# PHI 131  Introduction to Logic
## Cedar Crest College
### Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 11-11:50
### Alumnae Hall 212
### Fall 2009

## Instructor
Dr. Elizabeth M. Meade
Hartzel Hall 115, ext. 3417
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Office hours Fridays 12-2 and by appointment

### Textbook
*A Concise Introduction to Logic*, Patrick Hurley, Wadsworth, 10th edition

### Description
Logic is the study of the structure and principles of reasoning, argument, and, on a deeper level, of rational thinking itself.  We will study the forms and fallacies of logic in this course, and apply them to current issues and events.  What distinguishes a good argument from a bad argument?  What are ways in which we can be persuaded into false belief through intentionally misleading and fallacious rhetoric?  You will never listen to politicians or read newspapers and magazines in quite the same way ever again.

## Course Requirements

**Attendance    10%**

People who do not attend almost all of the classes do not do well in logic.  Logic is learned in large part by constant practice.  You will be getting that practice in class, and thus need to be present in every class.  In addition, we will be building skills, and missing classes means you may miss crucial skills you need to acquire later skills.

**Homework    40%**

The homework provides the crucial repetition, practice and reinforcement necessary to acquire the skills of logic.  Homework will be due every Friday in class.  Because we will often go over the homework in class, I will not accept it after class is over.  You may drop one homework grade at the end of the semester.

**Tests            50%**

There will be a test at the end of every chapter, instead of a midterm and a final.  As long as you take the original test, I will allow you to take another test on that chapter, if you are not satisfied with the grade you received.  If you are ill and cannot be in class on the day of the test, I will allow you to take one make-up, as long as I hear from you prior to the test.

## Course Objectives

Students completing this course will achieve
- A sound understanding of basic logical concepts and argument forms
- Proficiency in various techniques for testing the validity of arguments

This knowledge will be assessed through homework assignments and regular testing.

### Honor Philosophy

This class will be conducted in complete accord with the principles of the Cedar Crest College Honor Philosophy.

#### Statement on Accommodations

Students with <u>documented</u> disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss these needs with me during the first two weeks of class. Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact the Advising Center.

## Course Policies

- All work must be submitted to pass the course.
- Academic dishonesty will be penalized with either a failing grade for the assignment or a failing grade for the course, at my discretion.
- I will only respond to emails sent through your Cedar Crest email account, in order to comply with federal regulations designed to protect your privacy. In addition, I will only send emails to your Cedar Crest email account.
- Cell phones must be set to silent mode.
- Anyone texting during class will be asked to leave and will have that day recorded as an absence. If that is a day on which we are having a test, the test grade will be recorded as an F.

# Readings and Assignments

M August 24          Introduction to course.  Review the syllabus

W August 26          Chapter 11

F August 28          Chapter 1.2     **Homework due**

M August 31          Chapter 1.3

W September 2        Chapter 1.4

F September 4        Chapter 1.5     **Homework due**

M September 7 – No class (Labor Day)

W September 9        Review for Chapter 1 test

F September 11       **Chapter 1 test**

M September 14       Chapters 3.1 and 3.2

W September 16       Chapter 3.3

F September 18       Chapter 3.4     **Homework due**

M September 21       Chapter 3.5

W September 23       Review for test

F September 25       **Chapter 2 test**

M September 28       Chapters 4.1 and 4.2

W September 30       Chapter 4.3

F October 2          Chapter 4.4     **Homework due**

M October 5          Chapter 4.5

W October 7          Chapter 4.6

F October 9          Chapter 4.7     **Homework due**

M October 12 – No class (Fall Break)

W October 14          Review for test

F October 16          **Chapter 4 test**

M October 19          Chapter 5.1

W October 21          Chapter 5.2

F October 23 – No class (Inauguration of President Ambar)

M October 26          Chapter 5.2 continued

W October 28          Chapter 5.3

F October 30          Chapter 5.3 continued          **Homework due**

M November 2          Chapter 5.4

W November 4          Review for test

F November 6          **Chapter 5 test**

M November 9          Chapter 6.1

W November 11          Chapter 6.2

F November 13          Chapter 6.2 continued          **Homework due**

M November 16          Chapter 6.3

W November 18          Chapter 6.4

F November 20          Chapter 6.5          **Homework due**

M November 23          Chapter 6.6

M November 30          Chapter 6.6 continued

W December 2          Review for Chapter 6 test

F December 4          **Chapter 6 test**

M December 7          Logic puzzles

T December 8 (Friday schedule)          Logic puzzles