



Logic and Argumentation II: The Pragmatics of Logic (7,5 ECTS credits)

Level: 1st cycle

Discipline: PHILOSOPHY

Course ID: 0339

Admission requirements

General admission requirements for university studies. Students taking part in the course as a part of their Bachelor's degree program must have completed Course A, Introduction in Philosophy and Theology (30 ECTS credits), as well as the course Logic and Argumentation (7,5 hp). Students taking part in the course as a freestanding course are expected to have corresponding prior knowledge.

Educational goals

After completing the course, the student is expected to:

- Further have developed the skills in applying the methods of formal logic to analyses and presentations of arguments in different argumentative contexts, as introduced in the course Logic and Argumentation I;
- Be able to evaluate argumentation aimed at other logical qualities than deductive validity, and to be able to analyze the textual contexts in which these kinds of argumentation are advanced and combined;
- Be able to develop and put forth reasoning of good argumentative quality of different kinds;
- Exhibit an awareness about and be able to explicate some social, cognitive and emotional aspects that may influence the ways of evaluating the reasoning behind our decisions and practices.

Course content

In this course, students learn how to apply the methods of formal and informal logical analyses to argumentative texts. Practical analyses of argumentative texts are included, where students learn to discover, reconstruct and evaluate the logical quality and the effectiveness of argumentation in larger contexts. The main focus will be to teach students how to use formal languages of propositional and predicate logic and the corresponding logical methods to analyze validity and soundness of arguments in philosophical texts or texts in cultural and social debates. In relation to this, students are also taught the principles of argument evaluation that differ from logical validity and soundness, such as plausibility, inductive strength, sophisms (logical fallacies), refutation, and defeasibility. In this context, a study of argumentation schemas and the standard logical fallacies (the reasoning that seems to be logically well-grounded but actually is not) is also provided. The

course thus focuses on applications of logical methods, with the aim of improving the abilities of analytical and critical thinking.

Teaching and examination

Partial distance with local instruction

Teaching will comprise lectures, in the form of videos put on the online teaching platform, as well as obligatory and voluntary direct instruction, seminar-style, with the teacher. There will also be reading assignments throughout the course.

Examination will consist of presentations at seminars, individually as well as in groups (50 % of final grade each).

Bibliography

Bowel, Tracy and Kemp, Gary (2015. 4th edition). *Critical Thinking: A Concise Guide*. London and New York: Routledge (The 4th edition or later is all right).

A compendium with selected argumentative texts and their logical analyses will be distributed to the students at the beginning of the course.

See also "Kursplaner: allmänna bestämmelser" (Course plans: General rules)

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Valid as 2021-03-15