

Introductory Logic
Providence Extension Program
2023-2024 School Year

Instructor:

Dabney Holland

Contact information:

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Text:

Introductory Logic 5th Edition by James B. Nance

Introductory Logic Answer Key 5th Edition by Nance & Wilson

The Holy Bible (any literal translation, not a paraphrase)

Overview:

As defined in our text, logic is “the science and art of reasoning well.” This course is designed to strengthen students’ right reasoning through an introduction to both formal and informal logic. We begin with an exploration of logic, reason, and truth (along with humans’ capacity to grasp these) as understood through the biblical narrative. With the understanding that the Fall has impaired human reason, we then examine the “atom” of arguments, the term. Next, we progress to a study of statements and how they relate to each other. This clears the ground for learning how to construct arguments in the form of categorical syllogisms and how to gather strategies to distinguish valid ones from invalid ones. Finally, we will finish the course by learning to detect and identify the fallacies that surround us in daily life. Along the way students will practice ways to apply the new concepts they are mastering to reading, writing, and thinking for deeper understanding.

Supplies Needed:

3-ring binder (at least 1 inch thick) to hold all class materials

Notebook paper for taking notes in class

Blue or black ink pens for taking notes in class

Red pens for grading assignments at home

PEP Classes:

Students will be expected to bring all necessary supplies including a pen, notebook paper, and the textbook to every class. There will be a deduction in the student’s class participation grade for coming to class unprepared or tardy.

Goals:

Students will:

- Articulate the nature and purpose of logic as it relates to the biblical account of truth and reason
- Articulate the nature of a term; identify, interpret, and define the terms of given arguments
- Articulate the nature of a statement/proposition, including support of statements and relationships between them
- Memorize and explain the arrangement of standard categorical statements on the square of opposition

- Articulate the nature of an argument, including organization into premises/conclusion, grounding in induction/deduction, and soundness as determined by truth/validity
- Explain, analyze, and invent various syllogisms used to form deductive arguments
- Translate deductive syllogisms out of written arguments and use deductive syllogisms to write arguments
- Memorize the common informal fallacies and identify them in various sources

Course Assignments:

All assignments will be posted on my website which is located at www.hollandpep.weebly.com. The bulk of weekly assignments will come from the Introductory Logic textbook. Assignments must be complete and handed in on time at the beginning of each class, in hard copy. Assignments will **not** be accepted in email form.

Quizzes:

Short quizzes will be given at the beginning of most classes. They will focus on the previous week's lesson and homework but may also include review questions.

Tests:

Tests will be given after every 3-6 lessons. These are closed-book, closed-note tests (unless otherwise instructed by the tutor) and are also posted to my weebly site.

Late Work Policy:

Coursework assignments are to be submitted in class, on time and complete. Late or obviously incomplete work will be assessed a twenty (20) percent penalty per PEP day. With the exception of extraordinary circumstances, work will not be accepted more than two weeks after the due date.

Grades are determined as follows:

A= 100-90 B=89-80 C=79-70 D=69-60 F=59-0

45%: Tests and additional assignments

30%: Assignments

15%: Quizzes

10%: Class Participation and Conduct

Please let me know of any questions or concerns that you have or that may arise during our year together. I will make every effort to return your emails within 24 hours and your phone calls during weekday hours of 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. I am looking forward to meeting each student and partnering with each family in the upcoming year!