
PHIL 017: Logic & Critical Reasoning

This course is an introduction to critical thinking and critical writing. The students have the opportunity to learn techniques of practical reasoning and argumentation, with emphasis on the application of these techniques in the writing of a sequence of argumentative essays. Topics include: critical reading, argument analysis, recognizing propaganda and stereotypes, clarifying ambiguity, meaning and definition, evaluating evidence, logical correctness vs factual correctness, and common mistakes in reasoning (formal and informal fallacies). The class emphasizes critical writing strategies. Sample arguments from philosophy and from culturally diverse sources in other disciplines are analyzed.

Letter Grade

Units: 3

Lecture Hours: 48 – 54, Lab Hours: 0

Prerequisites: ENGL 001A

Co-Requisites: None

Advisory: None

Transferable to both UC and CSU

WVC GE: Area A-1B: Oral Communication & Critical Thinking

CSU GE: Area A3 - Critical Thinking

UC/IGETC GE: Area 1B - Critical Thinking/English Composition