

Prepared by the Department of Language and Literature
Date of Department Approval: February 13, 2017
Date Approved by Curriculum and Programs: February 22, 2017

Effective: Fall 2017

1. **Course Number:** ENL108
Course Title: Critical Reading and Thinking
2. **Description:** This course guides students to enhance their comprehension of written, spoken, and visual information by improving their critical thinking abilities. Through practicing habits of mind to strengthen analytical and reasoning skills, students learn to form well-supported arguments, draw thoughtful conclusions, make responsible decisions, and transfer acquired skills to their academic, professional, and personal life.
3. **Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students are able to do the following:
 - Develop and articulate personal critical thinking processes and metacognition - thinking about thinking
 - Use critical thinking process to recognize, comprehend, read, and express clearly and cogently.
 - Master methods to acquire, understand, and evaluate information to construct sound oral and written arguments
 - Differentiate between facts, opinions, and assumptions
 - Draw inferences from written, oral, and graphic sources
 - Apply logic and reasoning to identify faulty arguments
 - Identify their own points of view and others' points of view
 - Build awareness of local, national, and global responsibilities needed to contribute responsibly to society
 - Evaluate and make decisions based on sound reasoning, ethical concepts, and principles
 - Use current technology to acquire, understand, and evaluate information
4. **Credits:** 3 credits
5. **Satisfies General Education Requirement:** Humanities and Fine Arts
6. **Prerequisite:** ENL025 (Reading & Writing Essentials) or satisfactory basic skills assessment score
7. **Semesters Offered:** Fall, Spring
8. **Suggested General Guidelines for Evaluation:** The primary components determining the final grade may include class participation, written class work, completion of assignments, quizzes, exams, attendance, and an exit interview. Standard letter grades are awarded as outlined in the College Catalog.
9. **General Topical Outline:**
 - Establishes dispositions/habits/attitudes for critical thinking
 - Practices metacognition/reflection
 - Learns observation skills
 - Uses word precision
 - Understands author/speaker's intended meaning
 - Distinguishes between facts, ideas, opinions, & inferences
 - Analyzes written/spoken/visual material
 - Evaluates written/spoken/visual material
 - Detects fallacious reasoning
 - Looks at material from multiple perspectives/points of view