

Understanding Arguments An Introduction To Informal Logic Walter Sinnott Armstrong

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Understanding Arguments an Introduction to Informal Logic ...

Traditionally, logic has been considered the most general science dealing with arguments. The task of logic is to discover the fundamental principles for distinguishing good arguments from bad ones. For certain purposes, arguments are best studied as abstract patterns of reasoning. Logic can then focus on these general forms rather than on particular arguments, such as your attempt to prove to ...

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CENGAGE ADVANTAGE BOOKS: UNDERSTANDING ARGUMENTS, CONCISE EDITION, 1E uses everyday life experiences to teach the basics of informal logic. By taking out the non-essential instruction, this edition hones in on the argument construction involved in day-to-day life, and how to do it better. Plus, to round out the discussion, CENGAGE ADVANTAGE BOOKS: UNDERSTANDING ARGUMENTS, CONCISE EDITION, 1E includes a three-chapter overview of formal logic as well. Important Notice: Media content referenced within the product description or the product text may not be available in the ebook version.

Construct effective arguments with UNDERSTANDING ARGUMENTS: AN INTRODUCTION TO INFORMAL LOGIC, International Edition. Primarily an introduction to informal logic, this text provides a guide to understanding and constructing arguments in the context of academic studies and subsequent professional careers. Exercises, discussion questions, chapter objectives, and readings help clarify difficult concepts and make the material meaningful and useful.

Our personal and political worlds are rife with arguments and disagreements, some of them petty and vitriolic. The inability to compromise and understand the opposition is epidemic today, from countries refusing to negotiate, to politicians pandering to their base. Social media has produced a virulent world where extreme positions dominate. There is much demonization of the other side, very little progress is made, and the end result is further widening of positions. How did this happen, and what might be done to address it? Walter Sinnott-Armstrong says there is such a thing as a "good" argument: Reasonable arguments can create more mutual understanding and respect, and even if neither party is convinced by the other, compromise is still possible. Think Agsin shows the importance of good arguments and reveals common misunderstandings. Rather than a means to persuade other people or beat them in an intellectual competition, Sinnott-Armstrong sees arguments as an essential tool for constructive interaction with others. After showing how the failure of good arguments has led us to society's current woes, he shows readers what makes a good argument. In clear, lively, and practical prose, and with plentiful examples from politics, popular culture, and everyday life, Sinnott-Armstrong explains what defines an argument, identifies the components of good arguments as well as fallacies to avoid, and demonstrates what good arguments can accomplish. Armed with these tools, readers will be able to spot bad reasoning and bad arguments, and to advance their own views in a forceful yet logical way. These skills could even help repair our tattered civic culture.

"This short book makes you smarter than 99% of the population. . . . The concepts within it will increase your company's 'organizational intelligence.' . . . It's more than just a must-read, it's a 'have-to-read-or-you're-fired' book!"—Geoffrey James, INC.com From the author of the forthcoming An Illustrated Book of Loaded Language, here's the antidote to fuzzy thinking, with furry animals! Have you read (or stumbled into) one too many irrational online debates? Ali Almosawi certainly had, so he wrote An Illustrated Book of Bad Arguments! This handy guide is here to bring the internet age a much-needed dose of old-school logic (really old-school, à la Aristotle). Here are cogent explanations of the straw man fallacy, the slippery slope argument, the ad hominem attack, and other common attempts at reasoning that actually fall short—plus a beautifully drawn menagerie of animals who (adorably) commit every logical faux pas. Rabbit thinks a strange light in the sky must be a UFO because no one can prove otherwise (the appeal to ignorance). And Lion doesn't believe that gas emissions harm the planet because, if that were true, he wouldn't like the result (the argument from consequences). Once you learn to recognize these abuses of reason, they start to crop up everywhere from congressional debate to YouTube comments—which makes this geek-chic book a must for anyone in the habit of holding opinions.

A comprehensive survey of the many different forms of design argument for the existence of God.

Proceeds from critical thinking in everyday life to critical thinking in academic fields, with chapters outlining the types of evidence in science, the social sciences and the humanities. This text offers a description of critical thinking as comparison of formulas of critical thinking.

A Critical Introduction to the Ethics of Abortion addresses some of the most prominent and influential arguments to the abortion debate. These include the Being a Person verses Functioning as a Person Argument, women's rights vis-à-vis the rights of the foetus, personhood as an essentially contested concept, and a virtue ethics approach. Also covered are central bioethical issues concerning prenatal screening, stem cell research and cloning. Based on a critical assessment of the evidence, the book offers an impartial view and draws on the importance of critical thinking and the logic of argumentation. Providing an overview of the legal history of abortion in the United States, it discusses five of the most influential Supreme Court cases on abortion law during the past fifty years and examines the current state of abortion law, politics and the main trends. Presenting a balance between ethical concepts, views and arguments, A Critical Introduction to the Ethics of Abortion is an up-to-date introduction to the choice of abortion illustrating the importance of evidence, clear thinking and good arguments for supporting one's ethical beliefs.

Understanding Argument in a Post-Truth World equips readers with modern argumentative strategies that complement the technological and information-rich era in which we live. The text recognizes that individuals today need practical evaluative techniques in order to effectively construct well-informed, critical stances on a variety of issues. Within the context of modern American society, readers learn how to sharpen their critical thinking skills, effectively contribute to civil discourse, and sift through the deluge of information available to them via the media, internet, news outlets, and more. The book introduces readers to three major argument models--the Toulmin model, the stock issues model, and the narrative paradigm--and demonstrates how to apply them in real-world settings. They study deductive, inductive, and abductive reasoning, the impact of logical fallacies on argument, refutation strategies and pitfalls, and how to assess bias. Full of timely and valuable information, Understanding Argument in a Post-Truth World is an ideal textbook for courses in argumentation, civil discourse, and communication and critical thinking. Heather Walters is a senior instructor of communication and assistant director of debate/forensics at Missouri State University. She earned her master's and bachelor's degrees from Missouri State University and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Maryland School of Law. Walters debated for Missouri State and has won numerous national and regional debate awards. Her scholarly interests include argumentation/persuasion, legal communication, and communication theory. Kristen Stout is an instructor and director of debate/forensics at Crowder College and also teaches courses in argumentation and public speaking at Missouri State University, where she earned her M.A. degree. She is a governing board member of the Speech and Theatre Association of Missouri. Her research interests include argumentation in the digital age, academic debate in the classroom, and the rise of non-traditional news and media outlets.

The Elements of Arguments introduces such central critical thinking topics as informal fallacies, the difference between validity and truth, basic formal propositional logic, and how to extract arguments from texts. Turetzky aims to prevent common confusions by clearly explaining a number of important distinctions, including propositions vs. propositional attitudes, propositions vs. states of affairs, and logic vs. rhetoric vs. psychology. Exercises are provided throughout, including numerous informal arguments that can be assessed using the skills and strategies presented within the text.

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