

St. Jerome's in the University of Waterloo
Department of Philosophy
Aristotelian Logic
PHIL 200J sec 001
Course Outline
Fall 2022

Course information:

Lecture Times: There will be one recorded lecture posted on UW Learn each week on Tuesday. These are mandatory. There will be one on-campus, in-person lecture on Thursday, 1:00-2:20, SJ1 3016. These are integral parts of the course, they are mandatory, and you need to attend them to succeed in the course.

Professor: Stephanie Gregoire

Email address: gregoire@uwaterloo.ca

Office hours: Thursday, 2:30-3:20, Sweeney Hall #2002. Please do wear a mask.

Supplementary Meetings: Whenever you need help, you are welcome to send me an email. I will schedule a phone appointment or a Webex meeting at our mutual convenience. Do not hesitate to contact me, I am happy to help, and it is always better to act earlier rather than later.

Course Description/Learning Objectives:

This course is an introduction to the understanding and mastering of the tools necessary for the three basic operations of reason as presented by Aristotle in his *Organon*: definition, statement and argument. The first operation, called simple apprehension, deals with the way in which our reason reaches out and grasps the natures of things in its concepts. This operation culminates in the art of defining. The second operation, composition or division, is that by which we affirm or deny a predicate of a subject. All true or false statements are of this kind. Finally, the third operation, argumentation, starts from certain things that are laid down and proceeds validly or invalidly from these to a conclusion.

Reasoning is an activity that we perform naturally. But to reason well demands an acquired skill; that is what logic is about. Now, such an acquired skill involves not only a good theoretical grasp of the nature of definition, statement and argument, but also the ability to produce actual definitions, statements and arguments. Thus, classes will consist in the presentation and discussion of the various operations and of the tools used by them, but they will also involve a considerable number of exercises.

Here is the order in which topics will be covered. The determination of a period of time devoted to each is tentative only, for it varies a lot depending on particular groups.

Week 1:

Introduction

Weeks 2, 3:

First operation: universal concepts; equivocal, univocal and analogous words; predicables; categories; division; definition.

Weeks 4, 5:

Second operation: subject and predicate; truth and falsity; opposition; conversion.

Weeks 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12:

Third operation: argument; hypothetical and disjunctive syllogism; rules and figures of the simple syllogism; reduction of second and third figure syllogisms to the first figure; objection, refutation and reduction to the absurd; induction, enthymeme and example.

The format of the lectures will be oral, and will not involve Power Point or slides of any type. Recorded lectures will consist in a spoken presentation of the material by the professor on the issues to be considered. You will be notified in advance of the topics and readings to be discussed. No transcripts of the recordings will be provided. You should listen to them, reflect, try to understand, and relate their content to the readings. Note that all of these steps, even if they are time-consuming and require an effort, are necessary for you to integrate the material and are normal in the context of a philosophy course. They have nothing to do with the covid 19 situation and its online environment, i.e., they would be required even if the totality of the course were delivered in a physical classroom. In person sessions will be devoted to shorter presentations by the professor. They are also meant for students to ask questions, get clarifications, interact and engage in discussion, if they wish to do so. In-class tests will also be held then.

Required Text and Readings:

You will be provided on UW LEARN with documents entitled ‘Guidelines for Study’, which are detailed lists of the main points raised in the lectures: these are to help you to take and to structure your course notes. You will also be provided with a number of handouts. I will be using parts of *Logic the Art of Defining and Reasoning*, Second Edition, John A. Oesterle; they will be available through Learn.

Course Requirements and Marking Scheme:

Examinations will consist of multiple-choice, true or false and short answer questions; they will be cumulative, and will cover both the lecture material and reading material. There will be three in-class examinations (29 September; 3 November; 24 November)

worth respectively 10%, 20% and 30% of your final grade, and one final exam worth 40%. We will go over the correct answers in class.

