Gratia Christian College
宏恩基督教學院

Examination

Programme	:	General Education
Academic Year (Semester)	:	2025/26 (Second Semester)
Course Code	:	GEN1502
Course Title	:	Critical Thinking
Date	:	23/4/2026
Time	:	14:30-1630 pm
Time Allowed	:	2 hours
Weighting	:	40% of the overall marks

Student ID No. : _____

This paper has 8 pages (including this cover page)

Instructions to candidates:

1. This paper has 3 sections
2. Answer all questions in sections A, B, & C
3. This paper carries 100 marks which are allocated to each question as indicated.
4. This is a closed book examination.

Do not turn this page until you are told to do so.

You should hand in this question paper after the examination.

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Section B: True or False Questions
Attempt all questions (10%)
State whether the following statements are true or false.

Each question weighs 1%.

1. A valid argument must always contain exclusively true premises.

2. An analytic statement requires empirical observation or scientific evidence to verify its truth.

3. The bandwagon fallacy assumes that an action is morally correct or justified simply because it is widespread or popular.

4. The statement "I drank water because I was thirsty" is an example of an argument rather than an explanation.

5. In an inductive argument, the conclusion is guaranteed to be completely true as long as the premises are true.

6. An ad hominem argument strengthens reasoning by focusing on the positive character of the person making the argument.

7. A sound argument is defined as one that has both deductively valid reasoning and actually true premises.

8. It is logically impossible for two strictly contradictory statements to both be true at the same time.

9. The slippery slope fallacy suggests a small first step will lead to a chain of significant, usually negative, events without providing sufficient evidence for that chain.

10. “Affirming the consequent” is a structurally valid form of deductive reasoning.

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Section C: Short Questions (50%)
Attempt all questions

1. Critically comment on the reasoning involved in the following passages.

   a. "Running a country is exactly like running a household budget. Since a responsible family must always balance its check book and never spend more than it earns, the national government should never run a financial deficit." (5%)

   b. "I ate at that new seafood restaurant downtown yesterday, and today I have a terrible stomach ache. Therefore, all the food at that restaurant is contaminated and unsafe to eat." (5%)

2. Identify the premise(s) and conclusion of the following argument. (5%)

   "The city's new zoning laws will inevitably lead to a severe housing shortage. Construction companies are already abandoning planned residential projects. Furthermore, the cost of raw building materials has skyrocketed over the last six months. That means, local housing prices are going to rise significantly in the next year."

3. Given:

p	q	p∩q
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	F

p	q	p∪q
T	T	T
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

p	q	p⊃q
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	T
F	F	T

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a. Use the truth table method to determine the truth values of $(p \cap \sim q) \supset q$. (5%)

b. Use truth-table method to determine if the following argument form is valid or not. (10%)
"$p \supset q$", therefore "$\sim p \supset \sim q$."

4. Three students, Alice, Bob, and Charlie, are suspected of cheating on a final exam. The disciplinary committee has established the following facts:

(1) If Bob cheated, then Alice also cheated.
(2) Either Bob or Charlie cheated, but not both.
(3) Charlie was completely out of town on the day of the exam and is definitively innocent.
Assuming no one else was involved, which students are guilty and which are innocent? Show your reasoning. (10%)

5. Does the universal affirmative 'A' statement (All S are P) logically imply the existential affirmative 'I' statement (Some S are P) ? Use an example to illustrate your answer. (10%)

END

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