PHIL 350: Symbolic Logic

Andrew Bacon

1 Course Details

Classes: Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-4:50pm, VKC 211
Office Hours: TBA 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

‘Logic for Philosophy’, Ted Sider.

Everyone will need a copy of this book.

Grading: You will be assessed entirely on the basis of weekly exercises (25%), two exams (30% and 35%) and participation (10%).

Weekly exercises will be graded on a scale of 0-4, with 0 reserved for no submission. You have two free passes: you may miss up to two weekly exercises without it affecting your grade, which should be reserved for illness or family emergencies.

Midterm: Thursday, October 4, 3:30-4:50 p.m.
Final Exam: Tuesday, December 11, 2-4 p.m.
Exams cannot be rescheduled except in a very limited set of circumstances (you may consult the universities regulations and policies here: http://catalogue.usc.edu/content.php?catoid=2&navoid=281).

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct

Plagiarism presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Section 11, Behavior Violating University Standardshttps://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/.

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the Office of Equity and Diversity http://equity.usc.edu/ or to the Department of Public Safety http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us. This is important for the safety whole USC community. Another member
of the university community such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. The Center for Women and Men http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/ provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage sarc@usc.edu describes reporting options and other resources.

Support Systems

A number of USC’s schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the American Language Institute http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. The Office of Disability Services and Programs http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, USC Emergency Information http://emergency.usc.edu/will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.

2 Preliminary Schedule

Expect each topic to last approximately two weeks. You should read the relevant chapter of Sider in advance.

1. Introduction to sets, relations and functions.
2. Propositional logic. (Sider ch 2.)
3. Further propositional logic. (Sider ch 3.)
4. Predicate logic. (Sider ch 4.)
5. Advanced predicate logic. (Sider ch 5.)
6. Modal logic. (Sider ch 6.)
7. Further modal logic. (Sider chapter 7.)
8. Conditional logic. (Sider chapter 8.)
9. Probability theory. (TBD.)