



## A Concise Introduction to Logic

*Patrick J. Hurley*

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Unsurpassed for its clarity and comprehensiveness, Hurley's A CONCISE INTRODUCTION TO LOGIC is the #1 introductory logic textbook in the market. In this Eleventh Edition, Hurley continues to build upon the tradition of a lucid, focused, and accessible presentation of the basic subject matter of logic, both formal and informal. Hurley's extensive, carefully sequenced collection of exercises continue to guide students toward greater proficiency with the skills they are learning.

## A Concise Introduction to Logic Details

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## **From Reader Review A Concise Introduction to Logic for online ebook**

### **M .A. Ibn Abbas says**

One of the best books in Logic. If you really interested to understand what is meant by deduction and induction, and formal and informal logic you should read this book.

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### **Chris Gager says**

No CD-Rom back in '72 when I took a 5-credit hour course at Metro State. Very difficult and mathematical after the simple beginnings. I think we were all baffled. There were about ten guys in the class plus one female. Absolutely gorgeous woman... A tall, slender red-haired gal who worked as a stripper and invited her classmates to come and see the show. Married... Date is approximate.

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### **David says**

As a preliminary note, this review pertains to the 1997 sixth edition, not the up to date 2008 edition (I couldn't find that one on here). This isn't a bad book. I didn't enjoy it a great deal, but I suspect that is more the subject matter than the author's treatment. This book is much more about reducing arguments to mathematical representations and using math-like operations to test validity and such. That is probably what logic is all about, but I had misconceived it as something much more interesting. I did enjoy the ninth chapter, but not a great deal else. Again, I suspect the fault is with me and not the author.

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### **James Morrison says**

It might seem odd to review a text book on the subject of logic. I happen to think the thing that our society is lacking most nowadays is simply the ability to make rational decisions based on the skill needed to understand analysis and distinguish the rational from the irrational. This book provides an excellent basis for disclosing poorly conceived political policies, finding flaws in what we read and see on television, and quite simply making sound arguments ourselves.

I find the chapter on Informal Fallacies one of the most interesting. Many meaningful examples are used and it is written in a way that is easy to understand. I personally don't have much interest in Propositional Logic (symbols and proposition tables and such), but I'm sure some people do and this is a good primer on that too.

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### **Deedles says**

NOPE! This book is just an expensive reminder that I am more pathological than logical. At first I thought I could handle Philosophy of Logic. The first few chapters made sense. Sure, I said to myself, I can see the

fallacy in these arguments and whether they are deductive or inductive, etc. But then came the proofs.

## PROOFS.

That was when I knew I was in a world of hurt. In high school I passed geometry with a very solid D. Everyday I stared at that stupid red origami crane, watching it mock me as I attempted--and was obliterated--by proofs.

I ended up passing logic class with another solid D; proving that I am not only illogical, but I am consistent in my lack of understanding geometry.

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## Zephyr says

I have greatly enjoyed the study of logic, both in the context of college philosophy courses and in its application to daily life as the framework for rational thinking. Of the logic texts I have read and used (by Irving Copi, Trudy Govier and others) this is the one I most enjoyed reading and feel I most benefitted from. I have found that I most effectively gain mastery of new concepts through application and Hurley's book is packed with good examples. I found working through these useful in being able to recognize and apply logical (and illogical) thinking in daily life.

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## Bishop says

A great introduction to logic. Well organized and clear, this is a great place to start for the person looking for exposure to the fundamentals of logic.

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## Toby says

There are three words that come to mind when I think of the word "concise": comprehensive, brief, and clear. Whilst this textbook succeeds at being comprehensive, at over 670 pages it fails at being brief or clear. Simple concepts are explained at such length as to render them baffling, and the writing falls significantly short of readable. It is such a pity as it is an interesting topic.

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## R Z says

Just finished this for a series of two classes I took: Introduction to Logic and Symbolic Logic. The only sections(s) I had trouble with were ACP and ICP, and I plan on doing more of the practice exercises contained at the end of the section.

On that note, the book's exercises are really helpful, and I liked how the concepts were explained. It's not a book I would normally read, or one I thought I would ever review, but these classes have helped me with my argumentation, and the text was an integral part of that. (I have the 7th edition)

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### **Alvaro says**

Loved it. It needed an additional chapter on inductive logic but I really enjoyed it and I will be using it as a bible for my LSAT studies... that is of course until I find a better book.

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### **Mike says**

Read this for a logic class. I would much rather have spent more time on the fallacies and seen more ways in which they are used both incorrectly and correctly. I didn't really care for anything else in the book. It was a decent textbook, but my horrible teacher didn't help, all she did was go through the book and never added anything else of her own.

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### **John Martindale says**

The first logic textbook I went mostly through was by Copi and I must say Hurley's introduction was far better in format, content and exercises. I cannot speak though for the sections on propositional and predicate logic, for I didn't read them in either Copi or Hurley.

Having gone through much of the content and ordering of information that Hurley, Copi and others gave numerous times, I now think much is done simply to be done, without any sense of relationship and practical value, and lots of content doesn't easily translate into ordinary life. So I have doubts as to the relative value of these logic textbooks, compared to other works more focused on argumentation and induction. I recently discovered Stephen Toulmin, who recognizing the impracticability of much formal logic to ordinary life, and even the unhelpful ways induction is often expressed, created a method very relevant to all writers and speakers wanting to create well-reasoned and logical arguments. I wish all the time I spent grappling with Hurley was instead dedicated to mastering the Toulmin method, I think I would be better served.

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### **Timera Cyr says**

A good text book, some of the concepts could have been explained a little more clearly and some of the hypotheticals were cumbersome and weird. However, I now love logic, but that may have more to do with my awesome teacher and how she used this book.

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### **Confirmed Neurotic says**

A gem of a book. Clear, concise, elegant and to the point. Makes one understand even the toughest topic of

syllogistic logic in an easy way. A must for anyone who wants to learn about logic, fallacies, definitions and their origin, and philosophical approach of logic. It's a life changer if you want to develop the habit of debating or if you have to ever let people know why and how they are wrong during an argument. Mr Hurley has done an excellent job by writing this book. This is on top of the list of my favourite books.

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### **Daniel Morgan says**

A few things I liked about this book:

1. It's very flexible and allows you to skip around. That's a deliberate feature highlighted in the introduction - the author offers several curricula that rearrange and omit various chapters and sections, depending on the interests of the student. Each chapter and even most sections are more-or-less independent - while the previous sections sometimes enrich the experience, they aren't necessary. Certainly the units are basically independent.
2. Unlike most logic books, this book puts language and rhetoric at the heart of every section. The book engages with real-world issues and arguments, drawing from a variety of authentic texts to both illustrate and serve as practice. The text is accessible, because the language/rhetoric informs the logic, rather than the other way around.
3. Every section has an unbelievable amount of practice material - around 40 exercises or more. Some are answered in the back.
4. There are plenty of graphics and visuals throughout the book.

If I had to make a complaint, it's that I got a little bogged down or bored by some sections. However, even that isn't really a complaint since the book was designed to allow me skip those sections. If you want a highly accessible logic book that focuses on real-world arguments, then this is the book for you.

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