PIU33041 — Logic and Philosophy

Module Information	
Module Code	PIU33041
Module Title	Logic and Philosophy
Department	Philosophy
Year Group	Junior Sophister
Module Personnel	Dr. James Levine
Academic Year	2026-27
Credit Weighting	10 credits
Semester	1
Contact Hours	2 hours per week

Module Content	
Module Description	After reviewing and introducing some aspects of the distinction between syntax and semantics in logical theory, we will focus in this module on two main topics: • Aristotelian logic and its relation to standard contemporary predicate logic. We will: Compare the expressive power of the two systems; Discuss issues regarding "existential import" as they arise in the two systems; Consider a relatively recent defence (by Fred Sommers) of Aristotelian logic; • Set Theory. We will: Introduce some of the basic technical aspects of Cantorian set theory (especially his theory of transfinite cardinal numbers); Consider philosophical issues pertaining how to assign cardinal numbers to infinite sets; Consider issues arising from Russell's paradox;

Module Content	
	Throughout, we will consider both technical and philosophical aspects of the topics covered.
Module Learning Aims	To gain an understanding of both technical and philosophical issues raised by Aristotelian logic (in comparison with standard predicate logic) and set theory.
Learning Outcomes	By the end of the module, students will be able to: • Distinguish technical and philosophical issues arising from the comparison of Aristotelian logic and standard predicate logic. • Understand some central technical aspects of set theory. • Critically discuss some philosophical issues pertaining to set theory.
Indicative Reading / Resources	An extensive and detailed reading list will be made available at the start of the module, and readings will be made available on Blackboard. An introduction to some of the issues we will discuss regarding Aristotelian logic may be found in Strawson, *Introduction to Logical Theory* (1952), Chapter 6. For a sense of some issues we will discuss regarding set theory, see A. W. Moore, *The Infinite* (Third Edition, 2019), Chapters 8-10 (these chapters are unchanged from earlier editions).

Assessment	
Assessment Components	2 essays (20% each) In-person final exam (50%) Exercises (10%)
Assessment Details	Word-limit on each essay: 2,000 words. Final exam: Two hours. Submit four sets of exercises.

Additional Information	
Prerequisites	None.
Co-requisites	None.
Any other information	Taking PIU22023 in second year would be helpful for this course.