



CRITICAL THINKING — PHIL 1200

A. Course Description

- **Credits:** 3.00
- **Lecture Hours/Week:** 3.00
- **Lab Hours/Week:** 0.00
- **OJT Hours/Week:** 0
- **Prerequisites:** None
- **Corequisites:** None
- **MnTC Goals:**
 - 02 – Critical Thinking

In this course, students will develop skills in argument evaluation, the use of informal logic, and language analysis as they criticize problems found on the World Wide Web, in the workplace, and in other everyday environments. Students will also have an opportunity to explore topics in media literacy and the philosophy of science. Suggested Accuplacer reading cut score over 78. Meets MnTC Goal 2.

B. Course Effective Dates: 8/27/07 – Present

C. Outline of Major Content Areas

1. Barriers
2. Basic logical concepts
3. Critical thinking for the media
4. Evaluating arguments and truth claims
5. Finding, evaluating, and using sources
6. Logical fallacies
7. Science and pseudoscience
8. Standards

D. Learning Outcomes

1. Summarize arguments
2. analyze problems involving fallacies of insufficient evidence
3. analyze problems involving fallacies of relevance
4. apply the rules of inductive reasoning to a variety of problems
5. create and support their own formal arguments with explanations
6. describe and analyze problems found in science and pseudoscience

7. describe critical thinking standards, benefits, and barriers
8. determine and evaluate premises and conclusions of arguments
9. diagram and summarize arguments
10. evaluate arguments for whether they are good and whether it is reasonable to accept their premises
11. recognize and analyze problems found in the media
12. use the writing process

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 02 — Critical Thinking

1. Gather factual information and apply it to a given problem in a manner that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected.
2. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.
3. Analyze the logical connections among the facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a problem or claim; generate and evaluate implications that follow from them.
4. Recognize and articulate the value assumptions which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.

F. Learner Outcomes Assessment

As noted on course syllabus

G. Special Information

None noted