

Philosophy 489.01E—Advanced Logic

Spring 2026

Dr. Bill Bolin

Office & Hours: Ferguson SS 106, T 3:30p—5:00p, W 2:30p--5:00p, and by appt.

Telephone: 903.886.5226 (Department number)

Email: bill.bolin@etamu.edu (best way to reach me)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will allow you many opportunities to study and practice formal and informal logic. We will practice predicate logic, inductive logic, and modal logic. The primary take-away of the course is that you will be able to judge strong arguments, your own and others', based on reasoning. No textbook is required; we will use freely available material.

Prerequisite: Phil2303

Satisfies 3 credit hours towards the minor in Philosophy and the minor in Interdisciplinary Studies.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Students will identify different types of arguments.
2. Students will successfully test an argument for validity.
3. Students will analyze predicate logic arguments.
4. Students will analyze inductive arguments.
5. Students will analyze modal arguments.

ASSIGNMENTS

Each week you will have a homework assignment to be completed. We will review the assignments in class, and ten of them will be graded.

EVALUATION

Assignment Values	Final Grade Ranges
Homework Assignments: 10 @ 20 pts. each..	A=180--200 B=160--179 C=140--159 D=120--139 F=0--119

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is important for several reasons, but it is especially important for you to keep up with the assignments in this class. The tentative calendar below offers only the most general description of activities; more detail will be provided in class as the semester goes on. If you are absent the day an assignment is due, you must contact me and make satisfactory arrangements

for turning in the assignment. Failure to make *prior satisfactory* arrangements will result in your forfeiting the right to turn in that assignment. As per university policy, excessive absences (three weeks' worth) will result in your being dropped from the course.

PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC DISHONESTY STATEMENT

Instructors in the Department of Literature and Languages do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension, and expulsion. (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b[1,2,3]). Academic dishonesty on one assignment in this course will most likely lead to a failing grade for the course.

TENTATIVE CALENDAR (All reading assignments are from the textbook unless otherwise indicated.)

Week 1 through Week 5: Predicate Logic Exercises
Week 6 through Week 10: Inductive Logic Exercises
Week 11 through Week 15: Modal Logic Exercises

Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities.

If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library

Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

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Tenets of Common Behavior statement: *All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct)¹*

¹ In other words, don't be a distraction during class.