

Capital University of Economics and Business

Overseas Chinese College

Course Syllabus

<u>Year and Semester</u>	2024 Fall Semester
<u>Course Name</u>	明辨性思维 (Critical Thinking)
<u>Course Code</u>	临班 13
<u>Course Type</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> General Education (Required) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Education (Elective) <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Course (Required) <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Course (Elective) <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Disciplinary Course
<u>Course Credits</u>	2
<u>Course Hours</u>	34
<u>Prerequisites</u>	None
<u>Instructor</u>	Li Xianfeng (Mark Li)
<u>Contact Information</u>	Office: C205, Huaqiao Building Tel: 13661341032 Email: lixianfeng@cueb.edu.cn
<u>Office Hour</u>	M.13:30-15:05; W. 15:25-17:00; F. 9:55-11:30
<u>Learning Centre</u>	M. 15:25-17:00; 18:00-20:00 on line
<u>Grade/Section</u>	CUEB Undergraduates
<u>Course Time/Place</u>	TH. 13:305-15:05 pm. / 626, Boxue Building
<u>Textbook</u>	

Brooke Noel Moore/Richard Parker *Critical Thinking* 12th Edition McGraw-Hill Education
International Edition ISBN:978-0-07-131531-9

Reference Book

Brooke Noel Moore/Richard Parker *Critical Thinking* 10th Edition China Machine Press
ISBN:978-7-111-48565-0

Course Description

The course is designed for CUEB undergraduates ranging from the second semester of freshmen to the first semester of seniors. It is one of the most unique mind-training courses for students of higher learning. Facts and scientific research have soundly proven that those students in western universities or colleges, regardless of their majors, either in science or arts, business or medicine, benefit a lot for the course in developing their mindset and critical thinking abilities.

- This course aims to train students' thinking skills
- Help the students use critical thinking to develop reasoning skills while make wise decisions.
- Improve students' sense of critical thinking in learning the major courses.

- Group work, discussion and debates are included for a deep understanding of the knowledge.
- After learning this course, students should apply the critical thinking skills into their learning and daily life.

Student Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, the students should be able to

- ✧ Define the fundamental and important concepts of Critical Thinking including logic and rhetoric;
- ✧ Classify and summarize the major logic fallacies in daily use;
- ✧ Apply critical thinking knowledge to reading, writing and decision making for the learning and future careers;
- ✧ Examine the deeply-hidden fallacies in verbal and written discourses;
- ✧ Evaluate and judge the credibility of the above-mentioned discourses;
- ✧ Identify the flaws in the arguments and information for a clear opinion and solution;
- ✧ Utilize critical thinking to direct thinking patterns and behaviors in communication, collaboration and team work in life, career and social environment.

Teaching Methods

This course contains lectures, class discussions, homework, quizzes, presentation and exams. Textbook content will be introduced first. Then real case and practice questions will be delivered to students as a way to test their understanding of the knowledge. This will require individual or group assignment in or after class.

Grade Criterion

Component	Weight	Description
Final Exam	20%	An open-book final examination will be given based on all of the contents of the class. The exam paper may be composed of multiple-choice questions, short answer questions, essay questions, problems, and preparation of financial statements. Students should rely primarily on homework assignments to give them a sense of what they may see for material on exams.
Mid-Term Test	20%	An open-book midterm test will be given based on all of the contents that have been taught in class. The test paper may be mainly composed of multiple-choice questions and it should be completed within 15 minutes in class.

Daily Performance	50%	Homework & Assignments 40% Learning Attitude & Participation 10%
Attendance	10%	Refer to the attendance policy listed below
Total	100%	

Exam Schedule

Midterm Test: Oct. 31, 2024 (tentative)

Final Exam: Dec. 26, 2024 (tentative)

Assessment of Student Performance

☞ Self-Study and Reading ability Practice

Instructor will give out the chapters or the reference books to read and use class hours to have discussion; students should be able to show a proactive attitude and ability for self-study and reading. Knowledge and oral English will be elements of homework or presentation score.

☞ Homework

Students should finish their homework by themselves. Copying from others will be treated as cheating and the homework scores will be lowered. Students should hand in all assignments on time. Late assignments will be accepted at the discretion of the instructor (i.e., when the student was ill or had an excused absence). **Late assignments without reasonable proof will be reduced in score by 50%.**

☞ Attendance

Because the course covers a great deal of material, attending every class session is very important for performing well.

