



Infusing Critical Thinking Skills into Your Course

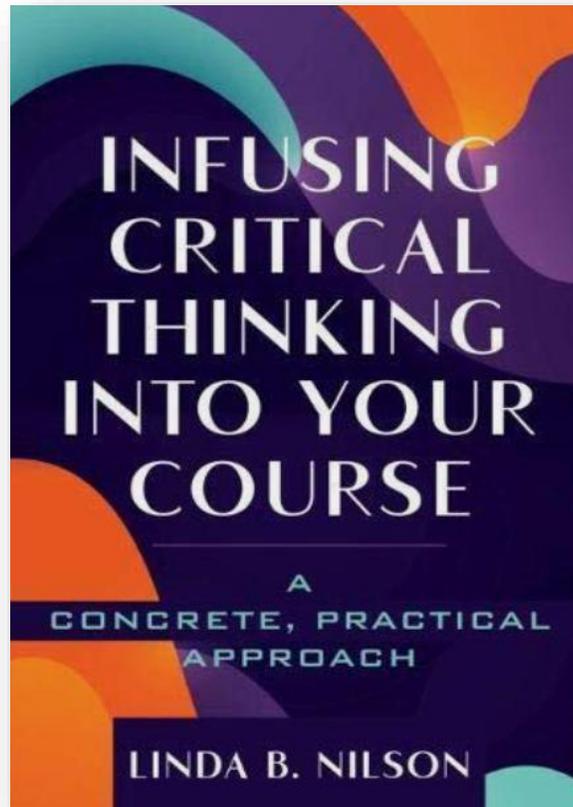
GE COMMITTEE:

JOSH ORTEGA

LUKE KOSMAS

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The Book



Statistics

“According to Payscale’s survey of almost 64,000 managers **60%** of the respondents complained that their **newly hired employees** with bachelor's degrees **lacked the critical thinking and problem-solving skills** that their jobs required (Sterling, 2016).”¹

¹ Linda B. Nilson, *Infusing Critical Thinking Into Your Course* (Sterling, VA: Stylus Publishing Co, 2021) 3.

Statistics

In a 2011 study amongst 2,300 undergraduates from 24 different academic institutions, **36% of students** showed no significant gains in critical thinking, complex reasoning, and written communication from freshmen year to graduation.²

¹ Linda B. Nilson, *Infusing Critical Thinking Into Your Course* (Sterling, VA: Stylus Publishing Co, 2021) 3.

Intentional Infusion of Critical Thinking Skills in LPU Courses

1.) Connect new knowledge with prior knowledge.

PLCs (Professional Learning Communities) – When educators collaborate to understand the content or concepts being taught by everyone

2.) Incorporate critical thinking skills into the rubric.

3.) Ask questions derived from the learning outcomes.

Intentional Infusion of Critical Thinking Skills in LPU Courses

4.) Develop activities that ask students to...

a. **Examine Beliefs and Values:**

- Evaluate values and beliefs
- Investigate claims and generalizations

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4.) Develop activities that ask students to...

b. Evaluate Reasoning:

- Examine how they think or reason
- Analyze interpretations
- Interpret statements
- Identify assumptions and cause-and-effect relationships
- Reflect on their own bias

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4.) Develop activities that ask students to...

c. Analyze Conclusions:

- Examine how conclusions are reached
- Identify themes
- Categorize, classify, compare, and group concepts (matrix)
- Present interpretations or analyses
- Explain key findings
- Ask for relevance – how is this relevant to?

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4.) Develop activities that ask students to...

d. Evaluate Opinions and Arguments:

- Evaluate opinions and inferences
- Examine and evaluate arguments
- Look for flaws in an argument
- Explain the claim, conclusion, and arguments on both sides

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4.) Develop activities that ask students to...

e. Engage in Dialogue:

- Respond to uncomfortable questions
- Ask what led them to their interpretations
- Engage in a debate
- Engage in role plays and games

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4.) Develop activities that ask students to...

f. Visualize Information:

- Use graphics to visualize relationships

g. Problem Solving:

- Work on problem-solving assignments

Be sure to question:



