

LOGIC AND ARGUMENTATION

**Grado en Filosofía, Política, Derecho y Economía / Bachelor
in Philosophy, Politics, Law and Economics PPLE SEP-2025
LOAR-PP.2.S.A**

Area Humanities

Number of sessions: 30

Academic year: 25-26

Degree course: SECOND

Number of credits: 6.0

Semester: 1º

Category: BASIC

Language: English

Professor: **JOSÉ ALHAMBRA DELGADO**

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Professor José Alhambra is a specialist in argumentation theory, informal logic and critical thinking. He holds a PhD from Autonomous University of Madrid with the dissertation *The Place of Analogy in Argumentation Theory*. He has carried out research stays in several international institutions, such as ArgLab (Nova University of Lisbon), PhiloLab (University of Granada) and the Centre for Research in Reasoning, Argumentation and Rhetoric (University of Windsor). As a teacher, he has participated in courses such as Logic and Argumentation; Giving, Asking and Receiving Reasons, and Rhetoric and Argumentation. He is co-author of the outreach book *Argumentando sin piedad. Una introducción cinematográfica a la teoría de la argumentación* (2023, Dykinson). Currently, he is working on a research project on the intersection between argumentation theory and metaethics.

Office Hours

Office hours will be on request. Please contact at:

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SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

The course is an introduction to logic and argumentation theory. It is divided into three parts: Logic, Dialectics and Rhetoric. In the first part, students will learn to identify and analyse arguments and combinations of arguments in written texts. This will allow them to recognise and evaluate different types of reasoning and construct complex structures on the basis of a variety of logical connectors. In the second part, emphasis will be on the procedural aspects of argumentation. Students will learn different models of discussion and will be able to organise simple argumentative exchanges based on procedural rules. They will also learn to spot and argue about breaches of those rules, that is, fallacies. Finally, the third part of the course will be focused on the addressee of argumentation, the audience. Students will learn strategies for designing argumentative discourse in order to achieve a certain effect on a given audience, typically persuasion or adherence. Not only will this help them to detect techniques of manipulation, but it will also make them aware of the social and ethical dimension of the practice of arguing.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The learning objectives are divided into three groups:

1. Acquire the conceptual tools required to analyse and evaluate, from a logical point of view, complex arguments in natural language.
 - 1.1 Identify simple arguments in various types of texts,
 - 1.2. Reconstruct complex structures based on logical connectives,
 - 1.3. Distinguish types of arguments and discuss their validity and strength.
2. Get to know the conceptual tools required to analyse and evaluate argumentative exchanges from a procedural point of view.
 - 2.1. Be familiar with the main discussion models, their rules and shared goals,
 - 2.2. Identify and correct fallacious moves in critical discussions,
 - 2.3. Be able to organise and participate in discussions following procedural rules.
3. Identify the most relevant rhetorical elements in an argumentative situation and be able to design and modulate one's discourse on that basis.
 - 3.1. Get to know the main rhetorical theories.
 - 3.2. Acquire a comprehensive repertoire of rhetorical tactics and strategies.
 - 3.3. Be aware of the ethical and social implications of argumentation.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

IE University teaching method is defined by its collaborative, active, and applied nature. Students actively participate in the whole process to build their knowledge and sharpen their skills. Professor's main role is to lead and guide students to achieve the learning objectives of the course. This is done by engaging in a diverse range of teaching techniques and different types of learning activities such as the following:

Learning Activity	Weighting	Estimated time a student should dedicate to prepare for and participate in
Lectures	13.3 %	20.0 hours
Discussions	20.0 %	30.0 hours
Exercises in class, Asynchronous sessions, Field Work	20.0 %	30.0 hours
Group work	13.3 %	20.0 hours
Individual studying	33.3 %	50.0 hours
TOTAL	100.0 %	150.0 hours

AI POLICY

In today's world, generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) is changing how we work, study and, in general, how we get things done. However, in the context of this course, the use of GenAI is not permitted, unless it is otherwise stated by the instructor. The use of GenAI tools would jeopardize the students' ability to acquire fundamental knowledge or skills of this course.

PROGRAM

SESSION 1 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-What lies ahead. Syllabus, evaluation criteria and resources. Overview of the subject.

SESSION 2 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-What is logic? Three approaches to argumentation. The logic of reasons.

Book Chapters: Wenzel, Joseph W. 2006. "Three Perspectives on Argument. Rhetoric, Dialectic, Logic." in R. Trapp and J. Schuetz (Eds). Perspectives on Argumentation: Essays in Honor of Wayne Brockriede. New York: Idebate Press.

SESSION 3 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-How to spot an argument. Argumentative indicators and simple arguments.

