

## ELEMENTARY LOGIC

**Bachelor in Philosophy, Politics, Law and Economics PPLE  
SEP-2023 ELn-PP.1.S.A**

Area Humanities

Number of sessions: 30

Academic year: 23-24

Degree course: FIRST

Number of credits: 6.0

Semester: 1<sup>o</sup>

Category: BASIC

Language: English

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- Ph.D. Columbia University.
- M.A. Columbia University.
- B.A. Philosophy (UAM).
- B.A Literary Theory and Comparative Literature (UCM).

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Office hours: contact by e-mail to schedule tutorials or 1-2-1 meetings.

### SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to Western Philosophy & Logical Reasoning. The course is organized around five questions of fundamental human concern:

1. Who am I?
2. What can we know?
3. Does God exist?
4. How should I behave?
5. How should we organize society?

We will evaluate the traditional philosophical responses to these questions drawing from six mayor areas of philosophy: (i) Philosophy of Mind (ii) Epistemology (iii) Philosophy of Religion (iv) Ethics (v) Political Philosophy.

Throughout the course you will be stimulated to formulate your own conception of these issues using philosophical methods of argumentation. Logic is the fundamental tool for philosophical reasoning. Logic permits us to validate arguments and detect fallacies. Therefore, we will dedicate several sessions (1/3) to a section of elementary logic (inference, validity, fallacies, etc.) within every block. Symbolic logic is by nature a mathematical subject, and students may be required to formalize reasoning in symbolic language. The sessions dedicated to logic are intended to help you familiarize yourselves with logic as an instrument for philosophical thought.

Readings, as well as session organization, may be revised as the circumstances and interest permit.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, students will have gained:

1. Introduce students to philosophical ways of thinking.
2. Introduce students to elementary logic.
3. Introduce students to Western philosophical tradition.

The attendance to the lectures and the completion of the mandatory assignments will contribute to the strengthening of important skills, such as:

- Critical Thinking: Analyze information objectively and make a reasoned judgment.
- Creative Thinking: Connect or combine ideas or information from unrelated fields or applications to generate multiple ideas to bring about a specific outcome. Ability to summarize and explain difficult ideas and concepts using language appropriate to the field.
- Communication: Articulate and discuss ideas and persuade others to achieve common outcomes. Ability to develop organized and informative verbal presentations directed to appropriate audience level.
- Critical Reading: Ability to read and interpret political, philosophical and literary texts.
- Critical Writing: Ability in writing that reflects careful attention to language, logic, and subtleties of reasoning.
- Critical research: Ability to conduct research into philosophical topics, drawing on other disciplines when appropriate.

## TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Learning Activity	Weighting	Estimated time a student should dedicate to prepare for and participate in
Lectures	20.0 %	30.0 hours
Discussions	20.0 %	30.0 hours
Exercises in class, Asynchronous sessions, Field Work	20.0 %	30.0 hours
Group work	20.0 %	30.0 hours
Individual studying	20.0 %	30.0 hours
TOTAL	100.0 %	150.0 hours

