Syllabus for Phil 3
Instructor: Steve Rubin email address: srubin@santarosa.edu
General Goal - From SRJC Course Catalog:
To gain an understanding of the relationship of language to logic, leading to the ability to analyze, criticize, and advocate ideas; to reason deductively and inductively; and to reach factual or judgmental conclusions based on sound inferences drawn from unambiguous statements of knowledge or belief.
Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Analyze arguments to identify and explain the claims and premises.
2. Evaluate arguments to determine whether claims are adequately supported.
3. Compose cogent written arguments.
Objectives:
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Identify arguments.
2. Distinguish arguments from explanations, and from statements of unsupported opinion.
3. Describe the structure of support within an argument.
4. Paraphrase arguments.

5. Distinguish inductive from deductive reasoning.

- 6. Apply appropriate standards for the evaluation of both inductive and deductive arguments.
- 7. Apply appropriate standards of informal argument evaluation (recognition of informally fallacious arguments).
- 8. Design and compose arguments that meet appropriate standards of evaluation.

Additional Objectives for this course:

- 1. To understand the impediments to good reasoning.
- 2. To identify the major abuses of language.
- 3. To recognize the major deceptions of ads.
- 4. To understand how the mass media distorts news.

Textbook:

Logic and Contemporary Rhetoric, 12th edition

by Howard Kahane and Nancy Cavender

Wadsworth, Cengage Learning

ISBN-10: 1133942288 ISBN-13: 9781133942283

Grading and Tests:

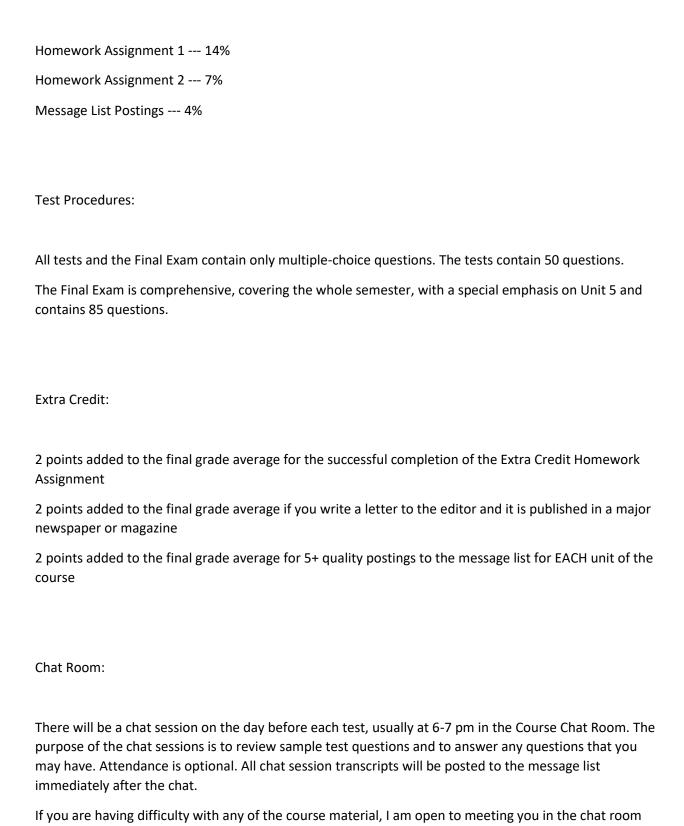
Test 1 --- 15%

Test 2 --- 15%

Test 3 --- 15%

Test 4 --- 10%

Final Exam -- 20%



on most days from 5-6pm. You should email me at least one day in advance.

Schedule: Critical Thinking Fall 2014

Course Overview

Day 1 Overview of Course Material

Day 1 Orientation: 1692 Emeritus

Unit 1 - Arguments Week 1-4

Introduction to Unit 1

Week 1 Arguments & Non-Arguments

Week 2-3 Deductive Validity & Cogency

Week 4 World Views and Background Beliefs

Week 4 Take Sample Test 1

Week 4 Test on Unit 1

Unit 2 - Fallacies Part 1 & 2 Week 5-7

Introduction to Unit 2

Week 5 Introduction to Fallacies

Week 5-6 Fallacies - Part 1

Week 6-7 Fallacies - Part 2

Week 7 Take Sample Test 2

Week 7 Test on Unit 2

Unit 3 - Fallacies Part 3 & Induction Week 8-11

Introduction to Unit 3

Week 8-9 Fallacies - Part 3

Week 9 Homework 1

Week 10-11 Inductive Arguments

Week 11 Take Sample Test 3

Week 11 Test on Unit 3

Unit 4 - Impediments & Language week 12-14

Introduction to Unit 4

Week 12 Impediments to Cogent Reasoning

Week 13-14 Uses and Abuses of Language

Week 14 Take Sample Test 4 Sample Test 4

Week 14 Test on Unit 4

Unit 5 - Ads & Mass Media Week 15-17

Introduction to Unit 5

Week 15-16 Product and Political Ads

Extra credit Overview of Homework 2 & Extra Credit

Week 16-17 Managing the News

Week 17 Review for Final Exam