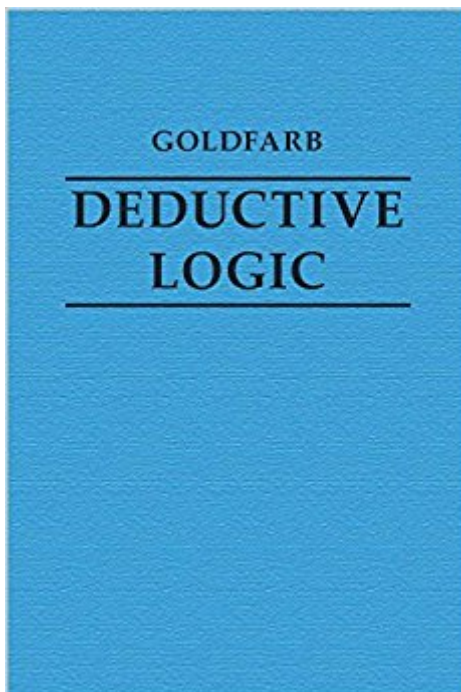The book was found

Deductive Logic

GOLDFARB

DEDUCTIVE LOGIC

Synopsis

This text provides a straightforward, lively but rigorous, introduction to truth-functional and predicate logic, complete with lucid examples and incisive exercises, for which Warren Goldfarb is renowned.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Warren Goldfarb's long-awaited Deductive Logic is an unusually perspicuous and effective logic textbook. It succeeds in achieving great precision without seeming pedantic and great depth without compromising accessibility. One main advantage of this book relative to its competitors is the lucidity with which it explains, in ways that even beginners can fully appreciate, the rapport between semantic and syntactic captures of logical consequence. Another marked advantage is the book's emphasis on deduction and its insistence on motivating the various clauses of the rules of deduction by showing, for example, what would ensue had these clauses been flouted. In this, Deductive Logic fills a real lacuna in logic-instruction and avoids the common pedagogical pitfalls of instruction via the tree method, where students find it rather mysterious why and how the method really works. The book is written in a clear and lively style and contains numerous exercises of varying degrees of difficulty. It is ideally suited for students in philosophy and computer science. --Ori Simchen, University of British ColumbiaThis is the finest introduction to logic available. --John Symons, University of Texas, El Paso

Warren Goldfarb is Walter Beverly Pearson Professor of Modern Mathematics and Mathematical Logic, and Professor of Philosophy, at Harvard University.

good

Very easy to underestand the themes exposed in the book. The explanations ara clear and very didatic. An easy way to study Logic .

Excellent!

This is one of the kindest, most avuncular, logic books I have ever seen. Every page is evidence of the author's warmth toward his students and his dedication to conveying logic to them in a way that respects them as mature persons. His thorough mastery of the subject and its philosophy is another feature that distinguishes this book from the mountain of logic texts written by inexperienced assistant professors and by persons for whom logic is a mere sideline, not a professional specialty as it is with Goldfarb: an accomplished and respected logician who has been teaching this material for over twenty years. No logic book I know of conveys the kindness and warmth toward the readers or the deeply modest non-dogmatic competence in the field more than Goldfarb's 2003 DEDUCTIVE LOGIC. The usual scientistic hocus-pocus, formalistic pedantry, and breezy dogmatism are nowhere to be found in this book. Its examples are chosen to appeal to the intelligent humanities student, not merely to the mathematical science or computer engineering student. They are carefully and tastefully crafted to avoid irrelevant linguistic complexities, both logical and sociological.Prof. Goldfarb took over responsibility for Harvard's legendary introductory logic course Philosophy 140 in 1979 when W. V. Quine retired. A form of Quine's distinctive, if not idiosyncratic, philosophy and organization of logic has been meticulously and creatively implemented. Accordingly, but perhaps to the surprise of readers not familiar with the Quinean approach, deduction in the sense of step-by-step inferring of conclusions implied by given premises is substantially deferred until Section 33 of the books 44 Sections. The 44 sections averaging six pages in length are unequally divided into four Parts titled respectively: Truth-functional Logic, Monadic Quantification Theory, Polyadic Quantification Theory, and Identity and Names.The material in this book has been thoroughly classroom-tested. Most first-edition logic texts are loaded with errors that are exasperating to students and instructors alike. This one follows suit, contrary to what you might have read. Despite the meticulous scrutiny of many Harvard students, the book is marred by many misprints. The following six are from one page, page 180--hopefully the worst in the book.180 Down 3FOR the instances of R are the schemaPUT the instances of R are the

