



ARTS2374

Ways of Reasoning

Summer // 2021

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Michaelis Michael	m.michael@unsw.edu.au	Wednesday 9am-10am	Morven Brown Building room 325	+612938521 83

Tutors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Max Rabie	m.rabie@unsw.edu.au			
Alessio Tacca	a.tacca@unsw.edu.au			

School Contact Information

School of Humanities and Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Phone: +61 2 9385 1681

Fax: +61 2 9385 8705

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

The understanding we have of our nature as reasoning beings is a fascinating topic which has captivated thinkers for thousands of years. In this course we will chart its history and focus on the developments in the recent past. This course aims to introduce you to and to develop some key skills involved in critically assessing and developing arguments. More broadly, the course aims to develop skills and abilities that are essential for dealing discursively with open intellectual questions and complex practical issues and problems of many kinds, and it is expected that to successfully complete the course, you will have improved your ability to think for yourself in a wide variety of contexts. In particular, you will develop the skills of identifying and analysing arguments; of being able to identify presuppositions of questions.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Identify arguments in extended passages.
2. Analyse and assess arguments.
3. Formulate, analyse and respond critically to problems, arguments and positions.
4. Use formal methods to aid in the critical analysis of arguments and their representations.
5. Apply analytical skills to case studies.

Teaching Strategies

This is an upper-level course suitable for you if you wish to develop your own understanding of the use and analysis of arguments.

The course encourages you to actively engage in philosophical inquiry as well as to acquire a significant skill set. A mixture of reading, lectures, web-based activities, discussion and exercises will be used. Apart from illuminating the set reading material for each class, lectures will pay particular attention to the development of skills in conceptual exploration and the analysis and construction of argument. The development of these skills will also be supported through materials made available online and through discussion in class.

The course is designed to run in intensive mode.

Assessment

See Moodle for details

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Exercises	60%	Not Applicable	1, 2, 3, 4
Exam	40%	05/02/2021 09:00 AM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Exercises

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 4 x 15 mins

Details:

There will be four multiple choice tests held in tutorials, each lasting ca. 30 minutes. Questions will be based on material presented in lectures and selected readings from assigned readings. The exercises will test your understanding of course content and are each worth 15% of the final mark. Students receive a mark and the correct answers in class discussion.

Additional details:

These are four (4) short quizzes in tutorial classes (see class schedule). Each takes 30 mins.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 2: Exam

Start date: 05/02/2021 09:00 AM

Length: 2 hours

Details:

This 2 hour exam covers all the work covered in the course and involves multiple choice and short answer questions. Students receive a mark. This is the final assessment for attendance purposes.

Additional details:

See Moodle site for details of final exam.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Wed 27th January	Lecture	What we do with Language Objectivity/Subjectivity
	Tutorial	
Thursday 28th January	Lecture	Validity and Proof; Argument Structures; Truth
	Tutorial	
Friday 29th January	Lecture	Aristotelian Logic and Categorical Propositions
	Tutorial	
	Assessment	Quiz (15%) Identifying Arguments
Monday 1st February	Lecture	Compositionality and Truth Tables
	Tutorial	
	Assessment	Quiz (15%) on Validity and Soundness
Tuesday 2nd February	Lecture	Compositionality and Truth-Tables
	Tutorial	
	Assessment	Quiz (15%) on Aristotelian Syllogisms
Wednesday 3rd February	Lecture	Scepticism, Science and Knowledge
	Tutorial	
	Assessment	Quiz (15%) on Truth Tables
Thursday 4th February	Lecture	Relativism, Constructivism and Objectivity
	Tutorial	
Friday 5th February	Assessment	Final EXAM (40%) Multiple Choice and Short answer questions

Resources

Prescribed Resources

See Moodle site for class notes.

Recommended Resources

See Moodle for online resources including web activities for skill development.

Course Evaluation and Development

We will be using MyExperience to assess student views and will be adjusting topics and resources taking those views into account.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/>). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.

<http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise>

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

<https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

Image Credit

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Bedegal people who are the traditional custodians of the lands on which UNSW Kensington campus is located.