NEWMANINSTITUTET
HÖGSKOLA FÖR TEOLOGI, FILOSOFI OCH KULTUR

Course plan

Logic and Argumentation (7,5 ECTS credits)

Level: 1st cycle
Discipline: PHILOSOPHY
Course ID: 0126

Admission requirements

General entry requirements for studies at universities. 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). Students taking part in the course as a freestanding course are expected to have corresponding prior knowledge.

Educational goals

After having completed the course the students are expected to be able to:

- Translate between natural language and symbolic logic, treat propositional and predicate logic syntactically and semantically as well as give an account of basic concepts such as truth, logical consequence, logical equivalence and derivability in this context;
- Reason about the relation between symbolic logic, on the one hand, and argumentation in different areas and especially theology, on the other.
- Analyse logical validity and soundness of arguments expressed in natural language by applying the relevant logical methods studied in the course.

Course contents

The question of what is valid argument and what is good argumentation is one of the central problems in modern logic. In order to answer this question, arguments expressed in natural languages are translated into formal languages of symbolic logic, whereby their logical structure stands out clearer. In this course, two such formal languages are studied: propositional- and predicate-logic language. Moreover, several logical methods for analysis of validity of arguments are studied.

Teaching and examination

The course is taught in English. The examination is in the form of a written exam at the end of the course.

Bibliography

- *A compendium written by Taeda Tomic will be distributed to the students.*
- Taeda Tomić, *Kritiskt tänkande och logisk argumentationsanalys.* Studentlitteratur 2023 (for those who can read Swedish).
- Bowell, Tracy and Kemp, Gary, *Critical Thinking. A Concise Guide*, 4th ed., Routledge, 2014.

Literature for extra reading:

Dalen, Dirk van, *Logic and Structure*, Berlin: Springer, 2004.
Halbach, Volker, *The Logic Manual*, Oxford University Press, 2010.
Read, Stephen, *Thinking About Logic*, Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 1995.

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

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