schemata180 Down 7 Italicize the v that is now roman.180 Up 10FOR have PUT has180 Up 4FOR (...u) PUT (...u...)180 Up 3FOR Thus, a universally quantified schema quantification implies each of its instancesPUT Thus, a universally quantified schema implies each of its instancesDELETE quantification180 Up 2FOR instances, andPUT instances andDELETE THE COMMAIf a college instructor wants to present a Quinean form of modern first-order logic with identity and names but without functions in a competent, accurate and thoughtful way while avoiding patronizing spoon-feeding, this might be the best text. No other book I know comes close.On the other hand, if an instructor wants to convey the sometimes agonizing rough-and-tumble of contemporary or historical philosophy of logic, or the astounding struggles, dead-ends, missed opportunities, lapses in objectivity, and embarrassing errors, even inconsistencies, involved in the historical development of currently accepted versions of the science painfully born in Ancient Athens, this book is not even a candidate. The words `Aristotle', `Boole','Carnap', `contradiction', `epistemic', 'Hilbert',`ontic', 'model',`paradox', proof', `speech-act', `Tarski' and `tautology' do not occur in the index. There is no bibliography of readings in history and philosophy of logic and no list of current journals in the field.From the study of this excellent text, some students might infer that logic is a fascinating, rewarding and useful science that is virtually complete and uncontroversial. But they might also get the impression that it has no past and no future, that it will persist eternally in its present perfect form, and that it is an island of peaceful rationality. Logic may seem to lift the mind's eye toward the Platonic Form of Reason.

Goldfarb's text does have a nice, easy introduction--and then it's all down hill from there. Much of the notation and terminology is disconnected from the mainstream; e.g. a dot is used for conjunction, a dash for negation, `schemata' in place of `well-formed formulas' (we have a really nifty thing called LaTeX these days, Goldfarb). While the very basic discussion is along normal lines, it's poorly presented and couched in enough of Goldfarb's idiosyncrasies to make it confusing for anyone with only a passing acquaintance with logic (the target audience). In addition, Goldfarb puts off discussion of any kind of proof system until over half-way through the text, relying heavily on model-theory to support the discussion (a natural deduction or combination approach seems much more reasonable). When he finally gets around to the proof system, it's an ugly little thing focused on avoiding rules for truth functional connectives, providing little (read: no) insight into the nature of proof. Finally, much of the text obscures the formalization and casts classical logic as definitively correct (not helpful for anyone intending to pursue more logic in the former case and a highly contestable stance in the latter). Indeed, Goldfarb bends over backwards to avoid mathematics and

formalism--making his discussion by turns either incomprehensible (we use symbols for a reason) or painfully simplistic. It's a terrible, poorly thought-out book (see Barwise and Etchemendy's "Language, Proof, and Logic" instead). I was forced to teach with this for a term; I wanted to shred every copy of this stupid book by the end of it.

I confess I've never seen the published version of Goldfarb's Deductive Logic, but I've held on for more than a decade to his class notes, and that's saying something, given my aversion to accumulating schtuff. The "modern classic" review on this page makes the book sound just like the notes. If so, the review is right on. It's hard to make such a dry subject interersting, to avoid a pedantic tone, to give a cumulative impression (rather than a brute dictum) that the study of logic follows naturally from the universal human duty to think clearly (and maybe even from the more basic duty to live well). Goldfarb manages to do all of this. Read his book.

I was lucky enough to take Professor Goldfarb's Deductive Logic class six or seven years ago at Harvard. I continue to regard it as the best class I have ever taken.There's a cliche that a liberal arts education teaches you "how to think." I'm not sure what that's generally supposed to mean, but if there's any class that improved my ability to process information, construct strong arguments, and think critically, this was it. I wish Professor Goldfarb's class had been a Harvard requirement.The class followed this textbook closely. The book is concise, rigorous, and well-written. I admit that I'm biased, but I've looked at a few other logic texts, and I have yet to find one that matches the elegance and clarity of this one. Professor Goldfarb, his class, and this book receive my highest recommendation.

Deductive Logic Mind Benders: Deductive Thinking Skills, Book 7, Grades 7-12+ Mind Benders: Deductive Thinking Skills, Book 8, Grades 7-12+ Love and Logic Magic: When Kids Drain Your Energy (Parenting with Love and Logic) Symbolic Logic and the Game of Logic Gre-Lsat Logic Workbook (Gre-Lsat Logic Workbook, 2nd ed) Logic: Propositional Logic (Quickstudy: Academic) Introduction to Logic Circuits & Logic Design with VHDL Introduction to Logic Circuits & Logic Design with Verilog Modern Logic: A Text in Elementary Symbolic Logic Three Philosophical Works: Theoretical Knowledge & Inductive Inference, Popular Lectures on Logic, and Logic, Philosophy & Psychoanalysis Socratic Logic: A Logic Text using Socratic Method, Platonic Questions, and Aristotelian Principles, Edition 3.1 Introduction to Logic: Propositional Logic, Revised Edition (3rd Edition) Critical Thinking: Decision Making with Smarter Intuition and Logic! (Critical Thinking,

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