

# PHILOSOPHY 100 – REASONING

Fall 2011

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**Instructor:** Glen Baier

**Office:** Chilliwack – A102J  
Abbotsford – T131

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**Office Hours:** Abbotsford: Wednesday 2:00- 4:00pm  
Friday 2:30-3:30pm

Chilliwack: Tuesday 11:30- 1:00 pm

(e-mail to request appointments outside of office hours)

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**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 2 assignments. The assignments are worth 25% each. There is a mid-term worth 20% and a final exam worth 30%.

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. September 6<sup>th</sup> Course Introduction.
2. September 13<sup>th</sup> Communicative Rationality - Chapter 1.
3. September 20<sup>th</sup> Communicative Rationality (continued) - Chapter 1.
4. September 27<sup>th</sup> Introduction to Arguments - Chapter 2.
5. October 4<sup>th</sup> Arguments (continued) - Chapter 2.
6. October 11<sup>th</sup> Arguments (continued) - Chapter 2.
7. October 18<sup>th</sup> Arguments (continued) - Chapter 2.
8. October 25<sup>th</sup> Arguments and Language Use - Chapter 3.
9. November 1<sup>st</sup> Arguments and Language (continued) - Chapter 3.
10. November 8<sup>th</sup> Argument Evaluation - Chapter 4.
11. November 15<sup>th</sup> Argument Evaluation (continued) - Chapter 4.
12. November 22<sup>nd</sup> Argument Evaluation and Fallacies - Chapter 5.
13. November 29<sup>th</sup> Argument Evaluation – Chapter 6.1 – 6.3, 6.8 –6.9  
Chapter 7.1 - 7.3 & 8.4

\*\*\* **Assignment Due Dates:** First Assignment – October 11<sup>th</sup> 2011  
Mid-Term – October 25<sup>th</sup> 2011  
Second Assignment – November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2011