

## PHIL 293 (Online: Section 80) / Fall 2020

# ADVANCED SEMINAR IN LOGICAL THEORY

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To closely capture the central content of catalogue description of this seminar course (“Concepts of logic, such as truth and inference, considered on an advanced level”), in view of the students’ preliminary knowledge/skills achieved from PHIL157 “Intermediate Logic”, at an advanced level, this seminar course as given in Fall 2020 is to present and explain an enhanced predicate logic account with its strengthened syntactic-semantic structure; it is for the sake of strengthening the precise expressing potency of predicate logic and its explanatory power in philosophy, especially concerning semantic truth and inference, in view of a range of significant philosophical conceptions/accounts (such as the conception of relative identity, the conception of thick objects and supervening attributes, etc.). In so doing, this course also explores the refined formulations of more sophisticated versions of the two basic laws of logic, i.e., the law of identity and the principle of noncontradiction, and their relevant inference rules in this strengthened predicate logical system. The course also addresses how relevant logical resources from different traditions can jointly enhance our understanding and treatment of some of the foregoing issues.

### Texts:

- *Course Reader* (including classical and seminal resources on the issues under examination);
- Textbook for preliminary background knowledge:  
Theodore Sider: *Logic for Philosophy* (Oxford University Press, 2010).

### Prerequisite:

PHIL9, PHIL157 or instructor consent (due training in PHIL158 is a significant plus).