***Logic and argumentation theory***

**Degree:** Bachelor

**Semester**: Spring

**Year:** 2018/19

**Goal of the course**

* The course is aimed at promoting critical thinking through training in basic methods of logical analysis, basic methods of constructing correct deductive and inductive reasoning, and developing skills needed to apply the methods in professional activity and daily life.
* The course goal is to assist students in acquiring skills needed to produce arguments and critical thinking skills, to participate in discussions and to develop an ability to competently and convincingly defend own point of view in front of the audience.

**Didactic units**

* Social purpose and basic functions of logic and logical culture;
* Principles of critical thinking and laws of logic;
* Logical form and logical essence of a thought;
* Logical operations in deduction and their role in the theory of argumentation;
* Key methods and algorithms used in making valid inferences;
* Argumentation theory and acquisition of skills of making proper arguments and critical thinking skills.

**Key didactic units**

* Introduction to logic and argumentation theory
* Concept and judgment as forms of thinking
* Inference as a form of thinking. Deduction, induction, analogy.
* Theory and practice of argumentation and criticism. Basics of eristic.

**Upon completing the course, the students should**:

*Know:*

- The concept of an argument as a logical and communicative procedure, internal structure of the argumentation process, justification and criticism, ethical standards of conducting a discussion, logical and additional logical tricks in a dispute.

*Be able to:*

- Identify logical mistakes in public speech and violation of ethical standards during a dispute;

- Use tricks in a dispute.

*To have:*

- Skills needed to examine public speech for compliance with logical and ethical standards and skills needed to conduct public discussions with ample use of efficient methods and tactical tricks when making arguments and applying critical thinking.

**Course structure**: lectures and seminars.

**Summative assessment**: pass/fail examination.