

Philosophy 10330
Critical Thinking



Chaminade University
Fall Evening 2002
Friday 5:30-9:40pm
Tripler, Building 102 Room 104

Instructor: Andrew Colvin
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Text:
Bassham et al, Critical Thinking: A Student's Introduction, McGraw Hill, 2002

Course Description(s):
Designed to be more than a study of formal reasoning methods, this course includes but is not limited to the study of logical fallacies.
Chaminade Undergraduate Catalogue 2002

Critical Thinking is the general term given to a wide range of *cognitive skills and intellectual dispositions* needed (1) to effectively identify, analyze, and evaluate arguments and truth claims; (2) to discover and overcome personal prejudices and biases; (3) to formulate and present convincing reasons in support of conclusions; (4) and to make reasonable, intelligent decisions about what to believe and what to do.

Bassham, Critical Thinking, 2002

Course Goals:
The general aim of this course is to assist students in developing these (see above) intellectual skills and dispositions.

Attendance:
Students are expected to attend every class. If for some reason you cannot attend class, please let me know in advance by phone or by email. Since the material and techniques we will be covering each week will be cumulative in nature, it is in your best interest to attend every class and keep up with all readings and assignments.

Assessment:
Grades will be based on a total of nine homework assignments and five quizzes. Homework assignments will be due at the beginning of class, and quizzes will be given at the end of every class.

Philosophy 103
Schedule of Topics and Readings

Week One (10/11)	Critical Thinking and Argument	pp 1-51
Week Two (10/18)	Deduction, Induction, and Validity Categorical Reasoning I	pp 52-96 pp 244-250
Week Three (10/25)	Language Categorical Reasoning II	pp 97-140 pp 250-256
Week Four (11/1)	Fallacies of Relevance Categorical Reasoning III	pp 97-140 pp 265-271
Week Five (11/8)	Fallacies of Insufficient Evidence Propositional Logic I	pp 162-189 pp 271-275
Week Six (11/15)	Analyzing Arguments Propositional Logic II	pp 189-220 pp 276-280
Week Seven (11/22)	Evaluating Arguments Propositional Logic III	pp 221-244 pp 280-285
Week Eight (11/29)	Inductive Reasoning Propositional Logic IV	pp 305-350 pp 285-290
Week Nine (12/6)	Thinking Critically about the Media Propositional Logic V	pp 452-503 pp 291-295
Week Ten (12/13)	Science and Pseudo Science Propositional Logic VI	pp 504-522 pp 295-305