

**General Education
Minimum Course Expectations
Reasoned Judgement: Critical Thinking**

Critical thinking: applying logic and reasoning to problems solving

Critical thinking is a habit of mind characterized by the comprehensive exploration of issues, ideas, artifacts, and events before accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion. There are four major components of Critical Thinking:

Exploration: Students will articulate an issue by explaining ambiguity and identifying boundaries of the issue and relevant context.

Evidence: Students will interpret and evaluate information from relevant and reliable sources.

Influence of points of view: Students will identify their own and others' point of view when presenting a position on an issue.

Conclusions: Students will make conclusions which acknowledge complexity.

These skills should be assessed in at least two assignments, so that techniques may be practiced and improved upon.

At the 100-level:

Students will fully state, describe, and clarify an issue or problem.

Students will analyze and interpret information from at least two relevant and reliable sources.

Students will identify their own and others' assumptions when presenting a position on an issue.

Students will make conclusions that are tied to a range of information.

At the 200-level:

Students will fully and concisely state, describe, and clarify an issue or problem and deliver relevant information necessary for understanding of the issue or problem.

Students will analyze, interpret, and synthesize information from multiple relevant and reliable sources.

Students will identify their own and others' assumptions and several relevant contexts when presenting a position on an issue.

Students will make conclusions that are tied to a range of information, including alternative viewpoints.