder</i> and is due in the ANGEL DROPBOX <b>before Noon on 21 Sept.</b>
23	<b>Lesson 5</b>	Lesson 5: Propositional Deduction Proofs — <b>Note:</b> This is the hardest lesson of the course
25		Lesson 5: Propositional Deduction Proofs
28		Lesson 5: Propositional Deduction Proofs
30		Lesson 5: Propositional Deduction Proofs
2 Oct		Lesson 5: Propositional Deduction Proofs
5		Lesson 5: Propositional Deduction Proofs
7		Lesson 5: Propositional Deduction Proofs
9		Lesson 5: Propositional Deduction Proofs
12		Lesson 5: Propositional Deduction Proofs
14		Lesson 5: Propositional Deduction Proofs
16		Lesson 5: Propositional Deduction Proofs
19		Lesson 5: Propositional Deduction Proofs
21		Lesson 5: Propositional Deduction Proofs
23	<b>Quiz #3</b>	Quiz #3 will be posted in the <i>Assignments Folder</i> and is due in the ANGEL DROPBOX <b>before Noon on 23 Oct.</b>
26	<b>Lesson 6–7</b>	Lesson 6–7: Predicate Syntax, Semantics, and Truth Trees
28		Lesson 6–7: Predicate Syntax, Semantics, and Truth Trees
30		Lesson 6–7: Predicate Syntax, Semantics, and Truth Trees
4 Nov		Lesson 6–7: Predicate Syntax, Semantics, and Truth Trees
6		Lesson 6–7: Predicate Syntax, Semantics, and Truth Trees
9		Lesson 6–7: Predicate Syntax, Semantics, and Truth Trees
11		Lesson 6–7: Predicate Syntax, Semantics, and Truth Trees
13		Lesson 6–7: Predicate Syntax, Semantics, and Truth Trees
16	<b>Quiz #4</b>	Quiz #4 will be posted in the <i>Assignments Folder</i> and is due in the ANGEL DROPBOX <b>before Noon on 16 Nov.</b>
18	<b>Lesson 8</b>	Lesson 8: Predicate Deduction Proofs
20		Lesson 8: Predicate Deduction Proofs

23		Lesson 8: Predicate Deduction Proofs
25		Lesson 8: Predicate Deduction Proofs
27		Lesson 8: Predicate Deduction Proofs
30		Lesson 8: Predicate Deduction Proofs
2 Dec		Lesson 8: Predicate Deduction Proofs
4		Lesson 8: Predicate Deduction Proofs
7		Lesson 8: Predicate Deduction Proofs
9		Lesson 8: Predicate Deduction Proofs
11	<b>Quiz #5</b>	Quiz #5 will be posted in the <i>Assignments Folder</i> and is due in the ANGEL DROPBOX <b>before Noon on 11 Dec.</b>

**I. Course Description**

Symbolic logic is an introductory, three-credit-hour, course taught frequently in undergraduate philosophy programs. The course teaches (1) translating English propositions and arguments into a variety of different formal representations, e.g. first-order propositional, first-order predicate, existential graphs, modal logic, etc., (2) syntactic proof-procedures for logically valid arguments, (3) pseudo-mechanical tests for formal properties of propositions and arguments, e.g. validity, consistency, equivalence, invalidity, etc.

**II. Grade Evaluation, Scale, Breakdown**

- 90% Five Quizzes (18% each)
- 10% Online Homework Assignments (assigned in class)
  - Grades will be rounded up from the *second* decimal point, e.g. 90.95 rounds up to 91.0 while 90.94 rounds down to 90.90. In the event that eLION does not allow for a particular grade (e.g. D+), you will simply be given the letter grade (e.g. if you have a D+ then you will receive a D, and if you have a C-, you will receive a C).

A: 91–100%;	C+: 79.0–79.9	F: 0–59.9
A–: 90.0–90.9	C: 71.0–77.9	<a href="#">INCOMPLETE</a>
B+: 89.0–89.9	C–: 70–70.9	<a href="#">DROP</a>
B: 81.0–88.9	D+: 69.0–69.9	
B–: 80–80.9	D: 60.0–68.9	

**III. Explanation of Tests, Notebook Examinations, and Online Homework**

- **Quizzes (90%)**
  - There are five quizzes, all of which will require you to be familiar with the content covered in the lessons.
- **Online Homework (10%)**
  - There will be a few homework assignments. These will be basic (mostly conceptual) assessments and will be administered via ANGEL. There is no make-up.

