



University of St. Katherine & Scholé Academy: Dual Enrollment Spring 2019

INT 110 Critical Reasoning: an Introduction to Nature, Methods and Aims of Valid Reasoning

- **3 credit hours**
- **Spring 2019: Tuesday, January 22 - Friday, May 17, 2019**
- **Course Schedule: TBA**

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the nature, methods, and aims of valid reasoning. The course thus includes an overview of the basic forms of critical reasoning and fallacies, with special attention to syllogistic reasoning. Additional reflection on the relationship between faith and reason will challenge students to recognize the methodological limits of logical inquiry. An integral understanding of the human person is one that involves the development of the rational faculty, which is intrinsically connected with freedom. In this course, students are encouraged to begin reflecting on their own thought processes, and evaluating the reasonable parameters of responsible decision-making in a complex world.

They will also be encouraged to locate and analyze the limits of both critical thinking and logical analysis, exploring how moral and spiritual topics often demand the supplementation of reason with trust, belief and/or desire – integral aspects of the human person not at all opposed to (even if different from) rational thought. Course instruction takes place through lectures and exercises in logic and reasoning as well as discussion of some primary texts in the history of philosophy. These texts include works written by authors such as Plato, Descartes, Pascal, and others.

- **Instructor: Garrett Miller, Assistant Professor of Philosophy**

Professor Garrett Miller was born and raised in north San Diego County, and he has been teaching philosophy in the region since 2008. He completed a B.A. in Philosophy at the University of California, San Diego in 2005, graduating summa cum laude. He then traveled to England to study philosophy at King's College London, University of London, where, in 2007, he received his M.A. in Philosophy. His Master's dissertation at King's, he explored a prominent philosophical argument for the conclusion that perceptual knowledge is impossible and proposed a novel account of how to overcome it. His current research interests primarily concern issues in epistemology, philosophy of religion, philosophy of science, and ethics.

- **Enrollment fee: \$995 (plus the cost of books)**