

- Module Title:** **Syllogistic and the Art of Demonstration**
(Part 3 of the Course ‘LOGIC’)
- Module Code:** FIVART
- Course Lecturer:** Wahid M. Amin
(Office Hour: Mondays 4:30–6:00pm by appointment)
- Module Duration:** 17 weeks (2 units per week)
- Assessment:** 100% exam
- Prerequisites:** Parts 1 and 2 of ‘LOGIC’; Arabic.

Course Description:

This module is the third and final part of the curriculum for the study of logic, and introduces students to the five logical arts with particular emphasis to the art of demonstration (*burhān*). Students will learn how rank the grades of assent (*taṣḍīq*) depending on the types of propositions which make up a syllogism. Following a detailed analysis of the different categories of propositions, students will learn how each of the five arts (i.e. demonstration, dialectic, rhetoric, poetics, and sophistics), which the Islamic tradition considers in the form of syllogisms, depends on their matters; that is to say, their premises. The course ends with a focussed study of the demonstrative syllogism, its conditions, types and esteemed place within logical argumentation.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, a student will be able to:

- define a syllogism according to the type of assent it causes based on a consideration of the different types of propositions that form its “matter”;
- explain the different types of propositions that may be used as premises of a syllogism;
- articulate the meaning and purpose of a demonstrative syllogism;
- differentiate the two principal types of a demonstrative syllogism;
- define the different meanings of the word ‘cause’ and its relation to the demonstration of the reasoned fact;

- enumerate the different conditions that are necessary for a valid demonstrative syllogism;
- understand the difference between the terms ‘primary’ and ‘essential’ in different logical contexts.

Course Text:

Muẓaffar, Muḥammad Riḍā al- (1384Sh). *Al-Manṭiq*. Qom: Muassisih-i intishārāt-i dār al-‘ilm.

Recommended Reading:

Black, Deborah L. (1980). *Logic and Aristotle’s “Rhetoric” and “Poetics” in Medieval Arabic Philosophy*. Leiden: Brill.

Black, Deborah L. (2010). “Certitude, justification, and the principles of knowledge in Avicenna’s epistemology.” In: *Interpreting Avicenna*, ed. Peter Adamson, 120–142. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Dahiyat, Ismail M. (1974). *Avicenna’s Commentary on the Poetics of Aristotle*. Leiden: Brill.

Gutas, Dimitri (2002). “Certainty, Doubt, Error: Comments on the Epistemological Foundations of Medieval Arabic Science,” *Early Science and Medicine*, vol. 7 (3): 266–288.

Gutas, Dimitri (2012). “The Empiricism of Avicenna,” *Oriens*, vols. 40: 391–436.

Schoeler, Gregor (2013). “The ‘Poetic Syllogism’ Revised,” *Oriens*, vol. 41: 1–26.

Schedule of Classes:

Week 1:	Certainty Propositions
Week 2:	Sensory and Empirical Propositions
Week 3:	Successively Reported Propositions
Week 4:	Intuitive Propositions
Week 5:	Innate Propositions
Week 6:	Conjectural Propositions
Week 7:	Popularity-Based Propositions and Its Types
Week 8:	Popularity-Based Propositions and Its Types
Week 9:	Popularity-Based Propositions and Its Types
Week 10:	Delusionary Beliefs

- Week 11: Admitted Propositions, Accepted-on-Authority Propositions, Imaginative Propositions, Resembling Propositions
- Week 12: The Different Types of Syllogisms
- Week 13: The Demonstrative Syllogism
- Week 14: Demonstration and Its Types
- Week 15: Further Comments on the Demonstration of the Reasoned Fact
- Week 16: Conditions for the Premises of a Demonstrative Syllogism
- Week 17: The Meanings of 'Essential' and 'Primary' in Demonstrative Syllogisms