

**Symbolic Logic  
Philosophy 340  
Fall 2009**

**Instructor: Philip M. Mouch**

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**Where: Bridges 357**

**When: MWF 10:30-11:20**

**Office Hours: MWF 11:30-1:00; T 11-4:30**

**and by appointment**

**homepage: <http://www.mnstate.edu/mouch/340/340index.html>**

**Course Overview:** The objective of this course is to acquaint students with a formal logic system that can be used to evaluate deductive arguments. We will cover both sentential and predicate logic, giving informal semantics and complete proof procedures for Sentential Logic and for First Order Logic. Students are urged to keep up with the work – both the reading assignments and written work; the course is cumulative, and students will find it difficult to do the work for any given week if they have not mastered the previous weeks' material.

**Text:** *Understanding Symbolic Logic, 5<sup>th</sup> ed.* by Virginia Klenk

**Exercises:** The only way to really learn this material is to practice at solving problems. Accordingly, there will be regular homework assignments. The schedule below gives both the assignments and the due dates. Homework will be due at the beginning of class on the scheduled date. You might want to work on the exercises early so that you can ask me questions before they are due. I will spot check these assignments, randomly selecting one or two questions to give a grade to.

**Exams:** There will be three in-class tests; the dates for these exams are on the schedule below. The final exam will take place during exam week. All students will be expected to take the exams on these dates, so please plan accordingly.

**Grades:** The homework exercises are worth 10% of the final grade. Each exam is worth 18% of the final grade. The final exam is worth 36% of the final grade. Grades will be assigned according to the following scale: A = 90+, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F = 59 and below. I do use +/- on letter grades.

**Policies:**

(1) You are responsible for all assignments to be handed in. Excuses for an assignment not being handed in such as you handed in the paper to my mailbox, slid it under my door, or gave it to a friend to hand in are unacceptable. I will take assignments placed in my mailbox, but if the assignment never shows up for whatever reason, it will count as late. You should be in class to hand in all assignments; otherwise you take the risk of not getting credit for your work.

(2) I will not allow any late assignments to be handed in or allow make-up exams unless there is some good reason (it should be a true emergency – not a family vacation or birth of a niece or nephew). In any event, written documentation will be required. You should get in touch with me as soon as possible if such a situation arises. If too much time elapses, I will be less inclined to accept an excuse and allow a make-up. The final exam will be held the day listed on the syllabus. Please plan accordingly.

(3) You are expected to be in class and have done the reading for the day. It is simple courtesy to be in class on time and in your seat. If you have to be late for some reason, please enter the room and take your seat quietly, so as not to disturb the class. PLEASE TURN OFF ALL ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT (INCLUDING CELLPHONES, PAGERS, AND IPODS). Do not engage in text messaging during class. Finally, do not stand up and walk out in the middle of the class period. This is distracting and rude to the other students and me. If you must leave early for some reason, please talk to me before class and sit near the door.

**Swine Flu:** We have been told that there is a chance that, with a swine flu outbreak, we may have to avoid gathering in large groups to prevent the spread of the disease. With that in mind, we have been asked to plan for the possibility that we may need to find alternative ways to maintain our classes without meeting on campus. If a swine flue outbreak happens, I will get in touch with you over e-mail so that we can proceed. You should also check the above website for the course for instructions.

**Tentative Schedule of Assignments:**

In the schedule below, the column headed “Read” indicates which chapter in the text the student should read for the week. This reading should be completed as early as possible. Exercises are due at the beginning of class on the days listed. The earlier you begin to work on the exercises, the more time you will have to ask me questions either in class or during my office hours. Again, these dates are tentative: I will try to stick to them as closely as possible, but they may change if events warrant it.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Read</b>	<b>Exercises (only need to do those not marked with an * in the text)</b>
Aug 24	Chapters 1-4	
Aug 26		
Aug 28		
Aug 31	Chapters 5-6	<b>Chap. 2</b> → #1, #2; <b>Chap. 3</b> → #1a-l, #2, #3; <b>Chap. 4</b> → #1a-j, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6
Sept 2		
Sept 4		<b>Chap. 5</b> → #1, #2, #3 <b>Chap. 6</b> → #2, #3, #4, #5, #6a-f, #7f-h, #8
Sept 7	<b>Labor Day</b>	
Sept 9		
Sept 11	<b>1st Exam</b>	
Sept 14	Chapter 7	
Sept 16		
Sept 18		
Sept 21	Chapter 8	<b>Chap. 7</b> → #6a-f, #7a-d, #8 a-j, #9 a-d
Sept 23		
Sept 25		
Sept 28	Chapter 9	<b>Chap. 8</b> → #4a-d, #5a-k, #6e-k, #7
Sept 30		
Oct 2		
Oct 5		<b>Chap. 9</b> → #4, #5, #6b-f, #7b-h
Oct 7		
Oct 9	<b>2nd Exam</b>	
Oct 12	<b>No Classes</b>	
Oct 14	Chapters 10-12	
Oct 16		
Oct 19	Chapters 12-14	<b>Chap. 10</b> → #1, #2; <b>Chap. 11</b> → #1, #2, #3a-j, #4a-j; <b>Chap. 12</b> → #4a-j, #5j-s, #6f-n, #7a-j
Oct 21		
Oct 23		
Oct 26	Chapters 15-16.1	<b>Chap. 13</b> → #2a-j, #3, #4a-f; #5f-j, #6, #7; <b>Chap. 14</b> → #1, #2a-j, #3, #4a-f, #5, #6a-j
Oct 28		
Oct 30		

Date	Read	Exercises (only need to do those not marked with an * in the text)
Nov 2		<b>Chap. 15</b> → #2a-g, #4a-g, #5; <b>Chap. 16</b> → #2
Nov 4		
Nov 6	<b>3rd Exam</b>	
Nov 9	Chapter 17	
Nov 11		
Nov 13		
Nov 16	Chapter 18	<b>Chap. 17</b> → #1, #2, #3, #4, #6, #7a-j, #8a-d, #9a-j
Nov 18		
Nov 20		
Nov 23		<b>Chap. 18</b> → #1f-i, p-r; #2a-b; #3a-h
Nov 25	<b>Thanksgiving</b>	
Nov 27	<b>Thanksgiving</b>	
Nov 30	Chapters 19-20	
Dec 2		
Dec 4		
Dec 7		<b>Chap. 19</b> → #2a-j, #3a-j, #4a-d, #5a-d, #6a-j; <b>Chap. 20</b> → #2
Dec 9	<b>Study Day</b>	
Dec 15	<b>Final Exam @ Noon</b>	

*Students with disabilities who believe they may need an accommodation in this class are encouraged to contact Greg Toutges, Coordinator of Disability Services at 477-5859 (voice) or 1-800-627-3529 (MRS/TTY), CMU 114 as soon as possible to ensure that accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.*