

UPCOMING EVENT

# MSBA ALUMNI PANEL, NOVEMBER 8, 2024

- AT&T Technology Development Program
- Ad Victoriam Solutions – Business Analyst Elevate Program
- Ally Financial Business Analyst
- Delta Air Lines Revenue Analytics
- FTI Consulting
- Invesco iTap Program
- Red Ventures

RSVP: <https://evt.to/eeuhmhoaw>



Terry College of Business  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

CRUCIAL CONVERSATIONS

# CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

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BUSN 7900 | November 5, 2024



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# CRITICAL THINKING

## Five critical components of critical thinking:

- 1) Analysis
- 2) Communication
- 3) Inference
- 4) Observation
- 5) Problem-solving

# MAKING INFORMED DECISIONS

Critical thinking is the ability to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information logically and objectively. It requires the ability to question assumptions, withhold judgement, and recognize biases.



# MAKING INFORMED DECISIONS

Consider that you might be wrong. Begin with an open mind. You may not know all the variables behind the issue. Be a good listener.



# MAKING INFORMED DECISIONS

**Be aware of distractions. Discrediting the person making the argument is a red flag that your attention is being drawn to the wrong message.**

# MAKING INFORMED DECISIONS

**Ask questions to be sure you know the difference between fact and opinion. Gather data or evidence to support or refute any point.**

# PRESENTING AN ARGUMENT

## Step #1 - Introduce the Problem or Issue

Provide relevant background information and context to clarify the circumstances around the situation.

*“All children should be vaccinated for admission to public school.”*





# PRESENTING AN ARGUMENT – SET THE BASELINE

## Step #2 State your claim

Make a concise, specific statement outlining your position on the issue that will act as the focus of your argument. Establish context to clarify the circumstances around the situation.

*“Healthy and able children should be vaccinated to prevent the spread of preventable illness and increase school attendance.”*



# SUPPORT YOUR CLAIM

## Step #3 - Provide evidence

Support your claim with credible data. Cite facts, studies or expert opinions that add to your point.

*“Close contact among students in school increases the risk of contagion and outbreaks – both in and outside of the school environment.”*



# CONCEDE THAT THERE IS MORE THAN ONE OPINION

## Step #4 – Acknowledge the opposing position

Grant that there is another side to the argument and explain why you disagree.

*“Requiring vaccinations for children threatens parental autonomy of those who carry **personal**, religious, or philosophical beliefs that oppose these measures.”*



# PERSUADE YOUR AUDIENCE

## Step #5 – Restate your claim

Draw conclusions about your claim with the goal of persuading the audience to your position.

*“Requiring vaccinations for children may contradict **personal** beliefs, however vaccinations are designed for **public** health as a measure to protect communities as a whole.”*



# GROUP EXERCISE FOR PRESENTING AN ARGUMENT

Count off to determine your work group.

Organize your thoughts for or against these statements:

1. Business casual attire should be mandated for graduate business students
2. Every student should be required to hold an internship the summer before MSBA
3. Employers should have the right to monitor employees' online conduct during work hours
4. Governments should fund broader video surveillance in public spaces
5. Social media sites should take greater responsibility for ending cyber bullying



# GROUP EXERCISE FOR PRESENTING AN ARGUMENT

Follow the steps to present your point of view

1. Introduce the problem or issue
2. State your claim outlining your position
3. Provide evidence to support your claim
4. Acknowledge the opposite point of view and state why you disagree
5. Restate your claim in an attempt to persuade your audience to your perspective.

