Course Description

Introduces the art of devising ways to improve the quality of learning and life by systematically improving the thinking that underlies them.

Prerequisites

None

Course Textbook


Course Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Recognize and interpret the traits of a critical thinker and apply them to daily life.
2. List and describe the first four elements of critical thinking.
3. Practice self-understanding in relation to critical thinking.
4. Examine the parts and standards of thinking.
5. Discuss and expand on the three basic functions of the human mind.
6. Ask questions that lead to critical thinking.
7. Master thinking in relation to course content.
8. Design and evaluate one’s own learning.
9. Make decisions and solve problems using critical thinking.
10. Evaluate patterns in decision making and problem solving.
11. Analyze the logic of decision making.
12. Explain the process for systematic decision making.
13. List the dimensions of decision making.

Credits

Upon completion of this course, the students will earn three (3) hours of college credit.

Course Topical Outline

Unit I: Introduction to Thinking

Unit II: Development and Self-Understanding

Unit III: Thinking Elements and Standards
Unit IV: Mastering Questions and Content

Unit V: Designing and Evaluating Your Own Learning

Unit VI: Making Decisions, Problem Solving and the Irrational Mind

Unit VII: How to Detect Media Bias and Propaganda in National and World News

Unit VIII: Fallacies: The Art of Mental Trickery and Manipulation

Course Structure

1. The Summary of Course Unit summarizes key issues in the assigned chapters and is supplemented with additional readings or Internet sources to provide broader subject matter application and professional relevance.
2. Unit Learning Objectives are available in each course unit.
3. Key Terms are available in each unit.
4. Reading Assignments include approximately 1-4 textbook chapters in each course unit.
5. Unit Assessments contain both objective and subjective type questions. Students are required to take unit assessments at the completion of each unit.

Grading

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<tr>
<th>Unit Assessments (8 @ 12.5% each)</th>
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