**New York City College of Technology**

**Interdisciplinary Committee**

**Course Review Form**

**DATE:** Feb 4, 2019

**REVIEWER:** Ezra Halleck

**COURSE TITLE & NUMBER:** PHIL2202 Symbolic Logic

**PROPOSED BY:** Laureen Park

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3

**PREREQUISITES:** MAT 1190 or higher

**COURSE IS:**  Existing X New In development

**PROPOSED COURSE DESIGNATION**: X College Option elective Capstone other:

**DEPARTMENT HOUSED IN:** Social Science

**PROPOSED STRUCTURE (e.g., co-taught, guest lecture, LC, other):**  guest lecture

**CREDIT DISTRIBUTION** (if co-taught): NA

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** The course covers fundamental elements of propositional and quantificational logic, including translating English to symbolic logic, constructing truth tables, and utilizing derivations and proofs.

**DESCRIBE & EVALUATE HOW COURSE MEETS INTERDISCIPLINARY CRITERIA?** Symbolic logic has a presence in and applications to many disciplines. “Though the terminology and goals of each discipline differ, the underlying operations and proofs follow the same patterns. For example, in math rules of derivation are used alongside mathematical formulas to demonstrate proofs. Logic uses the same derivations to determine the validity and invalidity of natural language arguments. In computer programming, Boolean logic is used to write the code determining outputs given a certain set of conditions. … The course also looks at ….methods of science …” [quote is from the application]

**DESCRIBE & EVALUATE THE INTERDISCIPLINARY STRUCTURE?**

Guest lecturers from several departments will present some ways in which logic is used in their disciplines.

**DOES COURSE MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR GENERAL EDUCATION?** Yes

**STRENGTHS:** The content of this course is an expanded version of what students encounter within intro courses in several disciplines, including mathematics and computer science/systems/engineering. As such it will prove useful for students with majors from these departments who want to have a deeper understanding of this foundational stone in their majors. Since the prerequisite does not rule out any major from the college, it will hopefully attract a wide-range of majors and provide an opportunity for students to see how this topic and tool anchors both the reasoning in civil, legal and scientific discourse as well as the flow and calculations in the digital world.

**WEAKNESSES:** None

Some ideas for consideration:

* to better reflect its level of difficulty and expectations, addition of writing prerequisite (a minimum of writing proficiency, although I would think co/pre requisite of ENG 1101 is more appropriate);
* to attract students from a wider variety of majors, a guest lecture from legal studies, linguistics, a cognitive or natural science or by someone who knows and solves logic puzzles.