Philosophy 330: Formal Reasoning I

Instructor: Professor Daniel Steel    E-mail: steel@msu.edu
Campus mailbox: 503 S. Kedzie Hall    Campus phone: 353-4215
Office: 509 S. Kedzie Hall    Office hours: Tuesdays, 10 to noon
Class Meeting Time and Place: Monday and Wednesday, 10:20-12:10, 104 Berkey Hall.
Homework Help Session: Tuesdays, 4 to 5 pm, 530 S. Kedzie Hall

Course Description

This course is an introduction to modern symbolic logic. In particular, we will cover proofs in first order logic with quantifiers and identity.

Text
Language, Proof and Logic, Jon Barwise and John Etchemendy.

Grades
Grades will be based on weekly homework assignments (20%), two midterms (25% each), and one final exam (30%). The dates of the midterms and final exam are indicated below in the course schedule. Homework assignments will be distributed on Wednesdays and will be due on the subsequent Wednesday. (Homework assignments will also be posted on the course website, which you can find at www.angel.msu.edu.) There will be 12 homework assignments in all, and I will drop your lowest two homework grades.

Course Schedule

Week 1:
1/12: Introduction
1/14: Chapters 1 and 2

Week 2:
1/19: No Class—Martin Luther King Day
1/21: Chapter 3

Week 3:
1/26: Chapter 4
1/28: Chapter 4, cont’d

Week 4:
2/2: Chapter 5
2/4: Chapter 5, cont’d

Week 5:
2/9: Review
2/11: Midterm 1
Week 6:
2/16: Chapter 6
2/18: Chapter 6, cont’d

Week 7:
2/23: Chapter 7
2/25: Chapter 7, cont’d

Week 8:
3/1: Chapter 8
3/3: Chapter 8, cont’d

Week 9:
Spring Break

Week 10:
3/15: Review
3/17: Midterm 2

Week 11:
3/22: Chapter 9
3/24: Chapter 9, cont’d

Week 12:
3/29: No Class—Prof. Steel in California
3/31: Chapter 10

Week 13:
4/5: Chapter 11
4/7: Chapter 11, cont’d

Week 14:
4/12: Chapter 12
4/14: Chapter 12, cont’d

Week 15:
4/19: Chapter 13
4/21: Chapter 13, cont’d

Week 16:
4/26: Chapter 14
4/28: Review

Final Exam: Friday May 7, 10:00—12:00, usual classroom.