



VIETNAM NATIONAL UNIVERSITY - HCMC
INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
Department of English

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Name: Critical Thinking

Course Code: PE008IU

1. General information

Course description	<p>This course provides the nature and techniques of thought as a basis for our claims, beliefs, and attitudes about the world. The course also explores the process in which people develop their claims and support their beliefs.</p> <p>Specifically, the course includes the theory and practice of presenting arguments in oral and written forms, making deductive and inductive arguments, evaluating the validity or strength of arguments, detecting fallacies in arguments, and refuting fallacious arguments.</p> <p>Resources for the reasoning process include hypothetical and real-life situations in various fields of natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities.</p>
Semester(s) in which the course is taught	1, 2, 3
Instructor	Đỗ Thị Diệu Ngọc
Language	English
Relation to curriculum	Compulsory
Teaching methods	Lectures, discussions, homework assignments, students' presentations
Workload (incl. contact hours, self-study hours)	<p>(Estimated) total workload: 135</p> <p>Contact hours: 45</p> <p>Self-study: 90</p>
Credit points	3

Required and recommended prerequisites for joining the course	None
Course objectives	<p><i>This course will enable students to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop the habits of assessing and defending the reasonableness of their beliefs and values as well as those of others • appreciate the importance of looking at an issue from a variety of perspectives • apply critical thinking skills in both public and personal settings
Course learning outcomes	<p><i>Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLO1: apply the standards of and avoid barriers to critical thinking in various contexts • CLO2: identify, construct, and evaluate deductive and inductive arguments in spoken and written forms • CLO3: test the validity of deductive arguments using Venn diagram and truth tables • CLO4: recognize common fallacies in everyday reasoning • CLO5: analyze and standardize arguments • CLO6: evaluate and refute arguments • CLO7: develop good arguments to defend personal/group beliefs in respectful manners (project presentations)
Examination forms	40 multiple-choice questions for the midterm and final exams and group presentations for the final project
Study and examination requirements	<p>Attendance: A minimum attendance of 80 percent is compulsory for the class sessions. Students will be assessed on the basis of their class participation. Questions and comments are strongly encouraged.</p> <p>Overall passing score: 50/100</p>
Textbook	[1] Bassham, Irwin, Nardone, and Wallace, <i>Critical Thinking: A Student's Introduction</i> , 6 th edition, McGraw-Hill Education, 2020.

References	<p>[2] Moore, B.N. et al. (2009). Critical Thinking, 9th ed. McGraw-Hill</p> <p>[3] Patrick J. Hurley (2012). A Concise Introduction to Logic (11th ed.), Wadsworth, Cengage Learning</p> <p>+ Relevant web resources</p>
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2. Planned learning activities and teaching methods

Week	Topic	CLO	Assessments	Learning activities	Resources
1	Introduction to Critical thinking	1	Assignment	Lecture, Discussion	[1] Chapter 1
2	Recognizing arguments	2	Assignment	Lecture, Discussion	[1] Chapter 2
3	Basic logical concepts	2	Quiz 1	Lecture, Discussion	[1] Chapter 3
4	A little categorical logic	3	Assignment	Lecture, Discussion	[1] Chapter 9
5	A little propositional logic	3	Quiz 2	Lecture, Discussion	[1] Chapter 10
6	Logical fallacies I	4	Assignment	Lecture, Discussion	[1] Chapter 5
7	Logical fallacies II	4	Assignment	Lecture, Discussion	[1] Chapter 6
8	Review for midterm exam + sample test				
9 + 10	Midterm exam: Chapters 1, 2, 3, 9, 10				
11	Analyzing arguments	5	Assignment	Lecture, Discussion	[1] Chapter 7
12	Evaluating arguments and truth claims	6	Quiz 3	Lecture, Discussion	[1] Chapter 8
13	Inductive reasoning	2	Assignment	Lecture, Discussion	[1] Chapter 11
14	Project: Group presentation	7	Group work	Presentation, Discussion	

15	Project: Group presentation	7	Group work	Presentation, Discussion	
16	Project: Group presentation	7	Group work	Presentation, Discussion	
17	Review for final exam + sample test				

18	Reserved week				
19+20	Final exam: Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 11				

Coordinator: Đỗ Thị Diệu Ngọc Contact details: Email: dtdngoc@hcmiu.edu.vn Mobile: 0904361717	<i>Ho Chi Minh City, July 20, 2022</i> <i>Approved by Head of Department of English</i> <i>(Signature)</i> <i>Dr. Nguyễn Huy Cường</i>
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