

Critical Thinking

CSU General Education Breadth Requirements

In critical thinking courses, students will understand logic and its relation to language; elementary inductive and deductive processes, including an understanding of the formal and informal fallacies of language and thought; and the ability to distinguish matters of fact from issues of judgement or opinion. In A3 courses, students will develop the abilities to analyze, criticize, and advocate ideas; to reason inductively and deductively; and to reach well-supported factual or judgmental conclusions.

Critical Thinking and Composition

IGETC Standards 2.3

The second semester of English composition adds a requirement of critical thinking taught in a variety of disciplines which provide, as a major component, instruction in the composition of substantial essays and require students to write a sequence of such essays.

Instruction in critical thinking is to be designed to achieve an understanding of the relationship of language to logic, which should lead to the ability to analyze, criticize, and advocate ideas, to reason inductively and deductively, and to identify the assumptions upon which particular conclusions depend. The minimal competence to be expected at the successful conclusion of instruction in critical thinking should be the ability to distinguish fact from judgment, and belief from knowledge; to use elementary inductive and deductive processes; and to recognize common logical errors or fallacies of language and thought.

Guiding Notes for General Education Course Review

CSU GE Breadth Area A	IGETC Area 1
<p>A3 Critical Thinking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• courses in critical thinking, <u>not</u> writing• no minimum word count• courses include explicit instruction and practice in inductive and deductive reasoning and identification of formal and informal fallacies of language and thought• literary criticism courses are typically not accepted in this area	<p>1B Critical Thinking and Composition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• must have prerequisite of English Composition (course that satisfies English 1A)• written work evaluated for both composition and critical thinking• minimum 5,000 words of writing is required• texts chosen should reflect an awareness of cultural diversity