

# PHL 391: Applied Logic

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## Course Information

- Instructor: Soazig Le Bihan
- Contact: (406) 243 6233, [soazig.lebihan@umontana.edu](mailto:soazig.lebihan@umontana.edu), Mailbox in LA 101. I try to always respond to email messages within one business day (24-32h). Students are expected to check their university email daily.
- Office hours: Fridays 1:30-6pm in LA 153 – I recommend that you sign-up for an appointment as my office hours are full a week in advance. There will be sign-up sheets on my office door. *Please feel free to contact me if you need to arrange an appointment outside of office hours.*
- Class meets: Mondays and Wednesdays 2 – 3:20pm, LA 303.
- Course website on Moodle

## Course Description

This course will survey the various components of the LSAT, which all are concerned with applied Logic. My goal is not to teach you any “trick” to “nail” the LSAT, but to train you so that you develop the skills that are needed in order to do well on the LSAT.

If you take this course with the intention to take the LSAT in December, then the course will help you reach your goals only if you do your part:

- 15 hours a week for 3 months (5 times 2 + 5 over the week end)
- Take the test right after the course on Dec. 2nd, 2017.
- Finals week: plan accordingly!

If you take this course as a pre-LSAT-prep training, then it can be a little less intense.

## Course Material

- Kolby, Jeff. Master the LSAT. Nova Press, 2016. (ISBN-10: 1889057118)

If you are intending to take the LSAT in December, then add:

- 10 Actual, Official LSAT PrepTests Volume VI: PrepTests 72 through 81. LSAC, 2014. (ISBN-10: 0998339784) or individual tests if not out
- 10 Actual, Official LSAT PrepTests Volume V: PrepTests 62 through 71. LSAC, 2014. (ISBN-10: 0986045519)
- 10 New Actual, Official LSAT PrepTests with Comparative Reading: (PrepTests 52-61). LSAC, 2011. (ISBN-10: 0984636005)
- The Next 10 Actual, Official LSAT PrepTests: Contains PrepTests 29-38. LSAC, 2007. (ISBN-10: 0979305055)

## Course Requirements

The final grade will be based on:

- Homework 25%
- Pre-Test 15%
- Mid-test 15%
- Mid-Term 15% (10/30)
- Final Test 15%
- Final Exam 15%

### Homework – 25%

Given that the answers to the homework questions are in the book, it would be pointless to grade your work. Instead, you are responsible for your own evaluation on your homework. I will circulate a grading sheet during each class on which you are required to evaluate your work on a scale from 0 to 2. You should put ‘2’ down if you have done the entire assignment and done it in a focused manner and in such a way that you got the most out of the opportunity. A ‘1’ is appropriate if you did it all but quickly and with little concern about learning anything. ‘1’ is appropriate for those days when you only glanced at it and did a few problems. A ‘0’ is appropriate for those days when you did not have an opportunity to look at the work at all.

It is often said that, “Cheaters only hurt themselves”. This has never been truer than it is in this course. My aim is to provide you with a regimen of work that will help you to develop skills that you claim to want. You should not waste this opportunity. I will be relying on your INTEGRITY, HONESTY, and COMMITMENT to assure me that you are doing the assigned work as it was designed to be done.

(Both the idea of self-evaluation and the grading scale, as well as the note about integrity, are borrowed from Dr. Nim Batchelor Elon University Dept. of Philosophy, “The Making of an LSAT Course” )

### Pre-Test, Mid-Test, and Final Test – 15% each, for a total of 45%

The Pre-test (diagnostic test), Mid-term, and Final exam are full LSAT Tests. You will receive 100% for showing up and doing the test in earnest. Your grade will *not* depend on how well you did on the test.

### Mid-Term, and Final Exam

Contrary to the tests, the Mid-Term and the Final Exam will be graded depending on your performance. The exams will focus on skills that we have learned in class. They will be closed-book exams.

## Course policies

### Responsibilities

My role as an instructor is to provide you an opportunity to learn and master the material. I will do my best to explain things clearly and let you know what is expected of you. I want you to succeed in this course and I am available to help you.

Your role as a student is to be proactive and to advocate for yourself. If you do not understand something or are confused, please let me know. It is your responsibility to voice your questions and concerns. We will work together to help you master the material. Be sure to advocate for yourself. In my experience, students who put in effort, attend class regularly, turn in assignments, and ask questions when they are confused can succeed in my classes.

