

PHIL 120 Logic and the Art of Reasoning

Fall 2021

Course Outline

Class Start Date & End Date

Class begins Wednesday, September 9 at 8:30am

Class ends Monday, December 7 at 9:50am

Class Meeting Time, Location, and Room

Monday and Wednesday mornings 8:30-9:50am in the St. Francis Room

Instructors Name: Rev. Andrew Schoenberger, STL
Office: Formator's Office, St. Joseph Seminary
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, by appointment
Telephone: 780.392.2445
Email: Andrew.schoenberger@newman.edu
Skype: N/A

Course Description

The study of logic enables the intellect to engage in the orderly pursuit of truth. In this class, students will hone their ability to use language with precision by mastering the rules of definition, by identifying the relationship between kinds of propositions, and by becoming familiar with valid and invalid syllogistic forms. Besides studying substantial portions of Plato's *Meno*, Aristotle's *Categories* and Porphyry's *Isagogy*, students will learn how to name and avoid the most common logical fallacies.

Course Objectives

- a) To better understand and analyze the arguments and positions of others as presented in speech or writing.
- b) To be able to understand the rules of logic and apply them to their own thinking processes.

B.A. Program Goals

- a) Skills in reading, writing and oral communication.
- b) Skills in logical analysis and research.

Course Assignments and Evaluation

- Class Participation – 10%
- Weekly exercises – 60% (Due each Wednesday before 10:00am)
- Final Exam – 30%

Textbooks

Kreeft, Peter. *Socratic Logic: Edition 3.1*. South Bend: St. Augustine's Press, 2010.

Recommended Reading

Plato *Dialogue with Meno* Hackett Publishing

Porphyrus the Phoenician *Isagoge*

Aristotle. *The Categories*

Course Requirements

This course comprises 36 hours of instruction and seminar-style discussion. Students must attend all classes and are expected to prepare for each week by doing the assigned readings and being able to participate in the class discussions. Weekly assignments and final exam are means for the student to put what is learned into practice so as to enable an integration of the skills of logic into his/her own personal and professional life.

**Grade distribution linked to the course objectives.

Providing a means by which student learning, in view of the course objectives can be measured. Possible items such as attendance, reading, class participation, term papers (papers, presentations, book reports, group work, and projects), and exams.

Late Submission Policy.

Late assignments **will not** be accepted unless an extension (previous to the due date) has been granted for serious reasons.

Course Schedule

	Date	Texts to be read	Themes and potential questions	Assignments
I	Sep 8	Kreeft 1-34	<i>Introduction to the course</i> An overview of logic Introduction to the Three Acts of the Mind	
II	Sep 13	Kreeft 35-40	The First Act of the Mind: Understanding Concepts, terms and words	Kreeft, p. 34 <i>All Odd Numbered Exercises</i>

	Sept 15	Kreeft 41-46	The "problem of universals" The extension and comprehension of terms	
III	Sep 20	Kreeft 47-55	Terms: Classifying terms Categories	
	Sep 22	Kreeft 56-66	Predicables	
IV	Sep 27		Predicables (cont.) Dividing Terms	Kreeft, pages 49, 51, 52, 53: #1&7 55: #1&3 <i>All Odd Numbered Exercises unless otherwise noted</i>
	Sep 29	Kreeft 68-91	Material Fallacies Fallacies of Language, diversion, and oversimplification	
V	Oct 4	Kreeft 92-122	Fallacies of argumentation, induction, procedure, and metaphysical fallacies	Kreeft, 61 64 (#1-17) 72-73 <i>All Odd Numbered Exercises unless otherwise noted</i>
	Oct 6	Kreeft, 123-130	Definition The nature of definition The kinds of definition The limits of definition	
VI	Oct 13	1 st Review	Review Week	Kreeft pages 130: #1-7 131: II A #1-15 132: II B #1-5 <i>Only Odd Numbered</i>
VII	Oct 18	Kreeft 138-165	The Second Act of the Mind: Judgment Truth and Propositions	
	Oct 20	Kreeft 166-172	Changing Propositions: Conversion and Obversion	
VIII	Oct 25		Changing Propositions: Contraposition and Inversion	Kreeft p. 156-163 A: all B: 1-7 C: 1-5 D: 1-5 E: 1-5 G: 3-7 p. 164: all <i>Only Odd Numbered</i>
	Oct 27	Kreeft 173-185	Contradiction: The Square of Contradiction	
IX	Nov 1	Kreeft 186-199	The Third Act of the Mind: Reasoning The Ultimate Foundations of the Syllogism	Kreeft p. 171-172: all p. 178-179: all p. 182 "Tricky Exercise" <i>Only Odd Numbered</i>
	Nov 3	Kreeft 200-214	Different Kinds of Arguments The Four Causes Deductive and Inductive Reasoning	
X	Nov 8-12	The Solemn festival of Reading Week	The Solemn festival of Reading Week	
	Nov 15	Kreeft 215-221	The Structure and Strategy of the Syllogism	Kreeft p. 199 all p. 205 all <i>Only Odd Numbered</i>
XI	Nov 17	Kreeft 222-236	Demonstrative Syllogisms How to Construct Convincing Syllogisms	

