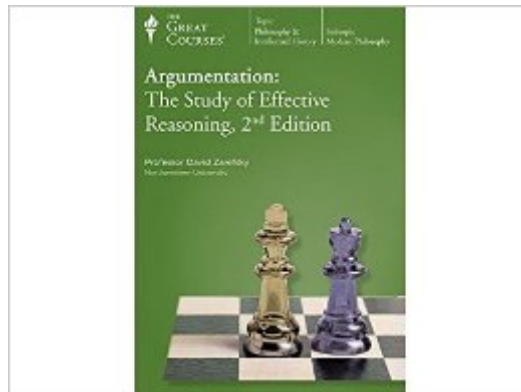


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# The Great Courses: Argumentation: The Study Of Effective Reasoning, 2nd Edition



## Synopsis

What is effective reasoning? And how can it be done persuasively? These questions have been asked for thousands of years, yet some of the best thinking on reasoning and argumentation is recent and represents a break from the past. These 24 engaging lectures teach you how to reason, how to persuade others that what you think is right, and how to judge and answer the arguments of others - and how they will judge yours. Professor Zarefsky makes argumentation accessible and familiar by breaking it into five easy-to-understand components: The tools of formal logic, while essential and even definitive for mathematics and programming computers, are inadequate to decide most controversial issues. This course shows more useful approaches. Arguments can be divided into three parts: a claim, evidence, and an inference linking the evidence to the claim. All arguments fall into a handful of distinctive categories, and the same issues are at stake each time one of these distinctive patterns occurs. Three kinds of evidence can be advanced to prove an argument that something is true: objective data, social consensus, and personal credibility. There are six kinds of inference that link evidence to a claim: example, cause, sign, analogy, narrative, and form. How to use and challenge each is explained. Along the way, you'll look at numerous actual controversies with a perspective that allows you to see the structure of all disputes. In this way, argument becomes an exchange, not just a flurry of words.

## Book Information

Audio CD

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Average Customer Review: 2.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (4 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

Advertised as "Parts 1 & 2, 24 lectures on 12 CDs", but all I received as Part 2 on 6 CDs. Judging from another review, I'm not the only one who has had this problem. Buyer beware!

I also only received only the second half of the 24 disks in the description. Weird.

The subject material was as expected and in good condition. The course material was deceiving as it was shown to be a 24 lecture course and never said differently. Only the last 12 lectures were received, but they were useful.

as advertised

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