“Show up, Pay attention, Ask for help” (Anonymous on [www.ratemyprofessor.com](http://www.ratemyprofessor.com))

## Drop Policy

I adhere to the UM policy on dropping courses. Between the first and 45th instructional day, it is entirely your decision whether to drop the course or not. If you want to drop course between the 46th instructional day and the last instructional day prior to finals week, and you want me to recommend the drop, you will have to provide reasons that you should be allowed to drop the course. Acceptable reasons demonstrate that some (post 45th instructional day) circumstance out of your control interferes with your ability to complete the course. Simply not having done the work required of you, or belief that you do not think that you can get the grade you want, or that you need such and such grade to maintain your financial aid, are not sufficient reasons for me to recommend dropping the course after the 45th instructional day, though they might be prior to the 45th day.

## Academic Misconduct

You are strictly held to the University of Montana Student Conduct Code  
<http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/documents/StudentConductCode1.pdf>.

Unless collaborative work is specifically called for, work on assignments and exams is expected to be your own. If you plagiarize, your assignment will receive a zero. You may fail the class altogether depending on the circumstances. Also, I will report the case to the Dean. I will be glad to answer questions you may have about how to document sources properly. Anytime you take a phrase or sentence from someone, you have to quote it. Anytime you take an idea from someone, you have to cite your sources.

## University Resources

### Writing Center

Students from all levels can take advantage of the writing center (LA 144: drop in or by appointment). The tutors will not write your assignment for you, but they will teach you how to write better. For more information, go to the website: [http://www.umt.edu/writingcenter/welcom\\_about.htm](http://www.umt.edu/writingcenter/welcom_about.htm)

### Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a disability and wish to discuss reasonable accommodations for this course, it is your responsibility to contact me and discuss the specific modifications you wish to request. Please be advised I may request that you provide a letter from Disability Services for Students verifying your right to reasonable modifications. If you have not yet contacted Disability Services, located in Lommasson Center 154, please do so in order to verify your disability and to coordinate your reasonable modifications. For more information, visit the Disability Services website at [www.umt.edu/dss/](http://www.umt.edu/dss/).

## Tentative Schedule

IMPORTANT EVENT: 9/18, 7:30 p.m.: Constitution Day Lecture 2017: "Transgender Equality and the Constitutional Right to Dignity", by Caitlin Borgmann, Executive Director of the ACLU of Montana, LAW 101

### Overview

<b>Week #</b>	<b>Topic</b>
<b>Week 1</b> 9/6	Syllabus, Introduction, overview of the test – Diagnostic Test
<b>Week 2</b> 9/11,13	Logic Games I – Untimed sections of Logic Games.
<b>Week 3</b> 9/18,20	Logic Games II – Untimed sections of Logic Games.
<b>Week 4</b> 9/25,27	Logic Games III. Timed Sections of Logic Games.
<b>Week 5</b> 10/2,4)	Logical Reasoning I -- Timed sections of Logic Games. Untimed LR sections.
<b>Week 6</b> 10/9,11	Logical Reasoning II – More timed sections of LG. Untimed LR sections.
<b>Week 7</b> 10/16,18	Logical Reasoning III – More timed sections of LG. Timed LR sections.
<b>Week 8</b> 10/23,25	Reading Comprehension -- Untimed RC sections. Timed sections of LG + LR.
<b>Week 9</b> 10/30,11/1	Practice Tests Midtest, 65, 66 (+ experimental) – Review.
<b>Week 10</b> 11/6,8	Practice Tests 67, 68 (+ experimental) – Review. Writing Samples
<b>Week 11</b> 11/13,15	Practice Tests 69, 70, 71 (+ experimental) – Review.
<b>Week 12</b> 11/20	Practice Tests 72, 73, 74 (+ experimental) – Review.-- Thanksgiving
<b>Week 13</b> 11/27,29	Practice Tests 75, 76 (+ experimental) – Review. REST. TEST DAY 9/2
<b>Week 14</b> 12/4, 6	Reasoning in the Law
<b>Week 15</b> 12/11	Reasoning in the Law
<b>FINALS WEEK</b>	Final Exam : Tuesday, December 19 <sup>th</sup> , 1:10 – 3:10

### Week 1: Introduction, Syllabus, Overview of the test

Readings: Kolby, pp. 9-18, LSAT Sampler, LSAT prep by Jacob Petrie

PRE-TEST

**Week 2: Logic Games I**

## Session 2.1:

- Readings: Kolby, pp.19-68 (Introduction + Linear Games)
- Homework: Kolby, Drills and Exercises: p.27, 32, 36, 52, 53, 56.

