PHIL6303 Logic
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Theological and Historical Studies
Fall 2017—Tuesdays/Thursdays, 12:30-1:50 pm

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Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Core Value Focus

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. These values shape both the context and manner in which all curricula are taught, with "doctrinal integrity" and "mission focus" especially highlighted in this course. The core value focus for the 2017-18 year is ***Servant Leadership***: *"We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us."*

Curriculum Competencies

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. This course addresses all curriculum competencies.

Course Description

The course introduces students to basic principles of logic and critical thinking and how to apply them as part of a Christian intellectual life. Attention will be given to the use of logic in biblical interpretation, theological construction, philosophical explanation, and apologetic and evangelistic presentation.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be introduced to the basic principles of logic by completing class units.
2. Students will be introduced to the basic principles of logic by reading the primary text and working through numerous homework examples.
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic principles of logic when tested through quizzes and exams.
4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic principles of logic by identifying valid and invalid arguments as well as logical fallacies they encounter through reading and watching television, movies, etc.

Required Textbooks

Layman, C. Stephen. *The Power of Logic*, 3rd ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2005.

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will utilize lectures, Power Point presentations, reading assignments, practical exercises in logic, and quizzes/exams.

Course Requirements

1. *Quizzes*:
   a. Quizzes are based solely on the reading assignment for each unit. They are closed notes and textbook.

2. *Homework Exercises:* These are assigned homework exercises at the end of each section in the assigned readings. They will teach the student how to practically apply the concepts and techniques related to the principles of logic covered in each chapter. THIS COURSE IS A HOMEWORK INTENSIVE COURSE! STUDENTS SHOULD ALLOW AMPLE TIME TO COMPLETE HOMEWORK ASSIGNEMENTS!!!

   a. *Due*: Each assignment will be due on the Tuesday following the dates assigned in class. For example, the homework assigned on Tuesday 9/5 and Thursday 9/7 will both be due on Tuesday 9/12. However, the assigned reading for a class period is to be completed before that class. For example, the reading assigned for Tuesday 9/5 should already be completed before the start of class on Tuesday 9/5, though the assigned homework will not be due until Tuesday 9/12.

3. *Fallacy Journal:* Student will submit a journal that cites one example of each informal fallacy that the student encounters throughout the semester in media, literature, social media, etc. Student will (1) note the fallacy found, (2) describe the example found and how it is an example of fallacy, and (3) provide reference to the example (bibliographical, website address, etc.). The student may not use any search engine to find the example of a fallacy. For example, the student may not search using the words "informal fallacies, informal fallacy examples," or "equivocation, equivocation example," etc. The student

may intentionally search for debates, philosophical arguments, articles, news outlets, etc. by using a search engine for research. The goal of the assignment is for the student to become better at identifying fallacies through the normal course of their interaction with argumentation.

4. *Extra Credit:* Students will have two optional assignments to complete for extra credit, both due on Tuesday, 11/21. Students can choose to do one of the following assignments or both of the assignments.

   -For 5 BONUS POINTS ADDED ON TO THE FINAL EXAM, students can read and write a critical review of Vern S. Poythress's article, "Reforming Ontology and Logic in the Light of the Trinity: An Application of Van Til's Idea of Analogy." This review should be three pages, single-spaced, in length. Students should provide a brief summary of the article and a critical engagement with the article's content. This review is due on Tuesday, 11/21. This article is available at the following link:

   https://frame-poythress.org/reforming-ontology-and-logic-in-the-light-of-the-trinity-an-application-of-van-tils-idea-of-analogy/

   -Students may read Richard Dawkins's *The God Delusion* and write a brief essay discussing any logical fallacies found therein. These essays should be 2-3 pages, single-spaced, in length. Students should highlight any fallacy found, identify the type of fallacy used, and explain why this fallacy invalidates the author's argument. Completing this assignment successfully will result in up to FIVE POINTS ADDED TO THE STUDENT'S FINAL GRADE. This assignment is also due on Tuesday, 11/21.

5. *Midterm and Final Exams:* Students will take both a midterm and final exam to evaluate their comprehension of the materials covered in the previous lectures. These exams will be sectional exams and not comprehensive. The final exam will not cover the material covered on the midterm.

Evaluation of Grade

Grades will be determined on the basis of the NOBTS grading scale–an A for 93-100, B for 85-92, C for 77-84, D for 70-76, and F for 69 or below.

Quiz average	20%
Homework average	20%
Midterm exam	25%
Final exam	25%
Fallacy Journal	10%
	100%

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:
1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.

3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Help for Writing Papers at "The Write Stuff"

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Netiquette: Appropriate Online Behavior

Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on the Discussion Board. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times in the online environment.

Academic Honesty Policy

All graduate and undergraduate NOBTS students, whether on-campus, internet, or extension center students, are expected to adhere to the highest Christian standard of honesty and integrity when completing academic assignments for all courses in every delivery system format. The Bible provides our standard for academic integrity and honesty. This standard applies whether a student is taking tests, quizzes, exams, writing papers, completing Discussion Boards, or any other course requirement.

