

Introduction to Critical Thinking and Reasoning

Do you ever say 'I think' when you haven't thought? Most people understand the importance and value of effective thinking, but how many of us have actively developed our ability to think and reason critically? Effective thinking and reasoning supports and develops our ability to question the status quo, be creative and solve real-life problems. This course gives delegates a simple introduction to critical thinking and practical reasoning.



Learning how and when to think critically is a fundamental and necessary skill for all decision-makers, with highly successful business leaders and renowned experts regularly highlighting the importance of these skills. Throughout all aspects of our lives, we need to evaluate the reasoning behind our own and others' thoughts, beliefs and arguments, and this course provides an excellent opportunity to learn and develop these vital skills.

'Learn to use your brain power. Critical thinking is the key to creative problem-solving in business'
Richard Branson

Who needs this qualification?

Most people are born with the capacity to think and reason critically and effectively, but few have nurtured and developed this innate ability. This course is ideal for anyone who needs to make important decisions at work. In most workplaces, business leaders and managers are required to make decisions, solve

problems, and develop/implement strategies and initiatives. Technical knowledge and experience are necessary components of good decision-making, but without the ability to think and reason critically, those elements will only take us so far. If you make decisions or need to evaluate your own arguments or those of others, this course is a great place to start that process

Course content

- Barriers to thinking and reasoning
- The standard form of argumentation
- Logical fallacies
- Inductive, adductive and deductive reasoning
- Cognitive biases
- Intellectual humility and how it impacts the quality of our decisions
- Introduction to our unique critical thinking tools and how to use them
- Introduction to collaborative approaches to critical thinking and reasoning

Introduction to Critical Thinking and Reasoning

On completion of the course, delegates will be able to:

- Recognise and change unhelpful and habitual barriers to effective thinking and reasoning
- Recognise the difference between arguments and non-arguments
- Evaluate their own and other's arguments
- Recognise faulty reasoning and logical fallacies
- Understand and adopt strategies to reduce the impact of cognitive biases
- Apply reasoning tools in real-life situations
- Recognise what we know and the value of that knowledge

Facilitation

This course involves a dialectic approach to developing critical thinking and reasoning skills. It will be delivered through a combination of facilitation methods, including facilitator presentation, group discussion, individual and group thinking and reasoning exercises.

Certification

Upon completing this course, delegates will receive an 'Introduction to Critical Thinking and Reasoning' certificate. Each delegate will receive a workbook and course manual. This course can be delivered as an in-house training course, or we have open course dates at our venue in Dorset.

