Learning outcomes:

- Develop an understanding of the nature of deductive reasoning by deepening students’ grasp of how the truth of some statements (premises) can necessitate the truth of others (conclusions)
- Develop fluency in the formal languages of propositional logic and predicate logic, thereby deepening students’ appreciation of the logical connections implicit in ordinary thought and talk
- Use techniques of proof construction, broadening students’ capabilities with principles of abstract reasoning
- Use techniques of determining whether an argument is deductively valid and thereby enhance students’ critical reasoning abilities

University Requirements: This course may be used to satisfy a Kent Core requirement. The Kent Core as a whole is intended to broaden intellectual perspectives, foster ethical and humanitarian values, and prepare students for responsible citizenship and productive careers.

Websites:
Aplia Website
All readings and homework assignments are found on the Aplia website. Purchasing access to Aplia is required, but you have 3 weeks to do so. Homework assignments will collectively count for 30% of your grade. The Aplia site requires a separate registration process. Here are the steps:

2. To pay for Aplia, we have a discounted price of $83 available. Please use this link to purchase it: http://www.cengagebrain.com/course/1-226D89L

Student benefits: By completing regular work in association with the lectures, you will be better prepared for the lectures and exams in the course. Cramming is not an effective method of learning. Think of the regular assignments on Aplia as a daily workout. Practicing and applying what you are learning from Aplia and lectures will better prepare you for class.

Aplia assignments: Most Aplia assignments are graded. You will have three attempts at each question, and you will receive feedback about your answer and an explanation of the question. You also have the option to save your work and come back later to finish the question and check
your answer; if you choose this option and do not return, the work you had completed will be graded at the due date. **After the due date passes, you will be unable to change your answers or submit any new work.** The software does not care whether you have an excuse. These assignments are posted weeks in advance. Complete them early to avoid any emergencies preventing you from finishing them before the due date.

**You may register and use the website for 3 weeks without paying for Aplia.** If you are considering dropping this course during the drop/add period, do not make a payment until you are sure. You will need to pay the full amount before the end of the grace period to continue using the site. You may pay online with a credit card, or you can mail a check or money order to the address provided on the Aplia site. This course fee will include access to a digital copy of the text through the Aplia site.

**Disclaimer:** I am not financially affiliated with Aplia and receive no monetary benefit from requiring this material.

**Top Hat:** We will also be using Top Hat this semester. This is an in-class presentation tool that will facilitate class discussion, student learning, and attendance. The license for Top Hat costs $24/term or $76/lifetime. Students will receive an invitation e-mail from Top Hat to join the appropriate class section.

**Calendar:**
Unit 1: Basic Concepts
Unit 2: Propositional Logic and Natural Deduction
Unit 3: Predicate Logic and Natural Deduction

The **Final Exam** will be comprehensive and is scheduled in the usual classroom as follows:
Section 005 (TR 11:00): exam at 12:45pm **Mon, 12/14/2015**
Section 001 (TR 12:30): exam at 12:45pm **Tue, 12/15/2015**

**Grading:**
Final grades will be assessed using a standard scale (80-82 = B–, 83-86 = B, 87-89 = B+, etc., rounded to the nearest whole point)

Attendance: 20% (1 unexcused absence or 2 tardies deducts 5% from your attendance score)
Homework: 30%
Quizzes: 30% (5% each, drop lowest 1)
Final exam: 20%

**Extra Credit Options:**
All students in the course will have the opportunity to add 5 percentage points to their final course grades.

*Option 1: Research participation.* Participation in a research study concerning the effects of liberal arts education on social cognition. This option will involve two sessions of approximately two hours each in a research lab in Merrill Hall. Students who qualify for this study and complete both sessions (one at the beginning of the semester, the other at the end) will receive 5 percentage points added to their final course grade.

*Option 2: Additional homework.* Students who choose not to participate in the research study may earn the extra credit by contributing a weekly reflection on course material to the class
discussion forum in Aplia. Weekly reflections should be approximately 300 words and take perhaps 20–30 minutes to complete, or approximately 7–8 hours for the semester. Students completing this assignment will receive 5 percentage points added to their final course grade.

Registration: University policy requires all students to be officially registered in each class they are attending. Students who are not officially registered for a course by published deadlines should not be attending classes and will not receive credit or a grade for the course. Students must confirm enrollment by checking their class schedules (using FlashFast) prior to the deadline indicated. Registration errors must be corrected prior to the deadline.

Cheating: University policy 3-01.8 deals with the problem of academic dishonesty, cheating, and plagiarism. None of these will be tolerated in this class. The sanctions provided in this policy will be used to deal with any violations. If you have any questions, please read the policy at http://bit.ly/1KZAB05 or ask.

Students with disabilities: University policy 3342-3-01.3 requires that students with disabilities be provided reasonable accommodations to ensure their equal access to course content. If you have a documented disability and require accommodations, please contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to make arrangements for necessary classroom adjustments. Please note, you must first register with Student Accessability Services (contact 330-672-3391 or visit www.kent.edu/sas for more information on registration procedures).

Notice of copyright and intellectual property rights: Any intellectual property displayed or distributed to students during this course (including but not limited to powerpoints, notes, quizzes, examinations) by the professor remains the intellectual property of the professor. This means that the student may not distribute, publish or provide such intellectual property to any other person or entity for any reason, commercial or otherwise, without the express written permission of the professor.