



# Critical Thinking

**Course #:** PD-100

**Duration:** 2 days

## Prerequisites

None

## Details

Dive into an enlightening exploration of critical thinking, a skill paramount to professional success and personal growth. You will explore topics such as schemata, open-mindedness, and cognitive biases, gaining a profound understanding of how our perceptions shape our thoughts.

The course then moves on to more complex topics such as reasoning, validity versus soundness of arguments, logical thinking, and common logical fallacies. You'll learn to practice active listening, ask probing questions, and effectively organize and evaluate new information. We'll also explore essential characteristics of effective critical thinkers, including objectivity, discipline, humility, and emotional intelligence.

Join us to further equip yourself with the skills to navigate the complexities of today's world as a confident, discerning, and adept critical thinker.

## Software Needed

None

## Outline

- **Introduction to Critical Thinking**
  - What is Critical Thinking?
  - Non-Critical vs. Critical Thinking
  - Schemata
  - Left-Brain vs. Right-Brain Thinking
  - What is System 1 and System 2 Thinking?
    - System 1 Thinking
    - System 2 Thinking
    - Critical Thinking = System 2 Thinking
  - Whole-Brain Thinking
  - Common Critical Thinking Styles
- **Perspective and Bias**
  - What is Bias?
  - Cognitive Biases
    - Confirmation Bias
    - The Halo Effect
    - Anchoring Bias

- Availability Heuristic
  - Other Types of Bias
- Open-Mindedness
- Ways to Reduce Bias
- Implicit Association Test
- **Reasoning and Assumptions**
  - Rationality vs. Dysrationalia
  - What is Reason?
  - Key Elements of Reasoning
  - Evidence
  - What is an Assumption?
  - Explicit vs. Implicit Assumptions
  - Properly Evaluating Assumptions
  - Validity vs. Soundness
  - Internal and External Barriers to Applying Reason
- **Logical Thinking and Fallacies**
  - What is Logic?
  - Reason vs. Logic
  - Three Main Types of Logic
  - Logical Fallacies
    - Ad Hominem
    - Red Herring
    - Slippery Slope
    - Straw Man
    - Correlation Equals Causation
    - False Dichotomy
    - Other Logical Fallacies
  - Emotional Appeals and Logical Fallacies
- **Active Listening and Questioning**
  - Understanding Active Listening
  - Benefits of Active Listening
  - Suspending Assumptions
  - Sending Good Signals to Others
  - Becoming a Better Listener
- **Critical Thinking Model**
  - Identify the Issues
  - Identify the Arguments
  - Clarify the Issues and Arguments
  - Check for Consistency
  - Establish Credibility
  - Establish Context
  - Evaluate Arguments
- **Characteristics of Critical Thinkers**
  - Objectivity
  - Seeing the Big Picture
  - Discipline
  - Humility
  - Emotional Intelligence
  - Self-awareness
  - Persuasiveness