



COURSE OUTLINE

2025/2026

COURSE NAME: Critical Thinking and Analysis

COURSE CODE: SMGT3333

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Critical thinking enhances students' decision-making abilities in their personal and professional lives. Students will employ critical thinking frameworks when proposing, defending, and critiquing decisions. Recognizing personal bias and using creativity and logic, students will develop their problem-solving skills.

Course Credits: 3.00

Pre-requisites: [COMM2202 and ORGB1135] or [COMM2215 and ORGB1135] or an emphasis in Year 3

Equivalent Courses: JRSB333

LEARNING OUTCOMES

OUTCOME	Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to
1	<p>Explore factors that influence decision-making processes</p> <p>The following concepts, skills, and issues are used to support this Outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Differentiate amongst questions of fact, preference, and judgment as they relate to critical thinking• Analyze the stages of development of critical thinking• Recognize the role of egocentrism and/or sociocentrism in the decision-making process
2	<p>Examine and identify limitations to one's own thinking to improve personal decision-making processes</p> <p>The following concepts, skills, and issues are used to support this Outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluate the importance of connecting critical thinking development to one's own decision-making outcomes.• Develop a plan to further your own development as a critical thinker.• Identify and assess the strategies one employs as one learns and examines the world.• Assess oneself against intellectual traits that support fair-mindedness and critical thinking.
3	<p>Employ critical thinking frameworks to propose, defend, and critique decisions.</p> <p>The following concepts, skills, and issues are used to support this Outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Propose, defend, and critique a premise (argue) using systematic reasoning.• Apply negotiation and persuasive skills to arguments.• Examine the influence of the media and how it might obscure the logic in the situation.• Distinguish between claim and supporting evidence.• Distinguish between strong and weak arguments.

STUDENT EVALUATION

OUTCOME	ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	MARK DISTRIBUTION
1, 2 and 3	Critical thinking quizzes	20%
1, 2 and 3	Business case study	25%
1, 2 and 3	Critical thinking assignments	35%
1, 2 and 3	Argument/Workshops	20%
TOTAL		100%

COURSE COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

The minimum passing grade for this course is grade point of 1.0 (50% or D). Higher grades may be required to use the course for transfer credit or to satisfy professional designation criteria. Please refer to the Grades Procedure AD 2.2 for more details on your calculation requirements to determine the grading level required to maintain satisfactory academic standing, for progression and graduation.

STUDENT EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

All JR Shaw School of Business students are required to possess a computing device, either a desktop or laptop, that will meet the minimum technology requirements. This will enable you to engage in our digital learning environment and to participate in online assessments. In addition to the minimum technology requirements, your computing device must also support both audio and video streaming technologies and, as a result, must include hardware (either internal or external) such as a microphone and webcam. A broadband (high speed) internet connection is also required.

Your computing device must meet the following minimum technology requirements:

Windows:

- Windows 10
- Processor: Intel i Series 4th Gen or Better or AMD Ryzen Series
- Memory: 4 GB RAM minimum, 8 GB RAM recommended
- Solid State Drive recommended or Hard Drive (minimum free space 15 GB)
- Display resolution: 1366 x 768 minimum, 1920 x 1080 recommended
- Wi-Fi connection: Wireless N, AC or better
- Antivirus Protection: Windows Defender and Windows Firewall are recommended to protect your device and are pre-installed on your Windows computer

Apple:

- Mac Hardware Requirements:
 - MacBook (Late 2009 or newer)
 - MacBook Pro (Mid 2010 or newer)
 - MacBook Air (Late 2010 or newer)
- MacOS High Sierra (10.13) or later
- Memory: 4 GB RAM minimum, 8 GB recommended
- Solid State Drive recommended or Hard Drive (minimum free space 15 GB)
- Antivirus Protection: No additional software is needed. Built-in firewall and security software available in System Preferences

Note: while tablets can support your learning, they are not recommended as a main device.

DELIVERY METHOD

This course will be taught using a variety of delivery methods which may include face-to-face, online, or blended teaching platforms. Collaborative exercises/assignments, seminars, labs, discussion, audio/visual presentations, case studies, and other such activities may be used to support learning.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

It is expected that students will be responsible citizens of the Institute by following the Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy (SR 1.0). As such, each student will assist in the preservation of Institute property, and assume responsibility for their education by staying informed of and abiding by academic requirements and policies; demonstrating respect toward others; and meet expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

EQUITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT

NAIT is committed to advancing equity and to actively and intentionally creating learning environments that promote a sense of belonging and dignity that ensure all people are safe, respected and valued. Acknowledging that every member of the NAIT community has a role in and responsibility to this work, NAIT provides the resources and support necessary for programs, departments and individuals to champion equity, diversity and inclusion and address barriers in meaningful ways.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At NAIT, we honour and acknowledge that the land on which we learn, work and live is Treaty Six territory. We seek to learn from history and the lessons that have come before us, and to draw on the wisdom of the First Peoples in Canada. Only through learning can we move forward in truth and reconciliation, and to a better future together.

Leadership Review Date: October 28, 2021

Changes to This Course Outline: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this course outline is accurate at the time of publication. The Institute reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.

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