



ANSWERING GOD'S CALL

**PHIL6303 Logic**  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
Division of Theological and Historical Studies  
Spring Internet 2021

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### **Mission Statement**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

### **Core Value Focus**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. These values shape both the context and manner in which all curricula are taught, with “doctrinal integrity” and “mission focus” especially highlighted in this course. The core value focus for the 2020-21 year is ***Mission Focus***: “*Our Seminary does not exist merely to get an education or to give an education. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.*”

### **Curriculum Competencies**

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. This course addresses all curriculum competencies.

### **Course Description**

The course introduces students to basic principles of logic and critical thinking and how to apply them as part of a Christian intellectual life. Attention will be given to the use of logic in biblical interpretation, theological construction, philosophical explanation, and apologetic and evangelistic presentation.

### **Netiquette: Appropriate Online Behavior**

Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on the Discussion Board. The student is expected to interact with other students in

a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times in the online environment.

### **Academic Honesty Policy**

All graduate and undergraduate NOBTS students, whether on-campus, internet, or extension center students, are expected to adhere to the highest Christian standard of honesty and integrity when completing academic assignments for all courses in every delivery system format. The Bible provides our standard for academic integrity and honesty. This standard applies whether a student is taking tests, quizzes, exams, writing papers, completing Discussion Boards, or any other course requirement.

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students will be introduced to the basic principles of logic by completing class units.
2. Students will be introduced to the basic principles of logic by reading the primary text and working through numerous homework examples.
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic principles of logic when tested through quizzes and exams.
4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic principles of logic by identifying valid and invalid arguments as well as logical fallacies they encounter through reading and watching television, movies, etc.

### **Course Teaching Methodology**

The course will utilize instructional videos, reading assignments, practical exercises in logic, and quizzes/exams.

### **Web-Based Learning Statement**

Web-based courses are, by nature, a different kind of learning experience than courses taught in the traditional classroom. Because of this structure, this web-based course is more reading and writing intensive than traditional classroom courses. Rigorous study of the deep things of God can be a rewarding experience for anyone who participates in it, but it also calls for extra diligence and integrity in completing the work. This reality does not mean that a web-based course cannot be successful in equipping you, the student, for effective, God-honoring ministry. It simply means utilizing a different strategy. Internet courses allow room for independent learners to thrive—to work at a responsible pace, to engage in student-led discussions, and to take ownership of the learning of course content. Note that your instructors are praying for your success.

### **Tech Assistance Contacts:**

Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)

BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.

ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.

504.816.8180 - Call for any technical questions/support requests.

www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

### **Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”**

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

### **Plagiarism on Written Assignments**

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

### **Grading**

Grades will be assigned on the basis of the NOBTS grading scale.

### **Evaluation**

Quiz average	20%
Homework average	20%
Midterm exam	25%
Final exam	25%
<u>Fallacy Journal</u>	<u>10%</u>
	100%

### **Texts**

#### **REQUIRED**

Layman, C. Stephen. *The Power of Logic*, 3rd ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2005.

## Assignments

1. *Quizzes:*
  - a. Quizzes are based solely on the reading assignment for each unit. They are closed notes and textbook. Students have 20 minutes to take each quiz. The quiz will not auto-submit, but student will be docked points for going over time limit.
  - b. *Due:* Each quiz will be due at the end of each week of the course on Saturdays, 11:59pm via Blackboard. Late work policies are described in policy section of syllabus.
2. *Homework Exercises:* These are assigned homework exercises at the end of each section in the assigned readings. They will teach the student how to practically apply the concepts and techniques related to the principles of logic covered in each chapter.
  - a. *Due:* Each assignment will be due at the end of each week of the course on Saturdays, 11:59pm via Blackboard. Late work policies are described in policy section of syllabus.
3. *Fallacy Journal:* Student will submit a journal that cites one example of each informal fallacy that the student encounters throughout the semester in media, literature, social media, etc. Student will (1) note the fallacy found, (2) describe the example found and how it is an example of fallacy, and (3) provide reference to the example (bibliographical, website address, etc.). The student may not use any search engine to find the example of a fallacy. For example, the student may not search using the words “informal fallacies, informal fallacy examples,” or “equivocation, equivocation example,” etc. The student may intentionally search for debates, philosophical arguments, articles, news outlets, etc. by using a search engine for research. The goal of the assignment is for the student to become better at identifying fallacies through the normal course of their interaction with argumentation. **Due May 13th, 11:59pm.**

## Policies

Quizzes of specific units are required to be taken by 11:59pm on Saturday of each week. No late quizzes will be accepted. Exercise assignments are due 11:59pm on Saturday of each unit. Homework will be accepted for two weeks after due date. If turned in past due date, five points will be deducted from homework's grade. Once past one full week late, ten points will be deducted from homework grade. Homework will not be accepted after two weeks from the due date, and the student will be given a zero for the assignment.

