

Requirements

Practice exercises (online)	10%
Assignments (online)	30%
Tutorial participation	10%
Midyear examination (December)	20%
Final examination	30%

Objectives

This course aims to teach students to

- identify, understand, and evaluate claims and arguments,
- understand the difference between different types of claims and arguments,
- depict the structure of statements and arguments using symbolic and graphical tools,
- recognize rational and non-rational influences on belief formation, including biases,
- understand the importance and relevance of critical thinking skills, and
- know when to apply critical thinking skills in both everyday and academic contexts.

Electronic devices

The use of laptops, tablets, and other electronic devices for course-related activities, such as accessing the reading modules or exercises, is permitted in class. The use of such devices for other activities is not permitted, except in cases of emergency (e.g., a dependent needs to contact you).

Department policies

The Department of Philosophy Policies which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Philosophy courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department of Philosophy website at <http://uwo.ca/philosophy/undergraduate/policies.html>. It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Philosophy, and thus ignorance of these policies cannot be used as grounds of appeal.

Mental health

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

September 11, 2016