## PROGRAM

### SESSION 1 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

I. Who am I? The Philosophy of Mind I

Sessions 1- 6

## **SESSION 2 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

I. Who am I? The Philosophy of Mind I  
Sessions 1- 6

## **SESSION 3 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

I. Who am I? The Philosophy of Mind II  
Sessions 1- 6

## **SESSION 4 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

I. Who am I? The Philosophy of Mind II  
Sessions 1- 6

## **SESSION 5 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

I. Who am I? The Philosophy of Mind III  
Sessions 1- 6

## **SESSION 6 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

I. Who am I? The Philosophy of Mind III  
Sessions 1- 6

## **SESSION 7 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

II. Epistemology—What can we know? I  
Sessions 7-10

## **SESSION 8 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

II. Epistemology—What can we know? I  
Sessions 7-10

## **SESSION 9 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

II. Epistemology—What can we know? II  
Sessions 7-10

## **SESSION 10 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

II. Epistemology—What can we know? II  
Sessions 7-10

## **SESSION 11 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

III. Does God exist? Reason and Religious Belief I  
Sessions: 11-14

### **SESSION 12 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

III. Does God exist? Reason and Religious Belief I

Sessions: 11-14

### **SESSION 13 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

III. Does God exist? Reason and Religious Belief II

Sessions: 11-14

### **SESSION 14 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

III. Does God exist? Reason and Religious Belief II

Sessions: 11-14

### **SESSION 15 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

Midterm Activity

### **SESSION 16 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

IV. How should we behave? Ethics I

Sessions 16-21

### **SESSION 17 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

IV. How should we behave? Ethics I

Sessions 16-21

### **SESSION 18 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

IV. How should we behave? Ethics II

Sessions 16-21

### **SESSION 19 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

IV. How should we behave? Ethics II

Sessions 16-21

### **SESSION 20 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

IV. How should we behave? Ethics III

Sessions 16-21

### **SESSION 21 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

IV. How should we behave? Ethics III

Sessions 16-21

## **SESSION 22 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

V. How should we organize society? Social/Political Philosophy I

Sessions: 22-27

## **SESSION 23 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

V. How should we organize society? Social/Political Philosophy I

Sessions: 22-27

## **SESSION 24 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

V. How should we organize society? Social/Political Philosophy II

Sessions: 22-27

## **SESSION 25 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

V. How should we organize society? Social/Political Philosophy II

Sessions: 22-27

## **SESSION 26 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

V. How should we organize society? Social/Political Philosophy III

Sessions: 22-27

## **SESSION 27 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

V. How should we organize society? Social/Political Philosophy III

Sessions: 22-27

## **SESSION 28 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

Review Sessions

## **SESSION 29 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

Review Sessions

## **SESSION 30 (LIVE IN-PERSON)**

30. Final Exam

## **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

- Continuous Evaluation (Attendance & Participation): 40%
- In-Class Assignments: 15%
- Group Presentation: 15%
- Final Exam: 30%
- TOTAL 100%

criteria	percentage	Learning Objectives	Comments
Final Exam	30 %		
Final Exam	0 %		
Individual Work	30 %		
Class Participation	40 %		

### RE-SIT / RE-TAKE POLICY

- Each student has 4 chances to pass any given course distributed in two consecutive academic years (regular period and July period).
- Students who do not comply with the 70% attendance rule will lose their 1st and 2nd chance, and go directly to the 3rd one (they will need to enroll again in this course next academic year). Grading for retakes will be subject to the following rules:
  - Students failing the course in the first regular period will have to do a retake in June/July (except those not complying with the attendance rules, which are banned from this possibility).
  - Dates and location of the June/July retakes will be posted in advance and will not be changed.
  - Please take this into consideration when planning your summer. The maximum grade that a student may obtain in the 2nd and 4th retake will be 8 out of 10.
  - The retakes in the same academic year (2nd chance) will consist on a comprehensive exam.
  - The grade will depend only on the performance in this exam; continuous evaluation over the semester will not be taken into account. This exam will be designed bearing in mind that the passing grade is 5 and the maximum grade that can be attained is 8.
  - The students in their third and fourth attempts must contact the professor withing the first two weeks of the course for information on the evaluation requirements.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

#### Compulsory

- René Descartes. *Discourse on method and The meditations*. Penguin Classics. ISBN 0140442065 (Printed)
- David Hume. *A treatise of human nature*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. ISBN 1479321729 (Printed)
- Plato. *The Republic*. MIT. ISBN 0140455116 (Digital)
- Daniel Kahneman. *Thinking, Fast And Slow*. Macmillan USA. ISBN 0374533555 (Printed)
- Aristotle. *Nicomachean Ethics*. Hackett Publishing Co. ISBN 1624668151 (Printed)
- Friedrich Nietzsche. *On the Genealogy of Morals*. OUP Oxford. ISBN 0199537089 (Printed)
- Robert Nozick. *Anarchy, State, and Utopia*. Basic Books. ISBN 0465051006 (Printed)

### BEHAVIOR RULES

Please, check the University's Code of Conduct [here](#). The Program Director may provide further indications.



## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Please, check the University's Attendance Policy [here](#). The Program Director may provide further indications.

## **ETHICAL POLICY**

Please, check the University's Ethics Code [here](#). The Program Director may provide further indications.