## Course Outline

INTRODUCTION: Due January 24 <b>11:59pm*</b> note this is a Sunday	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Why Study Logic and Critical Thinking</i>
Exercise Assignment	Discussion Group Entry Bio

UNIT ONE: Due January 24, <b>11:59pm*</b> note this is a Sunday	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Basic Concepts</i> What Is an Argument? Validity and Soundness Forms and Counterexamples Well-Known Forms Strength and Cogency
Reading Assignment	Chapter 1
Exercise Assignment	Exercises: 1.1 Part C even, 1.1 Part D even of 1-10, 1.2 even of 1-10, 1.3 Part A even, 1.4 Part C odd of 1-10, and 1.4 Part D odd
Quiz	Quiz 1

UNIT TWO: Due January 30, 11:59pm	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Identifying Arguments</i> Arguments and Non-arguments Well-Crafted Arguments  <i>Logic and Language</i> Logic, Meaning, Emotive Force Definitions Using Definitions in Evaluating Arguments
Reading Assignment	Chapter 2 and 3
Exercise Assignment	Do Exercises: 2.1 A: 1-10 odd, 2.1 B: odd, 2.2 A 1-5, 3.2 A 1-15, 3.2 B all, 3.3 A 1-5, and 3.3 C 1-5
Quiz	Quiz 2

UNIT THREE: Due February 6, 11:59pm	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Informal Fallacies</i> Fallacies of Reference Fallacies of Ambiguity Fallacies of Unwarranted Assumptions
Reading Assignment	Read Chapter 4
Exercise Assignment	Do Exercises 4.1–4.3 Part As: 1-10
Quiz	Quiz 3

UNIT FOUR: Due February 13, 11:59pm	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Statement Logic: Truth Tables</i> Symbolizing English Arguments
Reading Assignment	Read Chapter 7.1
Exercise Assignment	Do Exercises: 7.1 A even, 7.1 C: all

UNIT FIVE: Due February 20, 11:59pm	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Statement Logic: Truth Tables</i> Truth Tables
Reading Assignment	Read Chapter 7.2
Exercise Assignment	Do Exercises: 7.2 A all
Quiz	Quiz 4

UNIT SIX: Due February 27, 11:59pm	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Statement Logic: Truth Tables, continued...</i> Using Truth Tables to Evaluate Arguments
Reading Assignment	Read Chapter 7.3
Exercise Assignment	7.3 A even and 7.3 C 1-5
Quiz	Quiz 5

UNIT SEVEN: Due March 6, 11:59pm	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Truth Tables, continued.....</i> Abbreviated Truth Tables
Reading Assignment	Read Chapter 7.4
Exercise Assignment	Do Exercises: 7.4 A even



UNIT EIGHT: March 13, 11:59pm	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Truth Tables, continued.....</i>  Tautology, Contradiction, Contingency, and Logical Equivalence
Reading Assignment	Read Chapter 7.5
Exercise Assignment	Do Exercises: 7.5 A 1-14 even, 7.5 B even, and 7.5 C even
Quiz	Quiz 6

***SPRING BREAK March 15-19: Enjoy!***

UNIT NINE: EXAM 1 Due March 27, 11:59pm	
<i>Topic</i>	MIDTERM

UNIT TEN: Due April 3, 11:59pm	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Statement Logic: Proofs</i> <i>Implication Rules of Inference</i>
Reading Assignment	Read Chapter 8.1
Exercise Assignment	Do Exercises 8.1 even of C.  8.1 E #1
Quiz	Quiz 7

UNIT ELEVEN: Due April 10, 11:59pm	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Statement Logic: Proofs</i> Five Equivalence Rules
Reading Assignment	Read Chapter 8.2
Exercise Assignment	Do Exercises 8.2 C 1-10
Quiz	Quiz 8

UNIT TWELVE: Due April 17, 11:59pm	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Statement Logic: Proofs, continued....</i> Five More Equivalence Rules
Reading Assignment	Read Chapter 8.3
Exercise Assignment	Do Exercises: 8.3 C 1-10 and E #2 and 9
Quiz	Quiz 9

UNIT THIRTEEN: Due April 24, 11:59pm	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Statement Logic: Proofs, continued....</i> Conditional Proof
Reading Assignment	Read Chapter 8.4
Exercise Assignment	Do Exercises 8.4 A 1-20 even, B #4, C #5

UNIT FOURTEEN: May 1, 11:59pm	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Statement Logic: Proofs, continued....</i> Reductio ad Absurdum
Reading Assignment	Read Chapter 8.5
Exercise Assignment	Do Exercises 8.5 A 1-20 even, D #3

UNIT FIFTEEN: EXAM 2: Due May 13, 11:59pm	
<i>Topic</i>	FINAL

### Selected Bibliography

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