Course: **Critical Thinking for Business Professionals**

Contact Hours: **10**

Pre-requisite: **None**

Abstract

This course will expose participants to a proven process for critical thinking. The skill learned can be used in a professional environment or in one's personal life and can lead to better decision making.

Target Audience

Managers, professionals, students and anyone interested in making better decisions.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this course, learners will be able to:

1. Explain what is critical thinking.
2. Describe the process and key elements of critical thinking.
3. Identify reasons and conclusions in an argument.
4. Recognise the different patterns of reasoning.
5. Identify underlying assumptions in an argument.
6. Describe the context of an argument.
7. Apply a thinking map to facilitate the reasoning process.
8. Apply a process of clarifying and interpreting expressions and ideas.
9. Evaluate reasons, claims and creditability of sources of information.
10. Analyse the validity of an argument based on inferences and other considerations.

Course Content

Learning Outcome 1: Explain what is critical thinking
- The "Question Words" of critical thinkers
- The Elements of thought
- Critical Thinking Skills

Learning Outcome 2: Describe the process and key elements of critical thinking
- Critical Thinking Process
- Judging an Argument
- Active Reading

Learning Outcome 3: Identify reasons and conclusions in an argument.
- Elements of Reasoning
- Identifying reasons and conclusions in an argument
- The language of reasoning

Learning Outcome 4: Recognise the different patterns of reasoning.
- Different patterns of reasoning
- Hypotheticals
- Arguments versus explanations
- Reasoning Questions

Learning Outcome 5: Identify underlying assumptions in an argument.
- Explicit versus Implicit Assumptions

Learning Outcome 6: Describe the context of an argument.
- Context of an Argument

Learning Outcome 7: Apply a thinking map to facilitate the reasoning process.
- The Thinking Map Method

Learning Outcome 8: Apply a process of clarifying and interpreting expressions and ideas.
- Clarifying Ideas Skillfully

Learning Outcome 9: Evaluate reasons, claims and creditability of sources of information.
- Acceptability Questions
- Different kinds of Claims
- Acceptability of Claims
- Credibility of Sources

Learning Outcome 10: Analyse the validity of an argument based on inferences and other considerations
- The concept of inferences
- Test for a good inference
- Evaluating Arguments
- Identifying other relevant considerations