



PHI 101 - Critical Thinking

Basic Information:

Instructor Name	TBA
Home Institution	
Instructor Title	
E- Mail	
Office	TBA
Office Hours	TBA, and by appointment

Course Description:

Critical Thinking is the process by which we develop and support our beliefs, and evaluate the strength of arguments made by others in real-life situations. This semester we will practice some of the most central and important skills of critical thinking, and focus on applying those strategies to understanding current issues, belief systems, and ethical positions. We will analyze media, the current political environment, and our own beliefs and moral inclinations. You will learn to appraise information and influences, discuss controversial topics intelligently, and construct well-reasoned arguments on a variety of topics. The course will focus on group discussion and written analysis. This is a writing course. You will be expected to produce and share rough drafts before turning in your final version.

Required Course Materials:

Textbook	Edition	Author	Publisher	ISBN-10
Link to e-book purchase address:				

Course Hours:

This course consists of 18 class sessions, 1 field trip and 4 discussion sessions. Each class session is 150 minutes in length; each discussion session is 150 minutes in length; the field trip is 300 minutes in length. Classes normally meet from Monday to Friday. This course has 72 contact hours in total. Final exam will be on 26th Jan, 2019.

Year Level:

The 1st year.

Prerequisite:

(List if there is any; List "None" if the course has no prerequisite)

None

Course Schedule:

Week	Session	Day	Topic (s)	Homework
Week 1	2 Jan, 2019	W	Orientation	





	3 Jan, 2019	TH	General Introduction: an introduction to logical and critical thinking and common obstacles and fallacies.	
	4 Jan, 2019	F	Argument Basics: an outline of the basics of argumentation.	
	5 Jan, 2019	SAT	Argument Analysis: the distinction between some types of arguments, plus a systematic representation of two common types.	
Week 2	7 Jan, 2019	M	Quiz #1	
	8 Jan, 2019	T	Argument Evaluation: specifics on how to evaluate arguments.	
	9 Jan, 2019	W	Complex Arguments: dealing with large arguments, and our first specific argument form - arguments from analogy.	
	10 Jan, 2019	TH	Best Explanations: finding and structuring arguments from effect to cause to find the best explanation.	
	11 Jan, 2019	F	Quiz #2	
Week 3	14 Jan, 2019	M	Investigations: a study of the role of argument in investigations and predictions.	
	15 Jan, 2019	T	Recommendations: generating and evaluating guidance and solutions under hard and soft constraints, leading to reasonable and justified actions.	
	16 Jan, 2019	W	Science: application of argumentation to scientific explanation.	
	17 Jan, 2019	TH	Quiz #3	
	18 Jan, 2019	F	Field Trip (5 hours)	
Week4	21 Jan, 2019	M	Morality: application to moral and normative decision making, with an emphasis on recommendations.	
	22 Jan, 2019	T	Legal Reasoning: applications to legal decision making, with an emphasis on analogical reasoning and precedent.	
	23 Jan, 2019	W	Course Summary & Revision	
	24 Jan, 2019	TH	Revision	Exam Preparation
	25 Jan, 2019	F	Reading Day	Exam Preparation
	26 Jan, 2019	SAT	FINAL EXAM	

Grading Policies:

Part	Percentage	Points
Attendance and Participation	10%	10
Quiz	20%	20
Homework	20%	20
Writing Portfolio	30%	30
Exams	20%	20
Course Total	100%	100 Points





Grade Distribution:

Letter Grade	Grade Points
High Distinction	85-100
Distinction	75-84
Credit	65-74
Pass	50-64
Fail	0-49

Academic Integrity

SCP expects honesty from students in presenting all of their academic work. Students are responsible for knowing and observing accepted principles of scholarly research and writing in all academic work.

Academic dishonesty or cheating includes acts of plagiarism, forgery, fabrication or misrepresentation, such as the following:

- claiming the work or thoughts of others as your own
- copying the writing of others into your written work without appropriate attribution
- writing papers for other students or allowing them to submit your work as their own
- buying papers and turning them in as your own
- having someone else write or create all or part of the content of your assignments
- submitting the same paper for more than one study or class without explicit permission from the faculty members

General Principles

SCP is committed to principles of trust, accountability, clear expectations and consequences. It is also committed to redemptive efforts, which are meaningful only in light of these principles. Students will be granted due process and the opportunity for an appeal.

Academic dishonesty offenses generally are subject to incremental disciplinary actions. Some first offenses, however, receive severe penalties, including dismissal from the program.

General Disciplinary

The following is a non-comprehensive list of possible actions apart from dismissal from the program: warning from a professor, program director; a lower or failing grade on an assignment, test or course; suspension or dismissal from the course; suspension or dismissal from the program.

Disciplinary Actions for Specific Offenses

Some academic dishonesty offenses call for specific disciplinary actions. The following have been identified:

Falsification of documents:

Students who falsify or present falsified documents may be dismissed. Prospective students who are discovered to have presented falsified admission documents prior to admission shall be denied admission to the program. Should it be discovered after admission that a student had presented falsified documents for admission, such admission may be annulled and the record of academic achievement removed from the academic record, with appropriate notations. Such annulments or denials may be reviewed after one year.





Dishonesty in course requirements:

Course work (a quiz, assignment, report, mid-term examination, research paper, etc.) in which a student has been dishonest generally will receive zero points towards the grade in fulfillment of a course requirement, and/or the student may receive a failing grade for the course. The professor of the course determines the appropriate consequence.

Final assignment:

When a student cheats in a major or final assignment such as a comprehensive examination or presents plagiarized material in a major or final assignment, that student shall receive an F in that particular subject. Student cheats on more than two exams shall be dismissed from SCP.