Book Chapters: Chapter 3 in Eemeren, Franz H. van, Grootendorst, Rob, and Snoek Henkemans, Francisca. 2002. Argumentation. Analysis, Evaluation, Presentation. London: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, pp. 37-44.

SESSION 4 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-How to attack an argument. Counterargumentation: basic notions.

Book Chapters: Chapter 3 in Marraud, Hubert. 2025. Argument Dialectics. The Place of Reasons in Logic. Switzerland: Springer., pp. 105-157.

SESSION 5 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Types of counterarguments.

Book Chapters: Chapter 3 in Marraud, Hubert. 2025. Argument Dialectics. The Place of Reasons in

Logic. Switzerland: Springer., pp. 105-157.

SESSION 6 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Logical self-defence. Reply to criticism with compound arguments.

Book Chapters: Chapter 4 in Marraud, Hubert. 2025. Argument Dialectics. The Place of Reasons in Logic. Switzerland: Springer., pp. 163-214.

SESSION 7 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Types of compound arguments.

Book Chapters: Chapter 4 in Marraud, Hubert. 2025. Argument Dialectics. The Place of Reasons in Logic. Switzerland: Springer., pp. 163-214.

SESSION 8 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-How to assess an argument. Argumentation schemes and critical questions.

Book Chapters: Chapter 6, Sections 6.4-6.7, in Eemeren, Franz H. van, Grootendorst, Rob, and Snoek Henkemans, Francisca. 2002. Argumentation. Analysis, Evaluation, Presentation. London: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, pp. 95-104.

SESSION 9 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Searching for counterarguments.

Book Chapters: Chapter 6, Sections 6.4-6.7, in Eemeren, Franz H. van, Grootendorst, Rob, and Snoek Henkemans, Francisca. 2002. Argumentation. Analysis, Evaluation, Presentation. London: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, pp. 95-104.

SESSION 10 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Other approaches to logic. Deductive reasoning. Syllogism and Venn diagrams.

Book Chapters: Shapiro, Stewart and Kouri Kissel, Teresa. 2024. "Classical Logic," The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.):

SESSION 11 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-What is dialectic? Argument dialectics Vs arguer dialectics. Speech acts, language games and dialectical rules.

Book Chapters: Chapter 9 in Leal, Fernando, and Marraud, Hubert. 2022. How Philosophers Argue. An Adversarial Collaboration on the Russell-Copleston Debate. Switzerland: Springer., pp. 281-289.

SESSION 12 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Dialogic argumentation. Models of discussion.

Book Chapters: Chapter 1, Sections 1.1-1.3, in Walton, Douglas. 2008. Informal Logic. A Pragmatic Approach. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-15

SESSION 13 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-The pragmadialectical theory of argumentation.

Book Chapters: Chapter 1 and 2 in Eemeren, Franz H. van, Grootendorst, Rob, and Snoek Henkemans, Francisca. 2002. Argumentation. Analysis, Evaluation, Presentation. London: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, pp. 3-30.

SESSION 14 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-The model of a critical discussion.

Book Chapters: Chapter 1 and 2 in Eemeren, Franz H. van, Grootendorst, Rob, and Snoek Henkemans, Francisca. 2002. Argumentation. Analysis, Evaluation, Presentation. London: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, pp. 3-30.

SESSION 15 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Dialectical criticism. Case analysis.

Chapter 5, Sections 5.2 and 5.4., in Marraud, Hubert. 2025. *Argument Dialectics. The Place of Reasons in Logic.* Switzerland: Springer., pp. 231-237.

SESSION 16 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

Midterm exam.

SESSION 17 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-What is a fallacy? The classical view on fallacies.

Book Chapters: Hansen, Hans. 2024. "Fallacies," The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy. Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.)

SESSION 18 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

A dialectical account of fallacies.

Book Chapters: Chapters 8 and 9 in Eemeren, Franz H. van, Grootendorst, Rob, and Snoek Henkemans, Francisca. 2002. Argumentation. Analysis, Evaluation, Presentation. London: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, pp. 109-139.

SESSION 19 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-How to spot a fallacy. Some examples.

Book Chapters: Chapters 8 and 9 in Eemeren, Franz H. van, Grootendorst, Rob, and Snoek Henkemans, Francisca. 2002. Argumentation. Analysis, Evaluation, Presentation. London: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, pp. 109-139.

SESSION 20 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-What is rhetoric? Arguers and audience(s).

Book Chapters: Chapter 1 in Tindale, Christopher W. 2004. Rhetorical Argumentation. Principles of Theory and Practice. London: Sage Publications, pp. 1-24.

SESSION 21 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Rhetorical theories. Classical traditions.

