UCONN
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Syllabus — Winter Session 2022

**Excluding materials for purchase, syllabus information may be subject to change.
The most up-to-date syllabus is located within the course in HuskyCT.**

Course and Instructor Information

Course Title:	Philosophy and Logic (PHIL 1102–22)
Credits:	3
Format:	Online, asynchronous
Prerequisites:	None
Professor:	Marcus Rossberg
Teaching Assistant:	Mengyu Hu

Email:	marcus.rossberg@uconn.edu

Always include "Phil 1102" in the subject line of the email, if you need to send the instructor an email. (A reply cannot be guaranteed if this is omitted.)

After the first day of class, students registered in the course should send messages to the instructors via the HuskyCT message tool or in the "Questions for the Instructors" discussion board, and **not via email**.

Office Hours/Availability: Unless announced otherwise, the instructor will check into the course every day to monitor discussions and respond to HuskyCT Messages. In addition, the instructor will be available regularly, at set times for Virtual Office Hours, in real time. The times for Virtual Office Hours will be announced on HuskyCT. If the instructor expects to be away due to illness, travel, or family obligations, they will make every attempt to notify you in advance.

Course Materials

Required course materials should be obtained on the first day of class.

Required Materials:

For this course you will be required to purchase McGraw-Hill Education *Connect*® access for **Howard-Snyder, *The Power of Logic* 6e***.*** You are *not* required to have a print text. An electronic "smartbook" version of the textbook is included in the *Connect* access. Please be aware that if you purchase a used textbook you will still need to purchase your personal *Connect* access at full price. You can purchase the access code in the UConn Bookstore. You can also purchase it directly from McGraw-Hill as part of the login process on the first day of class. If you prefer to purchase the access code through the UConn Bookstore, you will be able to enter the code on the first day of class as part of the login process. See below for information on free courtesy access.

Once you are in *Connect*, a print-upgrade option is also available if you find yourself wanting a print copy at any point. This will be a full color, binder-ready version of the text and it will cost $25 (including shipping and handling); please allow a few days for delivery. Note that **a printed version of the textbook is *not* required.**

To get started, please follow the PowerPoint presentation (on HuskyCT) how to log into Connect and synch it with the HuskyCT course. Note that for your grades to register correctly and promptly, you must **always log in through HuskyCT** to complete assignments.

Important: You must register in *Connect* even if you have not purchased your access code yet. Connect offers **Courtesy Access**, which is **free** access for 14 days from the start of class. When you follow the registration steps

outlined in the PowerPoint you will be given the option of selecting "Courtesy Access". Please do this if you have not purchased your access code yet, as this will ensure that you do not fall behind in class assignments. (You can read the e-book and complete assignments with Courtesy Access). More information is available on HuskyCT.

Course Description

This course covers techniques for evaluating inductive and deductive arguments; applications to specific arguments about philosophical topics, for example the mind-body problem or free will vs. determinism.

In this version of the course, our focus is on the analysis and evaluations of arguments and effective formal tests for the validity of deductive arguments, as well as the strength of inductive arguments.

Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

1. categorize arguments as *deductive* or *inductive*;
2. analyze inductive arguments;
3. identify fallacies in real-life examples of reasoning;
4. demonstrate the invalidity of faulty arguments;
5. construct Venn-diagrams to effectively decide the validity of syllogistic arguments;
6. prove the validity or invalidity of arguments in propositional logic using the method of truth tables.

Course Outline and Calendar

Day 1   Orientation
Week 1   Module 1: Basic Concepts (chapter 1)
Week 1   Module 2: Identifying Arguments (chapter 2)
Week 1   Module 3: Logic and Language (chapter 3)
Week 2   Module 4: Informal Fallacies (chapter 4)
Week 2   Module 5: Categorical Logic, Statements (chapter 5)
Week 3   Module 6: Categorical Logic, Syllogisms (chapter 6)
Week 3   Module 7: Statement Logic, Truth Tables (chapter 7)

Course Requirements and Grading

Summary of Course Grading:

Course Components	Weight
Chapter Assignments	17.5%
Chapter Quizzes	21%
Exam 1	21%
Exam 2	21%
Discussion Board	19.5%

Chapter Assignments:
Each module is based on a chapter in the textbook and comes with practice questions, a dedicated set of exercises you have to solve on the topic of the respective chapter. You can retry these practice questions an unlimited number of times. Each of these assignments will account for 2.5% of your final grade. Since there are seven such assignment, they together will contribute 17.5% of your final grade.

Chapter Quizzes:
Each module features a graded quiz on the material contained in the chapter on which the module is based. You will take the quiz after you completed the chapter assignment and practice questions (see above). The problems to be solved in the quiz will be similar to the practice questions, but you only have one attempt for the quiz. Each of the quizzes will account for 3% of your final grade. Since there are seven such quizzes, they together will contribute 21% of your final grade.

Exams:
You will take two exams, one in the middle, the other at the end of the course. The problems to be solved in the exam will resemble those in the quizzes. You do not have to come to campus to take the exams. Instead, you will be proctored via webcam while you take the exam online (wherever you are). Details regarding the proctoring of exams can be found in the *Orientation* for the course on HuskyCT. Each exam will contribute 21% of your final grade.

Discussion Board:
The primary purpose of the discussion boards is to enable "classroom" interaction. You can discuss the course topics with your peers and also get feedback from the instructors. On *three announced occasions*, however, your participation will be graded and together contribute 19.5% to your final grade; i.e., each will account for 6.5% of your final grade.

