

PHILOSOPHY 100 – REASONING

Winter 2011

Instructor: Glen Baier

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Office Hours – Abbotsford – Monday – 11:30 - 1 pm.

Tuesday 11:30- 1 pm.

Chilliwack – Wednesday 11:30- 1 pm.

Course Description: Philosophy 100 is intended to introduce students to the study of reasoning and argumentation for the purposes of critical thinking. The course employs a set of standard philosophical methods that have application to both academic and non-academic forms of reasoning. Using these methods will allow students an opportunity to improve their critical thinking skills. By the completion of the course, students will have been exposed to techniques vital for the proper analysis and evaluation of arguments.

Textbook: *Good Reasons for Better Arguments*

Bickenbach & Davies (Broadview, 1997) (Required)

Assignments: Students will be asked to prepare 3 assignments. The assignments are worth 25% each. There is a final exam worth 25%.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to refuse assignments not handed in on time. If you do not think that you will be able to complete work by the assigned date, please make an effort to contact me in advance.

Assignment due dates are listed on course syllabus.

SYLLABUS

(All readings are from *Good Reasons for Better Arguments*)

1. January 19th Course Introduction.
2. January 26th Communicative Rationality - Chapter 1.
3. February 2nd Communicative Rationality (continued) - Chapter 1.
4. February 9th Introduction to Arguments - Chapter 2.
5. February 23rd Arguments (continued) - Chapter 2.
6. March 2nd Arguments (continued) - Chapter 2.
7. March 9th Arguments (continued) - Chapter 2.
8. March 16th Arguments and Language Use - Chapter 3.
9. March 23rd Arguments and Language (continued) - Chapter 3.
10. March 30th Argument Evaluation - Chapter 4.
11. April 6th Argument Evaluation (continued) - Chapter 4.
12. April 13th Argument Evaluation and Fallacies - Chapter 5.

*** **Assignment Due Dates:** First Assignment – February 23rd
Second Assignment – March 23rd
Third Assignment – April 13th