

COMM-128: CRITICAL THINKING: ARGUMENTATION AND DEBATE

Effective Term

Fall 2023

BOT ApApbl

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| 7. 8. | Critically evaluate oral and written persuasive discourse. | SU |
| 8. | Foster the use of critical thinking skills in oral and written communication. | |
| 9. | Apply the principles of argumentation, debate, and advocacy. | |

Course Content

1. Critical thinking — arguments
 - a. Methods of critical inquiry, reasoning.
 - b. Advocacy and argumentation techniques
 - c. The role of value propositions and the need to address value conflicts; ethics in argumentation.
 - d. The role of Fact propositions. Distinguishing facts from inferences, and possibility from probability.
 - e. The role of policy propositions and distinguishing between inductive, and deductive arguments.
2. Deductive arguments:
 - a. Syllogisms
 - b. Validity and truth
 - c. Logical fallacies
3. Inductive arguments:
 - a. Statistical generalizations
 - b. Scientific method
 - c. Arguments from authority
 - d. Causation
4. Critical analysis of oral and written arguments
 - a. Analyzing required components to meet prima facie burdens.
 - b. Analyzing quality of evidence used to support claims.
 - c. Analyzing source credibility
 - d. Analyzing traditional forms of argumentation, and logic.
 - i. Support assumptions
 - ii. Premises and conclusions
 - iii. Deduction and Induction
 - iv. Informal fallacies
 - e. Considering the implication of rhetorical appeals to emotion (pathos).
 - f. Denotation and connotation
 - g. Vagueness and ambiguity
 - h. Metaphor
 - i. Style
5. Research skills ra
6. Critical writing
 - a. Writing briefs for propositions of fact, value, and policy applying evidence to support claims.
 - b. Analyzing and critiquing debates.
7. ~~8.~~ Presentation skills a

Methods of Instruction

Author

Rybacki, D. & Rybacki, K

Title

Advocacy and opposition: An introduction to argumentation.

Edition/Version

7th

Publisher

Pearson

Year

2012

