

EDUCATION 497-4

Special Topics: Critical Thinking

Regular Summer Semester, 1990  
(May 7 - August 3)  
Tuesdays, 5:30 - 9:20 P. M.  
Location: MPX 9511

Instructor: Brian Tucker

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**PREREQUISITE:** EDUC 401/402 or equivalent. Students may not take EDUC 483-8 and 497-4 for credit.

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. To encourage increased understanding of the concept of critical thinking.
2. To examine some pedagogical, curricular, and political implications of teaching for critical thinking.
3. To examine and assess two teaching for critical thinking approaches: informal logic, and reading, writing, thinking strategies.

**OUTLINE OF TOPICS:**

1. Logic and informal logic.
2. Critical Thinking: Knowledge and Attitudes.
3. Critical Thinking and Language.
4. Critical Thinking and Cooperative Learning.
5. Summary: Conceptions of Critical Thinking (mid-term exam).
6. Reading/Writing/Thinking Strategies.
7. Testing for Critical Thinking.
8. Political Implications of Teaching for Critical Thinking.

**TYPICAL REQUIREMENTS:**

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| 1. Participation and Seminar Presentation | 20% |
| 2. Mid-Term Exam                          | 30% |
| 3. Term Paper                             | 50% |

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Moore, B. N. and Parker, R. (1986). Critical Thinking: Evaluating Claims And Arguments in Everyday Life. Palo Alto: Mayfield Publishing Ltd.

Siegel, Harvey. (1988). Educating Reason: Rationality, Critical Thinking and Education. London: Routledge.

**RECOMMENDED TEXT:**

Brownlie, Faye, Close, Susan, and Wingren, Linda. (1988). Reaching for Higher Thought: Reading Writing Thinking Strategies. Edmonton: Arnold Publishing Ltd.