1

Ideas

2

Theories

3

Assumptions

4

The validity of
information

UTS

YouTube:
“Critical Thinking Skills”
by David Sotir

Approach to Critical Thinking

ANALYSE

EVALUATE

DEVELOP
A
POSITION

YouTube:
“Critical Thinking Skills”
by David Sotir

Critical Thinking + Reading



1

- Think about bias
- Confirm relevance

2

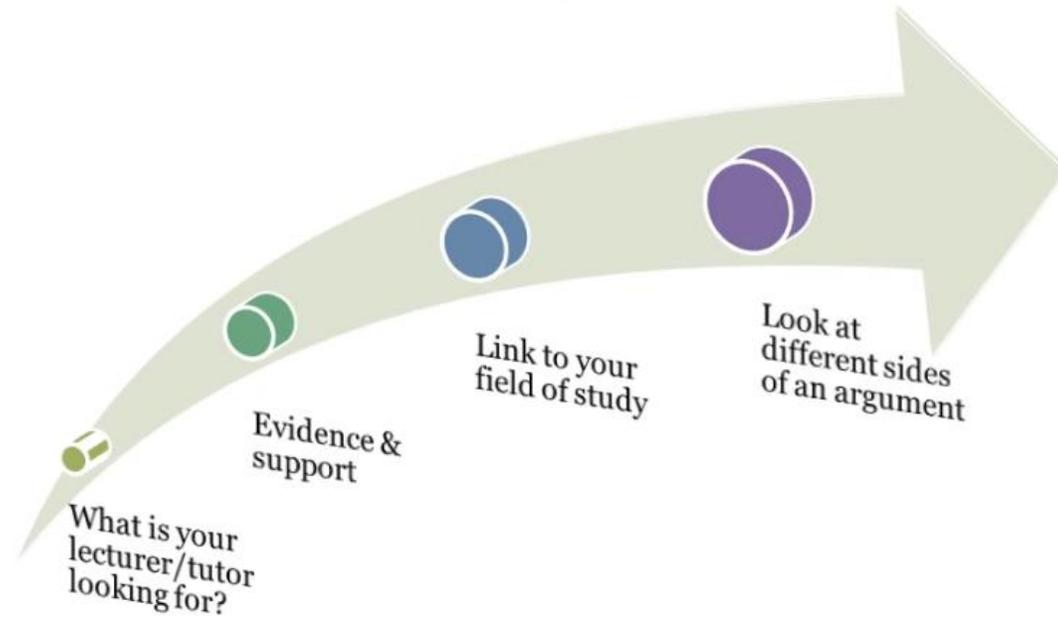
- Consider the argument and quality of information
- Check logic & reliability

3

- Links and implications
- Agree or disagree?

YouTube:
“Critical Thinking Skills”
by David Sotir

How Does Critical Thinking Apply to WRITING?



YouTube:
“Critical Thinking Skills”
by David Sotir

**Categorise
the issues/
arguments
involved**

**Establish
cause-effect
relationships**

**Make
comparisons
& contrasts**

**Point out
problems &
suggest
solutions**

Thought-provoking

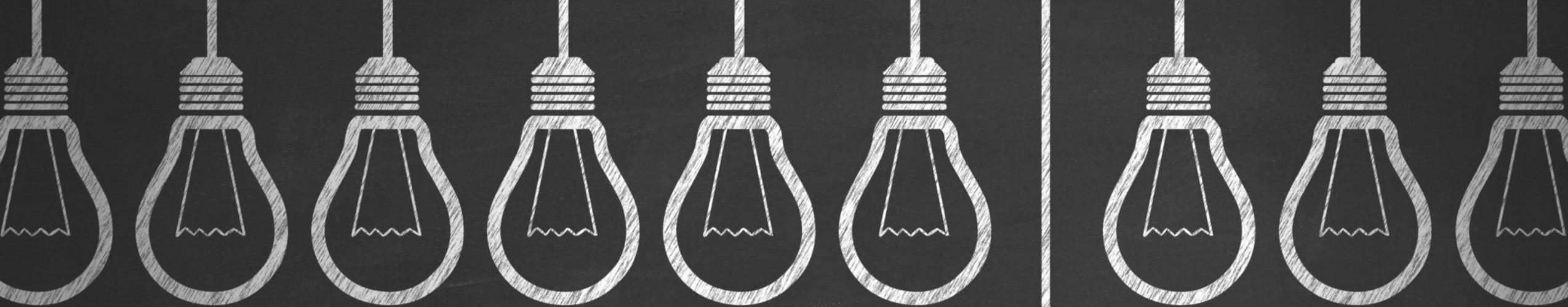


**Evaluate
theories &
relate them to
practice**

**YouTube:
“Critical Thinking Skills”
by David Sotir**



Showcase of
Infusion of
**Critical
Thinking Skills**
into Your Class



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