



# Essentials of Formal Logic

with Joelle Hodge

Lesson 25: Chapter  
7.2-7.3

## Outline:

### Chapter 7, Lesson 7.2

- The Syllogism Introduced
- Arranging the Syllogism
- Points to Remember
  - An argument is a statement of rational reasons for or against an idea or action with the intent to persuade.
    - (1) A statement
    - (2) Rational reasons for or against an idea or action
    - (3) With the intent to persuade
  - A syllogism is a formally arranged argument containing two premises (major and minor), a conclusion, and three—and only three—terms. Further, the syllogism is arranged in the following order: major premise, minor premise, conclusion.
    - 3 propositions (Statements with truth value)
    - 3 terms: major term, minor term, middle term
    - 2 premises and 1 conclusion
    - The arrangement:
      - Major premise, will always have the major term.
      - Minor premise, will always have the minor term.
      - Conclusion, will always have the subject as the minor term and the predicate as the major term
    - Every proposition will be of the form A, E, I, O
      - All S are P.
      - No S are P.
      - Some S are P.
      - Some S are not P.
  - A categorical syllogism is a syllogism in which the premises and the conclusions are written in standard categorical form, such as S is P.
  - A conclusion is the point of persuasion; it is that which the speaker is hoping his audience will be persuaded to do or believe; it is the last proposition in an argument.
  - A syllogism is limited to three terms identified by: 1) **deciding on** a simple subject and a simple predicate term for each sentence; and 2) **using the same terms when possible throughout the syllogism.**



## Chapter 7, Lesson 7.3

- The Syllogism Introduced
- Categorical Syllogisms
- Points to Remember
  - The major term is always found in the predicate of the conclusion. Because it's always the predicate term of the conclusion, the letter P is used to represent the major term of a syllogism.
  - The minor term is always found in the subject of the conclusion. Because it's always the subject term of the conclusion, the letter S is used to represent the minor term of a syllogism.
  - The middle is not found in the conclusion but is found in both premises. The letter M is used to represent the middle term of a syllogism.
  - The major premise, which contains the major term, should be the first premise listed.
  - The minor premise, which contains the minor term, should be the second premise listed.