

Student Evaluations for Phi 20300: Intro to Logic (1 section)

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Ithaca College

Given the nature, level, and size of class, please indicate your overall opinion of the job this teacher did. Check **one**.

<i>Excellent</i>	6
<i>Very Good</i>	2
<i>Good</i>	2
<i>Merely Adequate</i>	0
<i>Inadequate</i>	0

Please mark each statement with one of the following:

	<u>Strongly Agree</u>	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>Strongly Disagree</u>	
1.	The instructor was well-prepared for class.				
	<i>Strongly Agree 8</i>	<i>Agree 2</i>	<i>Disagree 0</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree 0</i>	
2.	The instructor's presentation was well-organized.				
	<i>Strongly Agree 7</i>	<i>Agree 3</i>	<i>Disagree 0</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree 0</i>	
3.	The instructor was interested in the subject matter.				
	<i>Strongly Agree 7</i>	<i>Agree 3</i>	<i>Disagree 0</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree 0</i>	
4.	The instructor was approachable and willing to help (please mark N/A if you did not ask for help).				
	<i>Strongly Agree 3</i>	<i>Agree 2</i>	<i>Disagree 0</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree 0</i>	<i>N/A 5</i>
5.	In courses that require written work, the instructor's comments on my work were helpful (please mark N/A if you have not received comments on written work.)				
	<i>Strongly Agree 1</i>	<i>Agree 0</i>	<i>Disagree 0</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree 0</i>	<i>N/A 9</i>
6.	I would recommend this course to serious students interested in the topic.				
	<i>Strongly Agree 8</i>	<i>Agree 1</i>	<i>Disagree 1</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree 0</i>	

Please provide comments or suggestions about the instructor:

Developed a rapport with the students. Answered questions thoroughly and immediately – shows a strong grasp of the material. Positive attitude made the class enjoyable as well as educational.

He was good, enjoyed the class & topic & lectures, genuinely interested in topic & teaching.

Very excellent class. You knew what you were talking about and explained things very well.

Brendan was very well prepared for each class. He was very enthusiastic about the subject, which in turn made his students excited about it too he put a lot of time and effort into teaching.

He was very helpful, willing to help during his office hours and help at whatever time fit into your schedule.

Too many non sequiturs.

This has really been my favorite class this semester. Not only was the subject matter fascinating but it was presented in such an easy to understand, fun, accessible way. A great class.

Made perfect logical sense which helped a lot understanding the nature of the course. A reasonable man and good teacher.

Very friendly. It might have been a good idea to control certain students a little bit, but I understand why you wouldn't.

Brendan was an excellent instructor. The material was interesting, and I liked the topics. However, I thought the class got out of hand at points – everyone interrupted each other & I don't think there was much respect for the class as a whole. Because of this, I didn't participate much in class.

What did you find most educationally valuable about this course?

Learning how to apply logical forms.

The introduction to logic & little things like how syntax works & grammar & the meanings and ambiguities of language.

Understanding sentence structure.

I learned the basics of logic and how to apply logic to understanding and breaking down arguments.

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I learned tools for deduction of meaning from English. I thoroughly enjoyed this class, Brendan was very receptive to the class's zealous learning style. I hope to have him again.

It exercised my mind. And since I have bit of dyslexia stretching my mind helps me continue being able to read. Also the connection between languages always interested me so the prospect of being able to translate sentences in different languages into one set of symbols is intriguing.

In the beginning of the course, learning how to spot argumental flaws has been very helpful.

I liked examining arguments & translating them into logic. Knowing argument structures can be helpful for other classes.

How could this course be improved to increase its educational value?

My grasp of pedagogical techniques is insufficient to properly answer this question.

Cover more information or indulge in the philosophical offshoots about logic and language more often, maybe.

More discussion of philosophy, since it is listed under philo! This was a math class, listed under philosophy. Part of me felt tricked, as I was always looking for the philosophy in this stuff.

I don't know if it's possible, but it would be nice to look at a few real arguments (in English) and analyze parts of them with logic. This course may be too basic to do that in, though.

The material can be hard but he will help you.

Less (much, much less) non sequiturs.

Kick out the grumpy people who don't enjoy our tangents! Only the righteous will prevail!!

By using more examples of imp. people making logical fallacies. That way the course would be more entertaining, more interesting and more relevant.

I suggest spending less time on the subject material in the beginning, but incorporating that more in later topics. (Use English ↔ logic throughout the units with logical formulas. This will help make it more useful than mathematical memorizations.)

The material itself is fine the way it is. Class policies could be amended though, like I said above.

Please provide comments or suggestions about homework assignments and exams. [For instance, should the homework assignments be longer? Should homework assignments be graded? Did the course progress too quickly/slowly?].

I felt that the homework could have been longer, and/or the course could have progressed faster, but I also think that the subject matter was easier for me than for many others in the class.

Homework and exams were fair and well done, just enough material at a time. Maybe a few graded homeworks? (Right now they stand as practice and do not really seem mandatory.)

The exams were fine. The homework was never too much, and it did help to reinforce stuff learned in class. The progress of the course was very natural and had good flow.

Homework could be slightly longer. So could tests. However, the pace was perfect.

The exams were hard. You should be able to have more time for the exam. The course progressed at a regular speed.

Homework assignments were fine. It would help if they counted towards grade. Tests were good for the most part, however they sometimes seemed like they were meant to trick us instead of test our knowledge and understanding of concepts.

I was always a little sad when I ran out of homework but that's just me! Don't change the workload.

I felt like the exams were a little take all or fall. The limited amount of questions made it seem if you're stuck on one or two even if you understand the content you're kind of out of luck. Could there possibly be some obvious short-answer questions that supplement the hard questions in the test?

[Too slowly in the beginning.] Personally, I did not do any homework because it was not graded. This made my grade on the 2nd test lower (I had not really memorized the formulas) but I took about an hour before the 3rd exam to do practice problems and learned it all. Make sure people do at least some homework in each unit.

Homework was a good length – long enough to get the material, but not boring. Homework is fine not being graded – it just helps with exams, so the work pays off. Other than the atmosphere of the class, I really enjoyed the class.

The main reason I'm taking this course:

- 7 *Interest in the topic*
- 2 *Required for major*
- 2 *Fulfills distribution requirements*
- 2 *Fits into my schedule*
- 0 *Other*