Course Code: HUMA 1710

Course Title: The Art of Thinking in the Hong Kong Context

Course Offered in: Spring 2024

Course Instructor: Dr. Sai-lok NAM

TA: Kok Tsun LIU

Course Description

This course aims to provide a basic introduction to the art of thinking. The focus of this course is on methodology. Students will be equipped with critical tools for the analysis of arguments. Moreover, special attention will be given to the application of such tools to the practical affairs of everyday life.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to do the following:

1	**Explain and apply specialized methodological terminology**
2	**Evaluate the validity of standard logical arguments**
3	**Identify common persuasive stratagems that cannot withstand logical scrutiny and demonstrate how they weaken the arguments that employ them**
4	**Analyze and construct arguments, employing the techniques of formal and informal methods of reasoning as appropriate, together with an ability to recognize any relevant fallacies**

Competencies

Students are expected to develop the following competencies upon completion of this course:

1. Language meaning
2. Lifelong learning
3. Application of critical thinking
4. Civic engagement

Division of Humanities
Tentative Course Syllabus

Course Outline

Module	*Topics*
1	Introduction: Critical Thinking & Creative Thinking 批判思考與創意思維
2	Logico-linguistic Analysis 語理分析 2.1. Classification of Questions 問題分類 2.2. The Pitfalls of Language 語言的陷阱
3	Definition and Meaning 定義與意義 3.1. Definition 定義 3.2. Meaning Criterion 意義判準 3.3. A/S Distinction 析合區分
4	Symbolic Logic 符號邏輯 4.1. Validity and Logical Forms 對確性與論證形式 4.2. Truth-table 真值表 4.3. Reductio ad Absurdum 歸謬法
5	Categorical Syllogisms 定言三斷論 5.1. Categorical Proposition 定言命題 5.2. The Square of Opposition 四角對立表 5.3. Rules Methods 檢驗規則 5.4. Venn Diagrams 范恩圖解法
6	Classification of Fallacies 謬誤分類

Planned Assessment Tasks

Quizzes	2 x 25%
Critical Essay	25%
ePortfolio	25%

Guidance on the AI policy for the Critical Essay
Students may use generative AI tools to assist with gathering information and improving the clarity and conciseness of their writing.

Readings
1. Irving M. Copi, Introduction to Logic (15th edition), 2018. (Selected Chapters only)
2. 《語理分析的思考方法》，李天命著，2016。