## Session 2.2:

- Readings: Kolby, pp. 69-98 (Hybrid + Sequential Games)
- Homework: Kolby, Drills and Exercises: p. 75, 78, 94.

If LSAT taker, complete as many as possible in the following list, after Session 2 (in the order given for each type):

- Sequencing Games:
  - PrepTest 52, Section 2, Game 1 - p. 16
  - PrepTest 54, Section 3, Game 3 - p. 98
  - PrepTest 55, Section 4, Game 3 - p. 142
  - PrepTest 52, Section 2, Game 4 - p. 19
  - PrepTest 53, Section 2, Game 2 - p. 53
  - PrepTest 61, Section 3, Game 2 - p. 349
  - PrepTest 60, Section 2, Game 2 - p. 305
- Basic Linear Games:
  - PrepTest 57, Section 1, Game 1 - p. 188
  - PrepTest 56, Section 1, Game 1 - p. 152
  - PrepTest 58, Section 3, Game 1 - p. 240
  - PrepTest 57, Section 1, Game 2 - p. 189
  - PrepTest 59, Section 1, Game 2 - p. 261
  - PrepTest 59, Section 1, Game 4 - p. 263
  - PrepTest 60, Section 2, Game 3 - p. 306
  - PrepTest 61, Section 3, Game 4 - p. 351
  - PrepTest 55, Section 4, Game 2 - p. 141
  - PrepTest 54, Section 3, Game 4 - p. 99
- Advanced Linear Games:
  - PrepTest 59, Section 1, Game 1 - p. 260
  - PrepTest 53, Section 2, Game 3 - p. 54
  - PrepTest 52, Section 2, Game 3 - p. 18
  - PrepTest 60, Section 2, Game 1 - p. 304
  - PrepTest 60, Section 2, Game 4 - p. 307
  - PrepTest 54, Section 3, Game 2 - p. 97
  - PrepTest 55, Section 4, Game 4 - p. 143
  - PrepTest 58, Section 3, Game 3 - p. 242

**Week 3: Logic Games II**

## Session 3.1:

- Readings: Kolby, pp. 99-150 (Circular + Formulas + Chart)
- Homework: Kolby, Drills and Exercises: p. 158, 160, 176.

## Session 3.2:

- Readings: Kolby, pp.151- 186 (Grouping + Assignment Games)
- Homework: Kolby, Drills and Exercises: p. 158, 160, 176.

If LSAT taker, complete as many as possible in the following list, after Session 2:

- PrepTest 54, Section 3, Game 1 - p. 96
- PrepTest 58, Section 3, Game 2 - p. 241
- PrepTest 61, Section 3, Game 1 - p. 348
- PrepTest 53, Section 2, Game 1 - p. 52
- PrepTest 55, Section 4, Game 1 - p. 140
- PrepTest 52, Section 2, Game 2 - p. 17
- PrepTest 57, Section 1, Game 4 - p. 191
- PrepTest 56, Section 1, Game 2 - p. 153

### **Week 4: Logic Games III**

Session 4.1: 7 Foundational Games

- PrepTest 38, Section 2, Game 1
- PrepTest 30, Section 1, Game 4 - p.53
- PrepTest 36, Section 4, Game 2 - p.238
- PrepTest 33, Section 4, Game 2 - p.177
- PrepTest 33, Section 4, Game 3 - p.178
- PrepTest 29, Section 3, Game 1 - p.32
- PrepTest 38, Section 2, Game 3

Session 4.2: 7 Combination Games

- PrepTest 29, Section 3, Game 2
- PrepTest 31, Section 1, Game 4
- PrepTest 32, Section ?, Game 2 – p.134
- PrepTest 30, Section ?, Game 2 –p. 51
- LSAT section, TIMED, p.187

If LSAT taker, complete as many as possible in the following list, after Session 2:

- PrepTest 61, Section 3, Game 3 - p. 350
- PrepTest 56, Section 1, Game 3 - p. 154
- PrepTest 57, Section 1, Game 3 - p. 190

Then complete the LG sections of PrepTests 52, 53, timed. Review.

