

PHIL-400-DG (Independent Study): Non-Classical Logics w/Dr. Gould Spring 2026

Texts:

- Priest, *An Introduction to Non-Classical Logic*. Cambridge UP. ISBN: 978-0-521-67026-5
- Additional readings and papers are listed in the schedule and will be available in the class drive.

Meeting information:

Fridays from 1:00pm to 2:00pm in Old Main 127.

Course description:

This course's focus is on the knowledge and application of non-classical logic systems. The course will work towards this in two ways: extensive practice with logic through assigned readings and problems alongside thoughtful reflection on logic via biweekly write-ups.

Moodle:

A forum on Moodle will be set up for discussion and collaboration outside of class time. Dropboxes for reflections will be available at least a week in advance. The forum can be used to discuss troubling problems in the assigned readings (though this should be kept to a minimum of one problem per student). More can be done on Moodle but nothing is required except the dropbox for reflections.

Tasks:

- Textbook readings
 - These are the backbone of the class. On (most) odd weeks, two chapters will be assigned, while only one will be on the first week and weeks 12 and 14.
- Practice problems
 - These are from the Priest textbook. For each chapter read in a textbook week, *one or two problems in that chapter should be completed by the start of class*. Class time in these weeks will cover general topics from assigned chapters and include group work on challenging problems. The grade weighting of 20% focuses more on completion than the accuracy of these problems, and it involves in-class participation as well.
- Topical readings
 - These readings work to add ideas and sources to each student's reflections. They are written into the term schedule and everyone is responsible for reading them.
- Reflections
 - On textbook weeks, no reflections are due.
 - On topical paper weeks, reflections will be between 200 and 500 words and reflect on the ideas of the assigned reading.
 - There are 7 planned reflections. *They are due by the start of class*. These reflections are worth 100% of the Reflection grade, being evaluated primarily on content, thoughtfulness and argument along with grammar/mechanics. Standard formatting (i.e., half-inch margins, Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, double spaced) is required.

Term schedule:

Week	Readings/Topics	Tasks
1 6 Feb	Priest, Chapter 1: Propositional Logic	1-18 + Practice problems
2 13 Feb	Topical reading #1: Chalmers. (2012) "First Excursus." Constructing the World. Oxford UP.	Reading + Reflection
3 20 Feb	Priest, Chapter 2: Basic Modal Logic Priest, Chapter 3: Normal Modal Logics	20-34, 36-60 + Practice problems

4 27 Feb	Topical reading #2: Fitch. (1963) "A Logical Analysis of Some Value Concepts." Journal of Symbolic Logic.	Reading + Reflection
5 6 Mar	Priest, Chapter 4: Normal Modal Logics; Strict Conditionals Priest, Chapter 5: Conditional Logics	64-80, 82-101 + Practice problems
6 13 Mar	Topical reading #3: Chalmers. (2011) "Actuality and Knowability." Analysis.	Reading + Reflection
7 20 Mar	Priest, Chapter 6: Intuitionistic Logic Priest, Chapter 7: Many-Valued Logics	103-117, 120-140 + Practice problems
	SPRING BREAK - NO MEETING 27 MARCH & EASTER BREAK - NO MEETING 3 APRIL	
9 10 Apr	Topical reading #4: Priest. (2009) "Beyond the Limits of Knowledge." New Essays on the Paradox of Knowability.	Reading + Reflection
10 17 Apr	Priest, Chapter 8: First Degree Entailment Priest, Chapter 9: Logic with Gaps, Gluts, and Worlds	142-161, 163-185 + Practice problems
11 24 Apr	Topical reading #5: Brogaard. (2009) "On Keeping Blue Swans and Unknowable Facts at Bay: A Case Study on Fitch's Paradox." New Essays.	Reading + Reflection
12 1 May	Priest, Chapter 10: Relevant Logics	188-218 + Practice problems
13 8 May	Topical reading #6: Hand. (2009) "Performance and Paradox." New Essays.	Reading + Reflection
14 15 May	Priest, Chapter 11: Fuzzy Logics	221-239 + Practice problems