XII	Nov 22	Kreeft 237-256	Checking Syllogisms for Validity Euler's Circles and Aristotle's Six Rules	Kreeft p. 234-236 all <i>Only Odd Numbered</i>
	Nov 24	Kreeft 264-282	Enthymemes, Sorites, and Epiceiremas	
XIII	Nov 29	Kreeft 289-312	Compound Syllogisms: Hypothetical, Disjunctive, Conjunctive and Dilemmas	Kreeft p. 253-257 A: all B: 1-15 p. 271: 1-5 <i>Only Odd Numbered</i>
	Dec 1		Review	
XIV	Dec 6	Final Review	Review	Kreeft pages 299: 1-7 302: 1-5 305: 1-5 311: 1-5
	Dec 8	Final Review	Review	
XV		Final Exam		Final Exam (30%)

General Academic Information

Course Attendance

No credit will be given for a course if the student has been absent, for any reason whatever, from one-third or more of the lectures and/or seminars scheduled for the term. Likewise, no credit will be given if term assignments or other assignments are or remain incomplete.

Leave of Absence and Policy for Incompletes

Extensions to an incomplete grade may be granted in extenuating circumstances, but may not exceed 16 weeks following the end of the course. Students who fail to complete course work by the agreed deadline will have a grade assigned which is based on work completed.

Academic Integrity

Acts of academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating, etc.) are subject to an appropriate penalty. The grade "F" may be assigned to a student guilty of such acts by the professor of the course in which the infraction occurred. A second offense against academic integrity renders the student liable to automatic dismissal from NTC. Further details are available in the Academic Calendar in the Academic Misconduct Policy.

Academic Grievances

Students may appeal grades received; the procedure is outlined in the Academic Calendar in the Grade Appeal Policy. For other grievances, students will refer to the Student Grievances Policy also outlined in the Academic Calendar.

NOTE: The GPA is computed on the basis of cumulative grade point (letter) values, not percentage values. All courses are included in this calculation except those exceeding degree requirements and/or received as transfer credits from other recognized institutions.

Grading System

Undergraduate Studies		
Grade Meaning	Grade	Grade Point
Excellent	A+	4.0
	A	4.0
	A-	3.7
Good	B+	3.3
	B	3.0
	B-	2.7
Adequate	C+	2.3
	C	2.0
	C-	1.7
Marginal	D+	1.3
	D	1.0
Fail	F	0.0

Graduate Studies		
Grade Meaning	Grade	Grade Point
Excellent	A+	4.0
	A	4.0
	A-	3.7
Good	B+	3.3
	B	3.0
	B-	2.7
Adequate	C+	2.3
	C	2.0
	C-	1.7
Fail	D+	1.3
	D	1.0
	F	0.0

Written Assignments - Style and Format

Newman Theological College requires that all written work be submitted in acceptable academic format and style. Please note the following regulations:

Regulations

Research papers, book reports, article summaries, reflection papers, and essays should be double-spaced, printed on one side only, and submitted on white, 8.5" x 11" paper.

A standard type style, such as Times New Roman, with a 12-point font size, must be used. The instructor will specify the most recent edition of the style manual to be used:

1. Kate Turabian, "A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations" (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).
2. Joseph Gibaldi & William Ahters, eds., "MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers" (New York: Modern Language Association of America).

3. American Psychological Association “Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association” (Washington: APA Publications).

Copies of these standard references may be purchased in the NTC bookstore.

Ignorance of standard form is not considered an acceptable excuse for deviation from required standards of format and style.

Academic Regulations

The following Academic Regulations are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Changes in Registration: Add/Drop/Withdraw Notice
- Course Work
- Final Examination Schedule
- Incomplete Grade Policy
- Inclusive Language

Related Academic Matters

The following Related Academic Matters are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Grade Reports & Posting
- Glossary of Academic Terms

Other Related Policies

The following policies are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Academic Misconduct Policy
- Grade Appeal Policy

Recording of Lectures

Audio or video recording of lectures, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior consent of the instructor. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Student Accessibility Services:

A student with special needs that could affect their performance in class should contact their professor during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. They should also register with Student Services by contacting Sr. Zoe Bernatsky at 780-392-2450 ext. 2213; email zoe.bernatsky@newman.edu

Bibliography