Attendance Policy, Late and Missed Tests:

I emphasize that class attendance is critical for good performance in this course. As for missed tests, I am forewarning you that I will be following strictly the UW policy. That means that if you are prevented from writing a test because of sickness not related to flu-like symptoms or COVID-related illnesses, a medical certificate must be presented and must provide all of the information requested by the “University of Waterloo Verification of Illness” form or it will not be accepted. It is better for all parties involved that you take good note of this at the beginning of the term. Also, note that elective arrangements such as travel plans, heavy workload, hobby commitments, family and part time jobs obligations, etc, are not considered acceptable grounds for granting an alternative examination time. See <https://uwaterloo.ca/registrar/final-examinations/examination-regulations-and-related-matters>. All make-up midterm exams and quizzes will be offered on the first Friday following the exam, from 1:00–4:00.

COVID Contingency Plans:

In case of cancellation of in-person classes, whether for this particular course or University-wide:

If it is a short-term (e.g., one-week) cancellation, we will simply keep up with the regular schedule. If it is a longer-term cancellation, in-person meetings will be held synchronously online through Webex (UW Learn) at the regular time. If midterms or final examinations have to be cancelled, questions will be posted on UW Learn. You will be asked to type all of your answers in a Word document (no PDF, no Pages), with your name as the title on the icon and submit it through UW Learn drop boxes. I also need your name and your student id at the top of the first page of your document. If you cannot attend in-person classes due to self-isolation, you should contact students in the class, in order to borrow course notes to catch up. If you cannot attend make-up test sessions due to self-isolation, a special test will be provided to you to do as a take-home.

Intellectual Property:

Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of their instructor, TA, and/or St. Jerome’s University. Intellectual property includes items such as:

- Lecture content, spoken and written (and any audio/video recording thereof);
- Lecture handouts, presentations, and other materials prepared for the course (e.g., PowerPoint slides);
- Questions or solution sets from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams); and

-Work protected by copyright (e.g., any work authored by the instructor or TA or used by the instructor or TA with permission of the copyright owner).

Course materials and the intellectual property contained therein, are used to enhance a student's educational experience. However, sharing this intellectual property without the intellectual property owner's permission is a violation of intellectual property rights. For this reason, it is necessary to ask the instructor, TA, and/or St. Jerome's University for permission before uploading and sharing the intellectual property of others online (e.g., to an online repository). Permission from an instructor, TA, or the University is also necessary before sharing the intellectual property of others from completed courses with students taking the same/similar courses in subsequent terms/years. In many cases, instructors might be happy to allow distribution of certain materials. However, doing so without expressed permission is considered a violation of intellectual property rights. Please alert the instructor if you become aware of intellectual property belonging to others (past or present) circulating, either through the student body or online. The intellectual property rights owner deserves to know (and may have already given their consent).

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. [Check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information.]

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. [Read the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances, www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/upload_file/PLCY_AOM_Student-Petitions-and-Grievances_20151211-SJUSCapproved.pdf](http://www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/upload_file/PLCY_AOM_Student-Petitions-and-Grievances_20151211-SJUSCapproved.pdf). When in doubt, please be certain to contact the St. Jerome's Advising Specialist, Student Affairs Office, who will provide further assistance.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for their actions. [Check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information.] A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under the [St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline, www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/PLCY_AOM_Student-Discipline_20131122-SJUSCapproved.pdf](http://www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/PLCY_AOM_Student-Discipline_20131122-SJUSCapproved.pdf). For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to University of Waterloo Policy 71, Student Discipline, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm. For typical penalties, check the

Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties,
www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm.

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under the [St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances](#) (other than a petition) or the [St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline](#) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to the [St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Appeals, www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/PLCY_AOM_Student-Appeals_20131122-SJUSCapproved.pdf](#).

Note for students with disabilities: [AccessAbility Services](#), located in Needles Hall (Room 1401) at the University of Waterloo, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term, www.uwaterloo.ca/accessability-services/.