UGED1810A Critical Thinking 批判思考

The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Department of Philosophy

Course Overview

The course aims to provide basic training in critical reasoning. It acquaints students with the methodology that serves as the foundation of independent thinking. Students will be encouraged to reflect on the use of language and its bearing on clear thinking. They will also learn how to extract, construct, and evaluate arguments; how to identify common fallacies and cognitive biases, and how to think critically about the issues they come cross in real life and in their studies.

Learning Outcomes

- Acquire analytic skills and a critical disposition.
- Reflect on various linguistic features.
- Grasp the central concepts in logic.
- Recognize valid argument forms.
- Identify, classify, and assess arguments in different contexts.
- Spot fallacies and cognitive biases in ordinary life.

Topics

- Analysis of language
- Basic logic
- Identification and evaluation of argument
- Deductive reasoning
- Inductive reasoning
- Fallacies
- Cognitive Biases

Course Schedule

No.	Date	Topic	Remarks
1	7/9	What is critical thinking	
2	14/9	Meaning of language	
3	21/9	Use of language	
4	28/9	Basic ideas of logic	
5	5/10	Argument identification	
6	12/10	Argument evaluation	
7	19/10	***Midterm Quiz***	
8	26/10	Deductive reasoning	
9	2/11	Deductive reasoning	
10	9/11	Inductive reasoning	
11	16/11	Fallacies	
12	23/11	Cognitive Biases	
13	30/11	***Final Exam***	

Recommended Learning Resources

Primary

1. Lau, Joe Y. F. (2011). *An Introduction to Critical Thinking and Creativity: Think More, Think Better*. Hoboken, N.J: Wiley.
2. 貝剛毅，2014，*思方導航*（第四版），匯智出版

Secondary

- Weston, Anthony (2009). *A Rulebook for Arguments* (4th ed.). Indianapolis: Hackett Pub.
- Hurley, Patrick (2015). *A Concise Introduction to Logic* (12th ed.). Australia ; Stamford, Ct.: Cengage Learning.
- Bowell, Tracy & Kemp, Gary (2010). *Critical Thinking: A Concise Guide* (3rd ed.). Routledge.
- Copi, Irving & Cohen, Carl & McMahon, Kenneth (2014). *Introduction to Logic* (14th ed., International Edition). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education.
- Hausman, Alan & Kahane, Howard & Tidman, Paul (2010). *Logic and Philosophy* (11th ed.). Boston, MA: Thomson Wadsworth/Cengage learning.
- Kahneman, Daniel (2011). *Thinking Fast and Slow*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Learning Activities and Workload

- Lecture (2 hours for each lecture)
- Reading and exercise (2-3 hours per week)

Assessment Scheme

Task Nature	Description	Weight
Participation	In-class discussion	10%
Midterm Quiz	In-class exam	40%
Final Exam	In-class exam	50%

Lecturer

Name	HUNG, Chi-Ho
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Details of Course Website

Lecture notes and information on tutorial assignments and examinations will be posted on Blackboard learn.

Feedback for Evaluation

Students are strongly encouraged to provide feedback on the course via email or meetings with lecturer. Students evaluate the course through a survey and written comments at the end of the term as well as via regular feedback between teacher and students. This information is highly valued and is used to revise teaching methods, tasks, and content.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/. With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration. For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.