

Critical Thinking

OLC Course Recommendations

Competency Definition

Analyzes and evaluates information gathered by observation, experience, reflection, reasoning, or communication to draw conclusions and acts on them; processes and generates information to guide behavior; assesses surroundings and identifies potential risk.

OLC Component Titles

Critical Thinking Skills for Managing

COURSE TSA-PD-CRITCTHNKMANAG-SKSFT

Description: Rational decision making is linear and is what you do when you put your facts in order. Intuition is looking at those facts and trying to see a pattern-and the patterns aren't always evident because the patterns aren't always linear. The two together are an extremely powerful combination." Joel Kurtzman, President, Kurtzman Associates and former editor, Harvard Business Review. The Critical Thinking Skills for Managing course charts the concepts and skills that can transform competent leaders into discerning situation analysts, focused problem solvers, and powerful decision makers. The course offers analysis methodology that will sharpen managerial ability through all the stages of the critical thinking process; situation assessment, problem solving, and decision making. Leaders will learn how to hone their issue identification skills, refine their questioning techniques, and maximize their decision-making outcomes. Critical thinking processes are broken down into discreet stages or steps that can be applied and tracked easily. Mastering the processes in this course can result in better action planning and implementation throughout the organization. **Duration=3.5**

Developing Fundamental Critical Thinking Skills

COURSE TSA-PD-DEVFNDCRITCTHNK-SKSFT

Description: You may not need an MBA to succeed in the corporate arena, but regardless of position or industry, you do need to be able to analyze, reason, and communicate effectively. These and other critical thinking skills are increasingly consequential as organizational planning and decision making become more distributed and reliant on written and verbal communication factors. Developing Fundamental Critical Thinking Skills coaches you through the acquisition of an array of critical skills that can help you improve your information processing and delivery agility. You also will learn how to maximize your inferential and evaluative competence to achieve better planning and decision-making efficiencies. Improving your critical thinking skills will increase your performance value to any organization. **Duration=3.0**

Organizational Scope of Critical Thinking

COURSE TSA-PD-ORGCRTICHTHINK-SKSFT

Description: "In any complex environment systems are necessary, but they must serve an organization rather than become its masters." This is how Ralph S. Larsen, chairman and chief executive officer of Johnson & Johnson, describes both the need for systems and their inherent risk. Organizational systems, with complex and intricately interrelated components, demand the application of critical thinking to avoid this risk and to use the systems most effectively. In this course, learners will understand the role that critical thinking can play across an organization. **Duration=3.5**

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Strategies for Facilitating Critical Thinking

COURSE TSA-PD-STRATCRITICTHNK-SKSFT

Description: Workplaces are not typically associated with reflection or critical self-reflection, ideas that are often considered 'soft' to the bottom-line, results-oriented world of business.... Yet, paradoxically, reflection is becoming more part of the lifeblood of organizations in today's economic environment." Victoria Marsick's words illustrate why businesses can no longer thrive on the unexamined repetition of established formulas. Today, people at all levels of the organization are asked to think in new ways about themselves, their work, and their organizations. In this course, managers can learn a variety of strategies to encourage the development of critical thinking skills within their organizations, for both individuals and teams, and to ensure that critical thinking is deployed effectively. **Duration=4.5**

The Fundamentals of Effective Thinking

COURSE TSA-PD-EFFECTVTHINKING-SKSFT

Description: Albert Einstein once remarked that "the significant problems we face cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them." It necessarily follows that you must raise your own level of thinking in order to solve pressing business problems and make effective decisions. In this course, you'll explore how to think about the most critical business skill of all--thinking itself. You'll first learn about the counterproductive thinking patterns and tendencies most people naturally fall prey to. You'll then discover how these largely intuitive tendencies manifest themselves in problem-solving mind-sets and decision-making styles. Finally, you'll take the necessary steps to neutralize ineffective thinking habits and instead practice dynamic and results-oriented thinking strategies. The result? You'll become a better thinker, someone who can apply these new-found techniques to achieve organizational goals within the current climate of great institutional change. **Duration=3.0**

The Role of Critical Thinking in Organizations

COURSE TSA-PD-CRITHINKORG-SKSFT

Description: In the organizational arena, applied critical thinking skills provide an essential foundation for all effective planning, problem-solving, and decision-making activities. Employees who can analyze and reason consistently and proficiently furnish a cost-efficient resource that results in a distinctive competitive advantage. Workers who are skeptical of quick fixes and operational dogma pay attention and generate productive ideas. They are intellectually competent to chart new directions. This course introduces the basic concepts, features, and skills associated with critical thinking and explains the roles and propagation of critical thinking in the workplace. **Duration=4.0**