



جامعة دبي
UNIVERSITY of DUBAI

Department of General Education

Course Syllabus

Section (1)

Semester: Spring 09-10

Course code & No.: GCRT200

Course Title: Critical and Creative Thinking

Prerequisites: 66 credit hours

Class Hours Time: 19:00 - 22:00; Day: Wednesday Room: 622

Brief Course Description: (As in UD Catalog)

The purpose of this course is to explore the skills needed for effective reasoning and problem solving. The term 'critical' implies care and precision in all forms of evaluation and judgment, and is best displayed in acts of reasoning, including arguments and explanations. Evaluation and judgment will be explored in the course. The term 'creative' implies that reasoning is not a precise process. It requires effective lateral thought and the use of sound judgment.

General Education Program Outcomes:

1. Communicate effectively, think critically and make wise career decisions.
2. Develop a global perspective on ethical, cultural, economic and political issues

General Skills:

1. Communication Skills
2. Critical Thinking
3. Interpersonal Skills

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs):

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Describe benefits, general characteristics and skills of critical thinking
2. Evaluate claims and arguments taken from personal and professional contexts
3. Present well organized and strongly founded arguments.
4. Analyze fallacious claims and arguments.
5. Perform a rational debate in a real life context.
6. Generate ideas and solutions to simple problems

CLO Mapping

CLO	General skills	State below PO
1. Describe benefits, general characteristics and skills of critical thinking	2	(1)
2. Evaluate claims and arguments taken from personal and professional contexts	2	(1),(2)
3. Present well organized and strongly founded arguments.	1,2,3	(1)
4. Analyze fallacious claims and arguments.	1,2	(1)
5. Perform a rational debate in a real life context.	1,2,3	(1),(2)
6. Generate ideas and solutions to simple problems	1,2	(1)

Assessment Scheme

CLO	Class Work (50%)							Mid-term Exam (20%)	Final Exam (30%)
	Quiz 1	Quiz 2	Assign 1	Assign 2	W-GCTA	Presentation	Class Participation		
#1	√		√				√	10	3
#2	√		√		√		√	10	10
#3		√		√		√			4
#4		√		√		√			8
#5							√		
#6						√	√		5
Total	8%	8%	4%	4%	10%	8%	8%		
	34%					16%			
	50%							20%	30%

Teaching Methods

1. Lectures.
2. Student Presentations.
3. Class debates
4. Class discussions.

Use of Modern Instructional Technology

1. Moodle
2. Internet
3. PowerPoint

Evaluating Student Performance:

Your **final grade** will be calculated as follows:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------|--|
| 1. Class participation: | 08% | includes attendance and class processes |
| 2. Quiz 1: | 08% | may be given without notice |
| 3. One presentation | 08% | presented anytime during the semester |
| 4. Assignment 1 | 04% | |
| 5. Assignment 2 | 04% | argumentative essay |
| 6. Mid-term exam: | 20% | during the designated mid-term examination |
| 7. Quiz 2 | 08% | may be given without notice |
| 8. W-GCTA | 10% | |
| 9. Final examination: | 30% | during the final examination period |
| | 100% | |

