



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
 - 07 – Human Diversity

In this course, students will develop skills in the use of informal logic, argument evaluation, and language analysis for addressing problems found on the World Wide Web, in the workplace, and in other everyday environments. Students will address topics related to diversity, media literacy, and philosophy of science. Suggested Accuplacer reading cut score over 78. Meets MnTC Goals 2 and 7.

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. Describe, analyze, and solve problems through knowledge of standards, fallacies, and barriers.
2. Summarize and evaluate arguments.
3. Demonstrate competency in basic logic.
4. Recognize and analyze problems found in the media.
5. Describe and analyze problems found in pseudoscience.

6. Use the writing process
7. Write a well organized critical essay.

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

Goal 02 — Critical Thinking

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Recognize and articulate the value assumptions which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.

Goal 07 — Human Diversity

- Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
- Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
- Demonstrate communication skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great population diversity.

F. Learner Outcomes Assessment

As noted on course syllabus

G. Special Information

None noted