

**GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND EDUCATION**

**PH 1250
Practical Logic
3 (3-0-0) UT
Winter 2002**

Instructor: Ruth Michaels
Office: C212
Office hours: Mon. 10-1130am, Wed. 10-1130am

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Lecture/No pre-requisites

Calendar Description

Elementary methods and principles for analysing arguments will be covered. Topics may include informal fallacies, introduction of scientific method, elementary statistical reasoning, elementary propositional logic, rational decision procedures.

Content Description

The first, and shortest, section of the course will focus on identifying and determining the relationships between premises and conclusions in ordinary language arguments, and on learning some of the informal fallacies. The other two sections of the course will examine the two major kinds of argument, deductive arguments and inductive arguments. We will focus on developing facility in assessing the validity of syllogistic argument forms (deductive argument forms) and in assessing arguments based on analogy, causal connections and probabilistic reasoning (inductive argument forms). The course requires some work on the online tutorial programme that accompanies the textbook.

Texts

Copi, Irving M. and Cohen, Carl, *Introduction to Logic*, 11th edition

Timeline

A detailed syllabus will be distributed on the first day of classes.

Evaluation

- 6 problem sets (the one with the lowest score will be dropped).....50%
- Midterm examination.....25%
- Final, registrar scheduled, examination.....25%

Evaluation Policies

Late assignments will not be accepted. Extensions of assignment deadlines will be considered *only* in the case of significant extenuating circumstances. Students are expected to begin work on assignments from the day they are assigned and should not expect to be able to complete a problem set the night before it is due. Students requesting extensions may be asked to show evidence of work done prior to requesting an extension. Requests for extensions will not be considered on the day materials are due. Students in circumstances of extreme duress should notify the instructor as soon as possible if they anticipate difficulty submitting their work on time.