PHIL 1200—Principles of Reasoning
Three Semester Hours

PREREQUISITES:
None

COURSE OVERVIEW:
Basic concepts of logic and techniques for judging validity of arguments introduced. System for symbolizing arguments and deriving conclusions from premises employed. Some of following topics also covered: informal fallacies in reasoning, syllogistic or Aristotelian logic; Venn diagrams, truth tables. Most sections are traditional lecture/test format, some taught in computer-assisted format, others use self-paced approach.

METHODS OF COURSE INSTRUCTION:
All material for this course is print-based. Instructor and students communicate and exchange materials through postal mail. You may submit your assignments as e-mail attachments, but your graded assignments will be returned to you by postal mail.

TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLIES:

NUMBER OF LESSONS:
The course has six lessons, including a final examination. These lessons include:

- **Lesson 1**
  Unit 1—Recognizing Arguments
  Unit 2—Deduction, Induction, Validity, Soundness
  Unit 3—Informal Fallacies

- **Lesson 2**
  Unit 4—Categorical Proposition
  Unit 5—Recognizing Syllogisms
  Unit 6—Reducing the Number of Terms in a Syllogistic Argument
  Unit 7—Venn Diagrams and Rules of Validity

- **Lesson 3**
  Unit 8—Symbolizing Propositional Statements
  Unit 9—Truth Tables
  Unit 10—Rules of Implication for Propositional Logic

- **Lesson 4**
  Unit 11—Rules Replacement for Propositional Logic
  Unit 11a—Further Work with the Deduction System
Lesson 5
Unit 12—Conditional Proof in Propositional Logic
Unit 13—Indirect Proof in Propositional Logic; Proving Logical Truths

Lesson 6: Final Examination

Please note that some lessons have been divided into multiple units.

TYPES OF WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:

Every unit leads up to a short test that you are to take on your own and return to me at the five lesson points indicated on the schedule. You must complete the units in the order given. When all 13 units have been completed, you will arrange to take a two-hour final examination, which will cover all the course’s material. It will be similar in style to the unit tests.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Your final grade will be determined 50% by your performance on the unit tests and 50% by your performance on the final exam. You must complete all the unit tests before you can apply to take the final examination.