Logic is a skill that can be practiced and applied to most aspects of everyday life. Some people call this skill “critical thinking”, others call it “reasoning” or “argumentation”. No matter what it is called, this skill helps us to work through problems of all sorts--from science to the humanities, from business ethics to legal procedures, from criminal investigations to politics, from discussions with friends to GRE and LSAT exams. Thus, this class will teach you how to work through difficult questions, by learning how to recognize, assess, and create good arguments. We will begin by learning the basics of arguments by diagramming arguments and their conclusions, and by identifying common logical fallacies, then work our way through categorical statements and arguments, and finally conclude with an introduction to symbolic logic.

Requirements for the course: Students will be expected to have all readings prepared for each day’s class; to participate in discussions, assignments, homework, and group work; to take quizzes on readings and lectures; and to sit for at least one mid-term and final exam.

Course Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to WOW YOUR FRIENDS WITH YOUR LOGICAL ACUMEN! And you will also be able to identify fallacies, determine valid arguments, and understand logical symbolism. Positive side-effects could also include better critical reading, writing, and test-taking abilities.

Required text:
A Concise Introduction to Logic, by Patrick J. Hurley.
Graded assignments will include quizzes, at least one mid-term exam, a final exam, and assignments (homework and group work). Grades will be based on these graded assignments and attendance.