### **Week 5: Logical Reasoning**

Session 5.1:

- Readings: Kolby, pp. 203-262 (Obfuscation, Logic I and II)
- Homework: Kolby, Drills and Exercises: p. 214, 218, 222, 241, 249.

Session 5.2:

- Readings: Kolby, pp. 263-304 (Inductive reasoning, Fallacies)
- Homework: Kolby, Drills and Exercises: p. 270, 288.

If LSAT taker, complete:

- PrepTests 54, 55, 56, LG sections, timed. Review.

## **Week 6: Logical Reasoning**

Session 6.1:

- 5 Must Be True and Most Strongly Supported questions
- 5 Necessary Assumption questions
- 5 Sufficient Assumption questions
- 5 Strengthen questions
- 5 Weaken questions

Session 6.2:

- 5 Flaw questions
- 5 Parallel Flaw
- 5 Main Point questions
- 5 Fill-in-the-Blank questions
- 5 Point at Issue questions

If LSAT taker, complete:

- 10 more questions in each category above
- PrepTest 52 LR sections, untimed. Review. (2 sections)
- PrepTest 57, 58 LG sections, timed. Review.

## **Week 7: Logical Reasoning**

Session 7.1:

- 5 Paradox questions
- 5 Method of Reasoning questions
- 5 Role of a Statement questions
- 5 Principle questions

Session 7.2:

- LSAT section in Kolby, p. 305

If LSAT taker, complete:

- 10 more questions in each category above
- LG sections from PrepTests 59, 60, 61, timed. Review.
- Complete PrepTest 53 LR sections back to back, untimed. Review.

**Week 8: Reading Comprehension**

Session 8.1:

- Readings: Kolby, pp. 331-368
- Homework: Kolby, Drills and Exercises: p. 352, 355, 362, 366.

Session 8.2:

- Readings: Kolby, pp. 369-380
- Homework: Kolby, Drills and Exercises: p. 374, 378,.
- LSAT section p. 381

If LSAT taker, complete:

- PrepTests 52, 53, 54 RC sections, untimed. Review.
- PrepTests 55, 56, 57 RC sections, timed. Review.
- PrepTests 62, 63, 64 LG + 2LR sections, timed. Review.

**Week 9: MID-TERM WEEK**

Session 9.1: MID-TERM – OCTOBER 30<sup>th</sup>.

Session 9.2: Review Mid-Term

MID-TEST

If LSAT taker, complete:

- Full PrepTests 65, 66 (+ “experimental” PrepTest 58, 59, 60 RC sections), under test conditions

**Week 10: Writing Sample and Review**

Session 10.1:

- Review Mid-Test

Session 10.2:

- Homework: Kolby: Writing Samples, Tests 1-3, p. 596

If LSAT taker, complete:

- Full PrepTests 67, 68 (+ “experimental” sections from 29-38)

**Week 11: Review**

Session 11.1-2:



- Homework: PrepTest 69

If LSAT taker, complete:

- Full PrepTests 70, 71 (+ “experimental” sections from 29-38)

### **Week 12: Review**

Session 12.1:

- Homework: PrepTest 72

Session 12.2: Thanksgiving

If LSAT taker, complete:

- Full PrepTests 73, 74 (+ “experimental” sections from 29-38)

### **Week 13: Review**

Session 13.1-2:

- Homework: PrepTest 75
- FINAL TEST

If LSAT taker, complete:

- Full PrepTests 76 (+ “experimental” sections from 29-38)
- Rest well this week. Full day of rest before test day.

**TEST DAY: December 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

### **Week 14: Logic in the Law**

Session 13.1-2:

- Readings: Kerr, “How to Read a Legal Opinion”
- Readings: Riggs v. Palmer

### **Week 15: Logic in the Law**

Session 14.1

- Readings: Palsgraf v. Long Island Railroad Co.

**Final Exam: December, 19<sup>th</sup>, 1:10 – 3:10.**