

1/15/08

Lecture Syllabus and notes can be found online at <http://sweb.uky.edu/~rsand1/phi120>

The test for this class will NOT be cumulative. All recitation examples with Josh Horn are included through the notes where they are applicable. There is no new information in these recitations.

### **Logic & Arguments**

**ARGUMENT:** a set of statements in which the truth of one statement follows from one or more other statements.

\*These statements are **ASSERTORIC** statements because they assert a statement to be either true or false.

**STATEMENT:** Statements are in subject-predicate form. Statements must always be either true or false. Statements can never be a question or command.

**ATOMIC STATEMENT:** may also be known as a simple statement, cannot be divided into a few, smaller statements.

Example: I have a brother.

COMPLEX STATEMENT: like a compound sentence in English, this type of statement is composed of a few smaller statements to create a whole.

Example: I have a brother, and he is fifteen years old.

Statements in an argument:

- Every argument must contain a conclusion and one or more premise.
- An argument must be a minimum of two sentences.
- The conclusion must follow from the premise

CONCLUSION: a statement that is asserted to be true on the basis of the premises

PREMISES: supporting evidence of the conclusion. There may be more than one premises, however, there cannot be an infinite number of premises.

The goal of argumentation is to make a logical argument.

Arguments that are not logical: "You are stupid." "You are more stupid." "You are mean." "I hate you."

Arguments that are logical: a conclusion is asserted to be true based on the evidence in the premises