

Updated 07/18/2023



WACO, TEXAS

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**COURSE SYLLABUS  
AND  
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**Introduction to Formal Logic**

**PHIL 2303\_01**

**Dr. John Spano**

**NOTE: This is a 16-week course.**

**NOTE: This is an Online course.**

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**Course Description:**

The purpose of the course is to introduce the student to symbolic logic, including syllogisms, propositional and predicate logic, and logical proofs in a system of rules.

**Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:**

*None*

**Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:**

*There is software that is required for this class.*

**Instructor Information:**

Instructor Name: John Spano

MCC E-mail: [jspano@mclennan.edu](mailto:jspano@mclennan.edu)

Office Phone Number: (254) 299-8474

Office Location: MAC 331

Office/Teacher Conference Hours:

Other Instruction Information:

**Required Text & Materials:**

Title: A Concise Introduction to Logic

Author: Patrick Hurley

Edition:

Publisher:

ISBN:

**MCC Bookstore Website:** <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

**Methods of Teaching and Learning:**

*Focus will be on software and there will be weekly quizzes and assignments.*

**Course Objectives and/or Competencies:**

Courses in this category focus on quantitative literacy in logic, patterns, and relationships. Courses involve the understanding of key mathematical concepts and the application of appropriate quantitative tools to everyday experience.

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(A) Critical Thinking Skills (CT): to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information

(B) Communication Skills (COM): to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication

(C) Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS): to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. **Determine the logical structure of English arguments by identifying premises and conclusions. (CT, COM)**

*Taught through lectures, assigned reading, and class discussions*

*Assessed by objective exams and/or writing assignments and/or class participation and/or assigned presentations*

2. **Understand basic concepts in logic, such as truth functionality, validity, soundness, counter-examples, tautology, self-contradiction, logical equivalence, logical contradictoriness, and logical consistence. (CT, COM, EQS)**

*Taught through lectures, assigned reading, and class discussions*

*Assessed by objective exams and/or writing assignments and/or class participation and/or assigned presentations*

3. **Translate English statements into propositional and/or predicate notation. (CT, COM)**

*Taught through lectures, assigned reading, and class discussions*

*Assessed by objective exams and/or writing assignments and/or class participation and/or assigned presentations*

4. **Determine the validity of symbolic propositional or predicate arguments using such methods as direct/indirect truth tables, natural deduction, and/or the finite universe method. (CT, COM, EQS)**

*Taught through lectures, assigned reading, and class discussions*

*Assessed by objective exams and/or writing assignments and/or class participation and/or assigned presentations*

**Course Attendance/Participation Guidelines:**

If a student is not in attendance in accordance with the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in the course syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster prior to certifying the respective class roster. A student's financial aid will be

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re-evaluated accordingly and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date.

Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face or blended course or who miss 25% or more of assigned work for an online course will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. A student may also request to be withdrawn with a grade of W before the 60% point of the semester. After the 60% point of the semester, the student may request to be withdrawn if the student is passing, or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work.

**Course Outline or Schedule:**

Week 1	<i>1.1 and 1.2</i>
Week 2	1.3-1.5
Week 3	2.1-3
Week 4	<i>3.1-3.3</i>
Week 5	<i>3.4-3.5</i>
Week 6	4.1-4.2, 4.4-4.5
Week 7	5.1-5.2
Week 8	5.3-5.4
Week 9	5.5-5.6
Week 10	6.1-6.2
Week 11	6.3-6.4
Week 12	7.1-7.2

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Week 13	7.3-7.4
Week 14	7.5-7.6
Week 15	Final Reflection

**Course Grading Information:**

Weekly Quizzes 65% - There are weekly quizzes. If you complete these on time, you are guaranteed at minimum a 50%. But obviously will do better for every question answered correctly.

Weekly written reflection 15%- This is mean to help show the application of logical concepts to everyday.

Homework – 20% There are assignments from the software that comes with the book. The assignments given are completion grades. Do the work, and you'll get full credit.

**Late Work and Make Up Work Policies:**

*Include late work policies, make-up policies, and other policies specific to the instructor. Be specific about consequences for late work or missing class.*

**Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:**

*Describe the behaviors students are expected to demonstrate in class, lab, clinical, including dress policy and reference to the General Conduct Policy in the Highlander Guide. For example, "Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the instructor, prompt and regular attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the education opportunity."*

**[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)**

**(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)**

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

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## **ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES**

### **Accommodations/ADA Statement:**

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit [www.mclennan.edu/disability](http://www.mclennan.edu/disability).

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

[disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto:disabilities@mclennan.edu) 2542998122 Room  
319, Student Services Center

### **Title IX:**

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the acting Title IX Coordinator at [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465. MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a

confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>. Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at [www.mclennan.edu/titleix/](http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/). It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

### **Student Support/Resources:**

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email ([ast@mclennan.edu](mailto:ast@mclennan.edu)) by going to our website (<https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/>).

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact either MCC CREW – Campus Resources Education Web by calling (254) 299-8561 or by emailing [crew@mclennan.edu](mailto:crew@mclennan.edu) or a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing [SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu](mailto:SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu). Both are located in the Completion Center located on the second floor of the Student Services Center (SSC) which is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to [https://mclennan.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_07byXd7eB8iTqJg](https://mclennan.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_07byXd7eB8iTqJg). Both the Completion Center and Paulanne's Pantry are located on the second floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

### **MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:**



Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to

<https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html>

to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at

[https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency\\_Grant\\_Application.pdf](https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf).

**MCC Academic Integrity Statement:**

Go to [www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity) for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

**Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:**

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teachingandlearning/FacultyandStaffCommons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

**Minimum Technical Skills:**

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

**Backup Plan for Technology:**

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

**Email Policy:**

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are

expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to [www.mclennan.edu/studentemail](http://www.mclennan.edu/studentemail).

**Instructional Uses of Email:**

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

**Email on Mobile Devices:**

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email [Helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:Helpdesk@mclennan.edu) for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- [Email Setup for iPhones and iPads](#)
- [Email Setup for Androids](#)

**Forwarding Emails:**

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to [MCC's Tech Support Cheat Sheet](#) or email [helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:helpdesk@mclennan.edu).

**Disclaimer:**

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.