Late Work Policy

Quizzes of specific units are required to be taken by 11:59pm on Friday of each week. No late quizzes will be accepted. Exercise assignments are due 11:59pm on Friday of each unit. Homework will be accepted for two weeks after due date. If turned in past due date, five points will be deducted from homework's grade. Once past one full week late, ten points will be deducted from homework grade. Homework will not be accepted after two weeks from the due date, and the student will be given a zero for the assignment.

Course Schedule

8/22 Tuesday	Go over Syllabus. Introduction to Course: Logic, Theology, and Ministry	
8/24 Thursday	Basic Concepts	Layman: Chapter 1 HW: Exercises: 1.1 Part A even, 1.1 Part B, 1-20 even, 1.1 Part C even, 1.1 Part D even of 1-10, 1.2 even of 1-10, 1.3 Part A even, 1.4 Part B all, 1.4 Part C odd of 1-10, and 1.4 Part D odd
8/29 Tuesday	Identifying Arguments and the Formal Fallacies	Layman: Chapter 2 HW: 2.1 A: 1-10 odd, 2.1 B: odd, 2.2 A 1-5
8/31 Thursday	Basic Concepts: Language & Logic	Layman: Chapter 3 HW: 3.2 A 1-15, 3.2 B all, 3.3 A 1-5, and 3.3 C 1-5
9/5 Tuesday	Informal Fallacies I	Layman: Chapter 4 HW: 4.1–4.2 Part A: 1-10 (for both 4.1 and 4.2)
9/7 Thursday	Informal Fallacies II	Layman: Chapter 5 HW: 4.3 Part A: 1-10
9/12 Tuesday	Categorical Logic: Statements and Syllogisms	Layman: Chapter 6 HW: 5.1 Part B 1-5; 5.2 Part D 1-5; 5.3 Part B 1-5; 6.1 Part B 1-5, 6.2 Part B 1-5; 6.3 Part B 1-5.
9/14 Thursday	Statement Logic: Truth Tables	Layman: Chapter 7.1-7.3 HW: 7.1 C even, 7.1 D 11-20 even; 7.2 A 1-10, C even; 7.3 B 15-20, and 7.3 C 1-5
9/19 Tuesday	Statement Logic: Truth Tables	Layman: Chapter 7.4-7.5 HW: 7.4 C: all, 7.4 D 1-5; 7.5 A 1-10 even, 7.5 B even, and 7.5 C even
9/21 Thursday	Statement Logic: Proofs	Layman: Chapter 8.1-8.2 HW: 8.1 A, B, and C (1-10 even of all 3 sections), 8.1 E #1; 8.2 A even, C 1-10, D 1-5
9/26 Tuesday	Statement Logic: Proofs	Layman: Chapter 8.3-8.4 HW: 8.3 A 1-10 even, C 1-10 even, D 1-5, and E #9; 8.4 A 1-20 even, B #4, C #5

9/28 Thursday	Statement Logic: Proofs	Layman: Chapter 8.5-8.6 HW: 8.5 A 1-20 even, D #3; 8.6 A even
10/3 Tuesday	Midterm Review: Truth Tables	Review Layman Chapter 7
10/5 Thursday	Midterm Review: Proofs	Review Layman Chapter 8
10/10 Tuesday	MIDTERM EXAM	
10/12 Thursday	Go Over Midterm	
10/17 Tuesday	FALL BREAK! NO CLASS!	
10/19 Thursday	FALL BREAK! NO CLASS!	
10/24 Tuesday	Predicate Logic	Layman: Chapter 9.1-9.2 HW: 9.1 A 1-20 even, C 1-10; 9.2 B even
10/26 Thursday	Predicate Logic	Layman: Chapter 9.3-9.4 HW: 9.3 C even, E even; 9.4 C even, D even.
10/31 Tuesday	Predicate Logic	Layman: Chapter 9.5-9.6 HW: 9.5 A all, B even; 9.6 C even
11/2 Thursday	Predicate Logic	Layman: Chapter 9.7-9.8 HW: 9.7 A even; 9.8 B even
11/7 Tuesday	Induction	Layman: Chapter 10.1-10.2 HW: 10.1 A all, B even; 10.2 even
11/9 Thursday	Induction	Layman: Chapter 10.3-10.4 HW: 10.3 A even, B even; 10.4 A all
11/14 Tuesday	ETS/Research Day/Work on Fallacy Journal	Work on Fallacy Journal
11/16 Thursday	ETS/Research Day/Work on Fallacy Journal	Work on Fallacy Journal
11/21 Tuesday	Practice Problems and Review Day	Fallacy Journals Due. Extra Credit Due.
11/23 Thursday	*THANKSGIVING BREAK! NO CLASS!*	*RELAX AND ENJOY TIME WITH YOUR FAMILY!!!*
11/28 Tuesday	Probability	Layman: Chapter 11.1-11.2 HW: 11.1 A even, B all, C even; 11.2 A even, B even, C even, D even
11/30 Thursday	Probability	Layman: Chapter 11.3 HW: NONE!!!

12/5 Tuesday	Final Exam Review: Predicate Logic	Review Layman Chapter 9
12/7 Thursday	Final Exam Review: Induction and Probability	Review Layman Chapters 10 & 11
12/12 Tuesday	FINAL EXAM (12:00pm-2:00pm)	

Selected Bibliography

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