

Course Objectives	Competencies
<p>The objectives of this course are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop the student's ability to recognize key concepts in critical thinking.</li> <li>• Provide students with a basic understanding of the logical structure of both inductive and deductive forms of reasoning.</li> <li>• Discuss the logical relationships between premises and conclusions.</li> <li>• Evaluate the validity, strength and relevance of both oral and written arguments.</li> <li>• Enhance the student's logical analysis and argument construction in both oral and written work.</li> <li>• Cultivate the student's ability to recognize common formal and informal fallacies.</li> <li>• Train the student to recognize and analyze the position and supporting arguments of both written and oral statements.</li> </ul> <p>The teaching methodology is lecture and critical reading, with application of relevant issues to current events and student participation via discussion and/or demonstration.</p>	<p>At the completion of this course students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate skills in basic inductive and deductive reasoning.</li> <li>• Describe, explain and distinguish key concepts in critical thinking.</li> <li>• Identify an argument in a passage of ordinary text, including identifying the premises and conclusions and distinguishing them from extraneous information.</li> <li>• Identify and explain errors in reasoning.</li> <li>• Analyze specific arguments for consistency and credibility.</li> <li>• Apply good reasoning to issues and problems in professional and personal contexts.</li> <li>• Evaluate evidence and draw inferences from that evidence.</li> <li>• Identify the components of arguments and demonstrate the ability to create complex argument structures in verbal and written forms.</li> </ul> <p>Students will demonstrate these competencies through class discussion, writing assignments, demonstrations and testing.</p>