Grading Scale:

Grade %	Letter Grade	GPA
93-100	A	4.0
90-92	A-	3.7
87-89	B+	3.3
83-86	B	3.0
80-82	B-	2.7
77-79	C+	2.3
73-76	C	2.0
70-72	C-	1.7
67-69	D+	1.3
63-66	D	1.0
60-62	D-	0.7
<60	F	0.0

These are cut-off points: decimals will not be rounded up.

Due Dates and Late Policy

All course due dates are identified in Eastern Standard Time (EST), that means that deadlines are based on EST. If you are in a different time zone, please adjust your submittal times accordingly. *The instructor reserves the right to change dates accordingly as the semester progresses. All changes will be communicated in an appropriate manner.*

Late Policy

While there is some flexibility to the completion of some of the assignment, others (in particular, but not restricted to, the exams) will have to be complete by a set date. Penalties will be attached for such work submitted late, unless prior permission is granted by the professor. Exceptions will only be made in case of emergency, with verification obtained through the Dean of Students Office.

Feedback and Grades

I will make every effort to provide feedback and grades within two working days, often quicker. To keep track of your performance in the course, refer to *My Grades* in HuskyCT.

Student Responsibilities and Resources

As a member of the University of Connecticut student community, you are held to certain standards and academic policies. In addition, there are numerous resources available to help you succeed in your academic work. **Review these important standards, policies and resources,** which include:

- The Student Code
  - Academic Integrity
  - Resources on Avoiding Cheating and Plagiarism
- Copyrighted Materials
- Netiquette and Communication
- Adding or Dropping a Course
- Academic Calendar
- Policy Against Discrimination, Harassment and Inappropriate Romantic Relationships
- Sexual Assault Reporting Policy

Any attempt at academic misconduct (including but not limited to plagiarism and cheating on quizzes or exams) will be penalized by imposing an F as a final grade for the entire course.

Note that all material made available in this course—including but not limited to the textbook and all video, audio, slides, exams, quizzes, announcements, study materials, and text belonging to the general course setup— are **copyrighted** *intellectual property*. Where noted (in particular. for the textbook), the copyright belongs to McGraw Hill. For all other material, the instructor is the copyright owner. You may use these materials for the purpose of this course, and for this purpose only. Do not share any of the course materials with anyone not enrolled in this course, nor on social media, nor upload them on *any other* website or online service.

Students with Disabilities

Students needing special accommodations should work with the University's Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD). You may contact CSD by calling (860) 486-2020 or by emailing csd@uconn.edu. If your request for accommodation is approved, CSD will send an accommodation letter directly to your instructor(s) so that special arrangements can be made. (Note: Student requests for accommodation must be filed each semester.)

Blackboard measures and evaluates accessibility using two sets of standards: the WCAG 2.0 standards issued by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act issued in the United States federal government." (Retrieved March 24, 2013 from Blackboard's website)

McGraw Hill Connect measures and evaluates accessibility by striving to "meet or exceed the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 requirements." (Retrieve March 22, 2016 from the McGraw-Hill Education Connect ® Accessibility website). McGraw Hill Connect Privacy Policy.

Inclusive Course

All students are welcome in the course. The instructor is committed to diversity and inclusiveness. Discrimination against anyone because of their gender(-expression), race, ability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion or lack thereof, or anything else really, has no place anywhere, and will not be tolerated in this course in any form.

Hardware and Software Requirements

The technical requirements for this course include:

- Working personal computer to which you have steady access
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Reliable internet access
- Access to McGraw-Hill *Connect* and the interactive online textbook
- Webcam (for taking exams) [please contact the instructor a.s.a.p. if there is a problem with this]
- ProctorU (for taking exams) [Complete instructions in Course Orientation]. ProctorU Privacy Policy and Accessibility Statement.

Help

[Technical and Academic Help](#) provides a guide to technical and academic assistance.

This course is completely facilitated online using the learning management platform, [HuskyCT](#). If you have difficulty accessing HuskyCT, you have access to the in person/live person support options available during regular business hours through [UConn Tech Support](#). You also have [24x7 Course Support](#) including access to live chat, phone, and support documents.

If you run into any problems using *Connect*, call McGraw-Hill's Customer Experience Group/CXG (a.k.a. Tech Support). They will give you a ticket number for the problem you reported. If you are not able to complete an assignment by its due date, or if you feel that you were given an incorrect score, I will be requesting the MH ticket number so that I can follow up with the publisher. Here is the contact information for McGraw-Hill CXG: visit www.mhhe.com/support or call (800) 331-5094, Monday – Thursday 8 a.m. – 4 a.m.; Friday 8 a.m. – 10 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Sunday 12 p.m. – 2 a.m. (all times Eastern Time).

Minimum Technical Skills

To be successful in this course, you will need the following technical skills:

- Use electronic mail with attachments.
- Save files in commonly used word processing program formats.
- Copy and paste text, graphics, or hyperlinks.
- Work within two or more browser windows simultaneously.
- Open and access PDF files.

University students are expected to demonstrate competency in Computer Technology. Explore the [Computer Technology Competencies](#) page for more information.

Evaluation of the Course

Students will be provided an opportunity to evaluate instruction in this course using the University's standard procedures, which are administered by the [Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIRE)](#).

Additional informal formative surveys may also be administered within the course as an optional evaluation tool.