**IV. Logic Tutors**

Through the course of the semester, you may decide you need additional tutoring. The following are a list of friendly students who have done exceptionally well in symbolic logic courses I have taught in the past. Contact them about their hours and the cost of their assistance. The following tutors will be able to provide you assistance with propositional and predicate logic (tables, translation, proofs) and the alpha part of existential graphs. If you are interested in becoming a *paid* tutor, contact me at [dwa132@psu.edu](mailto:dwa132@psu.edu)

Sarah Mack: [sem5105@psu.edu](mailto:sem5105@psu.edu)  
 Karintha Parker: [kcp5018@psu.edu](mailto:kcp5018@psu.edu)  
 Kristin Nuss: [kmn5024@psu.edu](mailto:kmn5024@psu.edu)

**V. Additional Administrative Information**

1. *Academic Misconduct*

The general principles and policy relating to cheating and plagiarism, which are enforced in this class, can be found in the Penn State policy on academic misconduct. *Academic Integrity*: Academic

dishonesty encompasses a wide range of activities, whether intentional or unintentional, that includes, but is not limited to: all forms of fraud, plagiarism, and any failure to cite explicitly all materials and sources used in one's work. Sanctions for these activities include, but are not limited to, failure in a course, removal from the degree program, failure in a course with an explanation in the permanent transcript of the cause for failure, suspension, and expulsion. If you are unclear about whether you or someone you know is engaging in academic misconduct, read the following: [University Statement on Academic Integrity](#)

1.1 *Other Resources on Academic Misconduct*

[PSU Academic Integrity](#)

[PSU ITS:](#)

[Plagiarism Tutor](#)

[Turnitin](#)

[PSU Teaching & Learning with Technology](#)

2. *Disability*

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the campus disability liaison as soon as possible: (name, office, telephone, email). For additional information, check the university web site for [Disability Services](#).

3. *Resources to Help with Research, Writing, Documentation, and Citation*

[Information Literacy Tutorial](#)

[University Learning Center](#)

[Writing Center](#)

4. *Use of Angel and email communication*

Please check the webpage on the [ANGEL](#) website regularly. An online version of the syllabus is available there, and you will be notified of any cancellation of a course meeting there. If you need to contact me, send a well-constructed email to [dwa132@psu.edu](mailto:dwa132@psu.edu) with an appropriate subject line (e.g. P120 Question) and with an appropriate address (e.g. "Dear David"). Failure to do either, or emailing me with multiple links attached ("check this youtube link") will result in your instructor deleting your email. Students are responsible for activity on their computer accounts so only send emails pertinent to the course. Also, please do not send correspondence from cellular telephones (e.g. Blackberries, etc.).

5. *Drop procedures and Incompletes*

Students who simply stop attending class, for whatever reason, without officially withdrawing from the course, will receive the grade of F. If you expect a refund, be aware that the date the withdrawal form is processed by Penn State registrar's office determines the amount of refund.

Consult the Register site for [drop procedures](#)

Consult the Handbook for taking an [Incomplete \(D/F\)](#)

6. *Student Guidance*

If you are in need of psychological counseling, please do not hesitate to contact Penn State's [Counseling & Psychological Services](#) (phone: 814-863-0395). For any problem related to your studies, university policies and procedures, do not hesitate to seek the help of the [Student Affairs Services](#), your Academic Advisor, or arrange a meeting with your instructor who will help you obtain assistance through one of the above, or another, agency.

7. *Classroom Environment*

A number of factors figure into creating a healthy classroom environment. In order to facilitate such an environment, I ask you to obey the following: (1) the use of cell phones in any capacity is prohibited (please turn ringers/buzzers off, no text-messaging during class), (2) please do not begin to 'pack up' your belongings before your instructor has *explicitly* dismissed you, (3) please come to class rested, sleeping in class is strictly prohibited, (4) please do not do other work in class. If you are incapable of performing (1)-(4) or are disruptive in class, you will kindly be asked to leave the classroom.

8. *Challenge Examination*

For some courses, students may request a [challenge examination](#) as a substitute for completing the usual requirements of a course. If the examination is successfully completed the credits received are described as "credits by examination" ([policy 42-50](#)).

**Elements of this syllabus are subject to modification due to unforeseen variables, catastrophic events, or other factors. The instructor will announce any of these changes in class.**