

Nebraska Wesleyan University

Catalog 2011-2012

PHIL 103 Critical Thinking

3 hours

Majors, Minors & Degrees:

Majors

Philosophy (B.A., B.S.)

Minors

Legal Studies

Philosophy

Departments/Programs:

Religion and Philosophy

This is an excellent course for students looking to enhance their own argument skills generally and especially for those planning to take the standardized tests for law or graduate school. Students will learn to understand and evaluate formal and informal arguments, the principles that support their logical forms, and how to apply these principles in the construction of arguments. Students will learn to distinguish arguments from other forms of language (e.g. descriptive or imperative uses of language) as well as develop the ability to recognize good and bad reasoning. This will include general examinations of common fallacies, valid and invalid deductive and strong and weak inductive arguments, standards of reasoning and the principles that sustain these standards in professional fields.

(Normally offered each spring semester.)