PHIL 351: Reasoning and Logic
Andrew Bacon

1 Course Details

Classes: Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00-11:15am, VKC 157
Office Hours: Mondays 15:30-17:30 224 Stonier Hall
Website: Blackboard will be used.
Phones: Phones must be on silent and out of sight during class.
Texts: We will be working primarily from


Everyone will need a copy of this book and the accompanying software. Chapters from the book will be selected for each class. You will most likely need reread each chapter more than once so leave plenty of time.

IMPORTANT NOTE: the software can only be registered to one user so this most likely means that you cannot buy this book second hand.

Grading: You will be assessed entirely on the basis of weekly exercises (85%) and participation (15%). While there will be no end of term test under exam conditions, there will be extra exercises worth more than the usual amount in the final week of term.

Statement for Students with Disabilities: Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is (213) 740-0776.

Statement on Academic Integrity: USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one’s own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another’s work as one’s own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. Scampus, the Student Guidebook, contains the Student Conduct Code in Section 11.00, while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A: http://www.usc.edu/dept/publications/SCAMPUS/gov/.
Students will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for further review, should there be any suspicion of academic dishonesty. The Review process can be found at: http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/.

2 Preliminary Schedule

I intend to cover approximately one chapter per week, meaning that we will have covered most of sections I and II by the end of term (and chapter 15 if we have time). While I encourage you to read ahead, it is often most beneficial for you to spend your time mastering the material we have currently covered.

For the first class please make sure that you’ve done the following: (i) read the introduction, (ii) installed the software, (iii) submitted the test file ‘World Submit Me 1’ to Grade Grinder, listing me (abacon@usc.edu) as the instructor, and (iv) read the users manual and have familiarized yourself with the ‘Tarski’s World’ software.