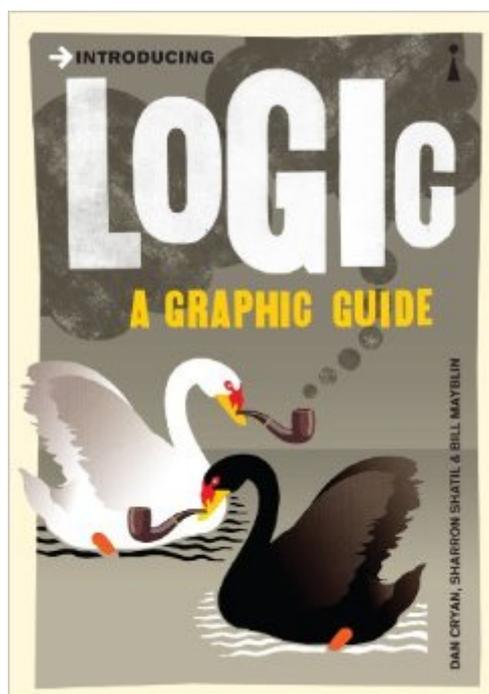


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Introducing Logic: A Graphic Guide (Introducing...)



Synopsis

Logic is the backbone of Western civilization, holding together its systems of philosophy, science and law. Yet despite logic's widely acknowledged importance, it remains an unbroken seal for many, due to its heavy use of jargon and mathematical symbolism. This book follows the historical development of logic, explains the symbols and methods involved and explores the philosophical issues surrounding the topic in an easy-to-follow and friendly manner. It will take you through the influence of logic on scientific method and the various sciences from physics to psychology, and will show you why computers and digital technology are just another case of logic in action.

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Customer Reviews

If you have had any sort of encounter with logic (I've had propositional, predicate, and a touch of modal logic) this book will be a fun overview of the history of logic and important figures in the science. It covers classical, fuzzy, and quantum logic and explores the attempts to found mathematics on logical foundations (Frege, Russell). The ideas of all the greats are introduced with ease (Leibniz, Godel, Hilbert, Aristotle, Quine, Davidson, Turing, Wittgenstein, etc). And it details

how computers have their basis in logical systems. It's presented in cartoonish fashion, but is an intelligent (and not a dumbed down) overview of the subject. Someone who has not had logic will benefit from a couple of readings. As the book is not long this shouldn't be difficult (it might just be all you'd ever need or want to know about the subject). There is a section of further reading that recommends one of the best 1st order logic books - Tomassi - that I've encountered. The other recommendations are perfect for one who wants to delve deeper into this fascinating field.

Introducing Logic by Dan Cryan et al. is a great book, as long as you know what you're getting. It covers seemingly everything: syllogisms, ancient Greeks, set theory, paradoxes, truth tables, neural nets, nonclassical logics, proof theory, Godel's theorem, Lewis Carroll's nonsense, AI, relativism, cognitive science, linguistics, even varying cultural approaches to thinking, and a lot more. It's fun and it's quick-moving. Just don't expect a book with these advantages to have depth. There are no exercises, explanations are never thorough, and sometimes you'll wonder what is the connection between adjacent pages. And some things had to be left out. Where is the discussion of fallacies, for example? Missing. Those are not faults; they are characteristics. If you want a meaty textbook, try something else (like Irving Copi's Introduction to Logic, for example). But you'll lose the virtues of this book, in doing so, unless you somehow use both books. This book is useful for showing you "what's out there" in the world of logic. It shows you the landscape, but it doesn't make you acquainted with the residents. I love it.

While the comic-strip style of the "Introducing..." series can be entertaining and beneficial when it comes to breaking up the monotony of dense philosophy, it also tends to be rather distracting and can make the survey of Logic more difficult to understand. HOWEVER, I think this volume is well done! I feel very comfortable recommending this volume to anyone who is looking for a survey of the philosophy of Logic. While some find this too rudimentary, I believe that is the entire point. This little book is a great afternoon read that outlines the philosophy of Logic in a very approachable manner. Pick this book up!

A very enjoyable crash course through the history of modern logics. It covers the development of propositional, predicate, fuzzy, and quantum logic as well as the influence of Godel's mathematical theories and Chomsky's linguistic theories on the development of logic. It only hints at modal as well as first- and second-order logic, but for a brief text that covers syllogisms, predicate logic, truth-tables, paradoxes, proof theory, Godel's incompleteness theorem, fuzzy logic, and even more

linguistics, it does a good job. It doesn't go into examples very deeply, but the comics often make many of the ideas clearer regardless. It's a useful quick read for an educated layman who is not expecting a deep understanding but wants a fairly serious--but funny--historical overview.

If you are taking a logic course and you are thinking that this book will help you make it through the worst time of your life, I'm sorry to tell you that it won't. But you WILL make it. Just try to shut off the part of your brain that wants anything to make sense, and just do the work. Become unfeeling and uninterested in colors and light and anything beautiful in the world. You will make it. This course in logic will allow you to finally understand irony, it will take you to the edge of sanity, and it will make you actually wonder in complete seriousness for the first time if there really is a God. You will make it. And when you have, you will be stronger than you ever thought possible. You will know that there is nothing on Earth that you can't do. You will stand a little taller. You will carry yourself with the air of someone who has truly lived. Though your soul is callous and you are no longer the same person you were three months ago, you will make it. This book has cool pictures.

I just read it and I didn't like much. I don't think it is about Logic or the story about Logic on the course of human History. It's more about the History of scientific thinking. I bought the book to know more about Logic that's why I didn't like much its content. The name isn't appropriate for its contents. If you really want to know more about scientific thinking, Wittgenstein, Carnap, Viena Circle, you should read Logicomix, another book that is sold on .

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