



Live Classes

Logic and Defending the Christian Faith

Dr. J. Brian Huffling

Syllabus

2025-2026



Personal Note from Instructor:

If there is one class that has changed my life more than any other, it is logic. We are asked to think logically for school, work, and throughout life, but most do not formally learn how to do that. In Logic, we do just that, learning how to see the problems (fallacies) in the way people think and argue as well as learning how to form our own arguments. Such makes us better thinkers, writers, and communicators. While we can't be a scholar in every area, we can think logically in every area. We also look at tactics for how to navigate tough discussions and topics.

The second part of the course teaches the student how to apply their logical thinking in defending the Christian faith, such as with God's existence, the problem of evil, the reliability of the Bible, and the deity of Jesus.

Recommended Grade Level:

7-12

Prerequisites:

None.

Live Lecture Date & Time:

Mondays 12:30-1:30 ET

NOTE: The instructor does not require attendance of the live lectures but highly recommends students attend as many of the live lectures as possible to take advantage of live Q&A. Lectures are recorded and posted on the course Canvas page under the associated week and module. If you miss a lecture, please watch the recording. You can also use the recording for review as you prepare for the online exam.

Description:

Logic teaches the students to think critically and logically by explaining what logic is, how to recognize formal and informal fallacies (logical mistakes), how to formulate our own arguments, and how to translate normally everyday occurrences such as the media, social media, books and articles, and conversations with our friends into logical arrangements to be able to more easily see if they are logical or fallacious.

The second part of the course applies what we learn in Logic to the defense of the Christian faith, specifically about God, the Bible, and Jesus. This material will help students answer their own questions and doubts, be prepared to help others, and defend themselves when their views are attacked or challenged.

Required Class Materials:

Samples, Kenneth R. and Mark Perez. *Clear Thinking in a Messy World: A Christian Guide to Logic, Reason, and Cognitive Bias*. Covina, CA: RTB Press, 2024.

Koukl, Gregory. *Tactics: A Gameplan for Discussing your Christian Convictions*. Updated and Expanded 10th Anniversary Edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2019.

Huffling, J. Brian and Douglas E. Potter. *Apologetics Before College*. This text will be provided via Canvas.

Recommended Class Materials:

Blackwell, Simon. *Oxford Dictionary of Philosophy*.

Geisler, Norman L. and Ronald Brooks. *Come Let Us Reason*.

Geisler, Norman. L. *The Big Book of Christian Apologetics*.

Course Topics:

This course will introduce the students to logic and critical thinking, the nature of truth, God's existence, apologetic methods, the problem of evil, the reliability of the Bible, the claims and deity of Jesus, and the overall truth of Christianity.

Assignment Structure:

The core of the class will be lecture and discussion-based, supplemented by reading and homework, such as quizzes and exams.

Grading:

The course assessments include a statement of reading completion, quizzes, and exams.

Reading: 25%

Quizzes: 25%

Exams: 50%

Due Dates and Late Policy:

The assignments are due the week after they are assigned. However, understanding the nature of homeschoolers and their schedules, I do not take off for late work. I just ask that they not get too far behind and try to be caught up before the Christmas break and the end of the school year.

Student Conduct:

Academic Dishonesty

Students are expected to do their own work and not utilize the internet or AI unless explicitly allowed.

Class Behavior

My classes are slightly informal, and I encourage and even provoke discussion. I just ask that students be respectful to each other and me and stay on topic.

Instructor Availability for Questions:

I am available via email (drhuffling@apologia.com) and can also meet over the phone or Zoom upon request.