

## Core Competency Critical Thinking Rubric

### Critical Thinking Outcome:

Students will be able to recognize assumptions, their underlying values, as well as assess and develop arguments.

Criteria	Advanced 4	Proficient 3	Developing 2	Beginning 1
<b>Recognize assumptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consistently identifies and explains appropriate assumptions that lead to proper conclusions</li> <li>- Consistently identifies and explains and/or does not use assumptions that lead to problematic conclusions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Identifies preponderance of reasons/evidence that support the conclusion</li> <li>-Recognizes logical thread of the argument (skeleton)</li> <li>-Able to explain the soundness or strength of the argument</li> <li>-Can explain why the argument is deductive and/or inductive and assess the strength of the argument</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exhibits some evidence of identifying assumptions that lead to proper conclusions</li> <li>- Exhibits some evidence of identifying assumptions that lead to problematic conclusions</li> <li>- Tacitly accepts assumptions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Confuses conclusion for premises</li> <li>-Does not understand how the evidence is used to support the argument</li> <li>-Cannot identify fallacious arguments</li> <li>-Cannot distinguish inductive from deductive reasoning</li> </ul>
<b>Recognize values that motivate the background for the assumptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Able to identify and evaluate all the relevant motivating factors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Able to identify the subtle as well as the obvious motivating factors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Able to identify the obvious motivating factors</li> <li>-Able to identify biases and/or loaded language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Occasionally reflects on the motivation underlying the assumptions</li> <li>-Occasionally identifies motivating factors</li> </ul>
<b>Assess arguments (someone else(s))</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Analyzes the quality of the evidence being used</li> <li>-Recognizes multiple lines of reasoning that support the argument</li> <li>-Explains why argument is deductive and/or inductive and is able to explain why one is better in this situation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Engages the issue with an appropriate logical reason</li> <li>-Lack of fallacies</li> <li>-Is able to present either a deductive argument or an inductive one for this situation, but not both</li> <li>-The argument exhibits coherent logical structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Correctly identifies proper parts and/or type of argument</li> <li>-Correctly identifies some reasons/evidence that support the conclusion</li> <li>-Recognizes fallacies</li> <li>-Recognizes whether the argument is sound or strong</li> <li>-Can distinguish a deductive argument from an inductive one</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Confuses conclusion for premises</li> <li>-Does not understand how the evidence is used to support the argument</li> <li>-Cannot identify fallacious arguments</li> <li>-Cannot distinguish inductive from deductive reasoning</li> </ul>

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<b>Develop a counter-argument (own position)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Synthesizes relevant knowledge to form a cogent argument</li> <li>-Able to present both a deductive and inductive argument for this situation</li> <li>-Argument is well-developed, well-reasoned, and justified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Engages the issue with an appropriate logical reason</li> <li>-Lack of fallacies</li> <li>-Is able to present either a deductive argument or an inductive one for this situation, but not both</li> <li>-The argument exhibits coherent logical structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Recognizes the issue and can justify their position regarding that issue by providing premises that support their conclusion</li> <li>-Knows the main distinction between a deductive argument and an inductive one, but still blurs the two</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Recognizes the issue but cannot identify supporting reasons for their conclusion/point of view</li> <li>-Relies on fallacious forms of reasoning</li> <li>-Cannot distinguish an inductive argument from a deductive one</li> </ul>