Book Chapters: Chapter 2, Sections 2.8 and 2.9, in Eemeren, F. H. v., Garssen, B., Verheij, B., Krabbe, E. C. W., Snoeck Henkemans, A. F., & Wagemans, J. H. M. 2014. Handbook of Argumentation Theory. Amsterdam: Springer, pp. 116-129.

SESSION 22 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Rhetorical theories. The new rhetoric.

Book Chapters: Chapter 5 in Eemeren, F. H. v., Garssen, B., Verheij, B., Krabbe, E. C. W., Snoeck Henkemans, A. F., & Wagemans, J. H. M. 2014. Handbook of Argumentation Theory. Amsterdam: Springer, pp. 257-293.

SESSION 23 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Rhetorical strategies. Eristic. Emotions and manipulation.

Book Chapters: Schopenhauer, Arthur. 2018 [1831]. The Art of Being Right: 38 Ways to Win an Argument. ?Scotts Valley: CreateSpace.

SESSION 24 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-What is wrong with us? The ethics of argumentation.

Book Chapters: Stevens, Katharina. 2025. "The Ethics of Argumentation." In The Routledge Handbook on Argumentation. New York: Routledge.

SESSION 25 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Argumentative injustices.

Article: Bondy, Patrick. 2010. "Argumentative Injustice." (Informal Logic, 30(3): 263-278.)

SESSION 26 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Argumentation in context 1. Law.

Book Chapters: Chapter 1 in Walton, Douglas. 2002. Legal Argumentation and Evidence. College Township: Penn State University Press, pp. 1-33.

SESSION 27 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Argumentation in context 2. Politics.

Book Chapters: Chapter 1 in Fairclough, Isabela and Fairclough, Norman. 2012. Political Discourse Analysis. A Method for Advance Students. London: Routledge, pp. 17-34.

SESSION 28 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Argumentation in context 3. Economics.

McCloskey, Donald N. 1983. "The Rhetoric of Economics." Journal of Economic Literature, 21(2): 481-517

SESSION 29 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

The integrated view.

Book Chapters: Chapter 5 in Marraud, Hubert. 2025. Argument Dialectics. The Place of Reasons in Logic. Switzerland: Springer., pp. 219-244.

SESSION 30 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

-Final exam.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

criteria	percentage	Learning Objectives	Comments
Final Exam	30 %		
Class Participation	20 %		
Intermediate tests	30 %		
Analysis exercises	20 %		

RE-SIT / RE-TAKE POLICY

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Compulsory

- Eemeren, Franz H. van, Grootendorst, Rob, and Snoek Henkemans, Francisca. (2002). *Argumentation. Analysis, Evaluation, Presentation*. Lawrence Erlbaum.. ISBN 9781410602442 (Digital)
- Marraud, Hubert. (2025). *Argument Dialectics. The Place of Reasons in Logic*. Springer. ISBN TBD00000000 (Digital)
- Tindale, Christopher W. (2004). *Rhetorical Argumentation. Principles of Theory and Practice*. Sage Publications. ISBN 1412903998 (Digital)
- Wenzel, Joseph W.. (2006). *Three Perspectives on Argument. Rhetoric, Dialectic, Logic.*. Idebate Press. ISBN 978193271619 (Digital)

Recommended

- Eemeren, F. H. v., Garssen, B., Verheij, B., Krabbe, E. C. W., Snoeck Henkemans, A. F., & Wagemans, J. H. M. (2014). *Handbook of Argumentation Theory*. Springer. ISBN 9048194725 (Digital)
- Fairclough, Isabela and Fairclough, Norman. (2012). *Political Discourse Analysis. A Method for Advance Students*. Routledge. ISBN 97804154992 (Digital)
- Leal, Fernando, and Marraud, Hubert. (2022). *How Philosophers Argue. An Adversarial Collaboration on the Russell-Copleston De-bate*. Springer. ISBN 978303085370 (Digital)
- McCloskey, Donald N.. (1983). *The Rhetoric of Economics.*. Journal of Economic Literature, 21(2): 481-517. ISBN ISSN0022051 (Digital)

- Schopenhauer, Arthur. (2018). *The Art of Being Right: 38 Ways to Win an Argument*. CreateSpace. ISBN 172111324X (Digital)
- Stevens, Katharina. (2025). "The Ethics of Argumentation." In *The Routledge Handbook on Argumentation*. Routledge. ISBN TBD0000000 (Digital)
- Patrick Bondy. *Argumentative Injustice*. *Informal Logic*, 30(3): 263-278. ISBN ISSN08242577 (Digital)
<https://doi.org/10.22329/il.v30i3.3034>
- Walton, Douglas. (2002). *Legal Argumentation and Evidence*. Penn State University Press. ISBN 0271058358 (Digital)
- Walton, Douglas. (2008). *Informal Logic. A Pragmatic Approach*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN 0521713803 (Digital)

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