Weekly Schedule:**Critical and Creative Thinking Weekly/Daily Teaching Plan**

Day/Week	Date	Lecture	Ch	Chapter Objectives	Relation to C LO	Assignment/Reading	Assessment	Relation to Program Objectives
1	24/2/10	Introduction to subject	---					
2	3/3/10	Critical Thinking Basics	1	-define the concept of thinking and related concepts -compare critical to creative thinking	1	Textbook, Ch 1 pp. 1-22	Mid-term Quiz 1 Final exam	1
3	10/3/10	Two Kinds of Reasoning	2	-Recognize the difference between an argument and an explanation and means of persuasion.. -Identify the linguistic cues that help to analyze an argument into its parts. -identify the issue at stake in an argument.	2	Textbook, Ch 2 pp. 41-55	Mid-term Quiz 1 W-GCTA Final exam	1,2
4	17/3/10	Two Kinds of Reasoning	2	-Identify unstated or implied premises in an argument. -Analyze the structure of arguments in order to understand and evaluate them.	2	Textbook, Ch 2 pp. 41-55	Mid-term Quiz 1 W-GCTA Final exam	1,2
5	24/3/10	Clear Thinking and Critical Thinking	3	Differentiate among semantic ambiguity, syntactical ambiguity, and kinds of grouping ambiguities. Understand the various manifestations of vagueness.	2,3	Textbook, Ch 3	Mid-term Final exam essay	1,2
6	31/3/10	Clear Thinking and Critical Thinking	3	Identify fallacies of composition and division Organize an essay around a clear point. Be familiar with the definition by example, definition by synonym, and definition by analysis.	2	Textbook, Ch 3	Final-term Mid-term	1,2
7	07/4/10	<i>Credibility</i>	4	understand the basic concept of credibility understand the ways of assessing sources and contents of claims	2	Textbook, Ch 4	Final exam Quiz 2	1,2
8	14/4/10	Persuasion through Rhetoric	5	Show how rhetorical devices can present distorted descriptions of persons, Identify the rhetorical techniques with which claims are made	4	Textbook, Ch 5	Final exam Quiz 2	1
9	21/4/10	Persuasion through Rhetoric Midterm	5	To understand and learn to identify the rhetorical techniques with which claims are made To apply in a practical way all we have learnt so far..	4	Textbook, Ch 5	Final exam Quiz 2	1

10	28/4/10	More Rhetorical Devices	6	To understand how rhetorical devices can suggest claims without making them overtly To understand and learn to identify the rhetorical techniques	4	Textbook, Ch 6	Final exam Quiz 2	1
11	5/5/10	More Fallacies	7	To Understand how certain fallacies begin with sound principles of logic and only distort them Understand the kinds of fallacies that have to do with illogical refusals to give arguments	4	Textbook, Ch 7	Final exam Quiz 2	1
12	12/5/10	More Fallacies	7	Understand the basic concept of ad hominem fallacy and why it makes for a bad argument	4	Textbook, Ch 7	Final exam	1
13	19/5/10	Creative Thinking		Analyze the process of creative thinking and Discuss the relationship between critical and creative thinking	6	Ruggiero, V. (2009) Ch.5	Final exam	1
14	26/5/10	Creative thinking		Apply some techniques for generating ideas.	6	Projects	Final exam	1
15	2/6/10			Presentations	5	Projects	Class debate	1,2
	9/6/10			Final Exam				

Educational Resources

Educational Resource	Description
Textbook	Moore, B. N. & Parker, R. (2007): Critical Thinking, 8th Edition. McGraw Hill: London.
References:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Smart Thinking: Skills for critical understanding and writing. OUP: Melbourne. 2. Chaffee, John 2006. Thinking Critically , 8/e Houghton Mifflin 3. De Bono, Edward. 1994. <i>Lateral thinking: creativity step by step</i>. T58.6 .L49 4. Fisher, A. (2001) Critical Thinking, An Introduction, Cambridge University Press 5. Paul, R. & Elder, L. (2001) Critical Thinking,, Prentice Hall. 6. Bassham, G. et.al. (2004) Critical Thinking, A Student's Introduction, McGraw Hill. 7. White, F D, & Billings, S. J. 2008. The Well-Crafted Argument: A Guide and Reader, 3/e, Houghton Mifflin 8. Ruggiero, V. 2006. Becoming a Critical Thinker , 5/e, Houghton Mifflin 9. Ruggiero, V. (2009): Art of Thinking, The, 9/E, Longman
Internet Sites	Critical Thinking Web http://philosophy.hku.hk/think/ The Fallacy Files http://www.fallacyfiles.org/index.html The Critical thinking Community http://www.criticalthinking.org/ Mind Tools http://www.mindtools.com/index.html