- ♦ Being late for 15 minutes or more is considered an absence.
- ♦ 1 lecture or above of unexcused absences will result in the lower level of the final grade by one grade band (e.g. from C – to D +). Any excused absence must be discussed directly with the teacher.
- ♦ Absence of 10 class hours which is more than 1/3 of the total teaching hours will cause an F (a failing grade) directly. But students are welcome to continue attending classes.
- ♦ An incomplete grade (I) will be considered in case of medical or family emergencies.

☞ Participation

- ♦ Students should participate in classes actively. They are encouraged to ask questions relevant to the subject and express their own opinions. Every student should respect the ideas, opinions, and questions of their classmates.
- ♦ Students should also use office hours to ask questions or talk with the instructor for good communication and effective learning.
- ♦ Frequent visiting the instructor and chatting in English during office hours is highly recommended.
- ♦ Any misbehavior and non-class related activities in class will result in the lower level of the participation grade, including ringing cell phones.
- ♦ All above behaviors will be solely evaluated by the instructor for scoring.

☞ Textbook

Students must bring the textbook to class.

Topical Course Outline

Week	Date	Topics	Homework
1	Sep. 05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction to Syllabus ● Chapter 1 Don't Believe Everything You Think <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Beliefs and Claims 2. Objective Claim v. Subjective Claim 3. Fact v. Opinion 	1. Review what have been delivered 2. Homework on Xuexitong
2	Sep. 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 4. Argument ● 5. Premise & Conclusion ● 6. Fact or Argument 	Homework on Xuexitong
3	Sep. 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter 2 Two Kinds of Reasoning <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deductive Arguments 2. Valid argument & Sound argument 3. Unstated argument & Universal argument 	Homework on Xuexitong
4	Sep. 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 4. Inductive Arguments <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Features of deductive and inductive argument 5. How to Distinguish Deductive and Inductive Arguments 	Homework on Xuexitong
5	Oct. 03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National Holiday 	No Class
6	Oct. 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter 3: Clear Thinking, Critical Thinking, and Clear Writing <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vagueness 2. Ambiguity Semantic Ambiguity, Grouping Ambiguity, Syntactic Ambiguity 3. Generality 	Homework on Xuexitong
7	Oct. 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter 3: Clear Thinking, Critical Thinking, and Clear Writing <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defining Terms 2. Kinds of Definitions Definition by example, Definition by synonym, Analytical definition 3. Writing Argumentative Essays 	Homework on Xuexitong
8	Oct. 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter 5: Rhetoric, the Art of Persuasion <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rhetorical Devices I Euphemisms and Dysphemisms, Weaselers, Downplayers 	Homework on Xuexitong
9	Oct. 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Midterm Test 	Open-book (tentative)
10	Nov. 07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter 5: Rhetoric, the Art of Persuasion <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rhetorical Devices II Stereotypes, Innuendo, Loaded Questions 2. Exercises Page 140 – 141 3. Rhetorical Devices III Ridicule/Sarcasm, Hyperbole 4. Rhetorical Devices IV 5. Rhetorical Definitions, Rhetorical Explanations 6. Rhetorical Analogies, Misleading Comparisons 7. Proof Surrogates and Repetition 	Homework on Xuexitong

11	Nov. 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter 6: Relevance (Red Herring) Fallacies <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Argumentum Ad Hominem Poisoning the well, Guilt by Association, Genetic Fallacy, 2. Straw Man 3. False Dilemma (Ignoring Other Alternatives) The Perfectionist Fallacy, The Line-Drawing Fallacy 	Homework on Xuexitong
12	Nov. 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter 6: Relevance (Red Herring) Fallacies <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Misplacing the Burden of Proof 2. Begging the Question 3. Appeal to Emotion Argument from Outrage, Scare Tactics, Appeal to Pity, Other Appeals to Emotion 4. Irrelevant Conclusion 	Homework on Xuexitong
13	Nov. 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter 7: Induction Fallacies <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Generalizations Generalizing from Too Few Cases (Hasty Generalization), Generalizing from Exceptional Cases, Accident 2. Weak Analogy 3. Mistaken Appeal to Popularity Mistaken Appeal to Common Practice, Bandwagon Fallacy 	Homework on Xuexitong
14	Dec. 05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter 7: Induction Fallacies <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fallacies Related to Cause and Effect Post Hoc, Ergo Propter Hoc; Cum Hoc, Ergo Propter Hoc 2. Slippery Slope 3. Untestable Explanation General Review 	Homework on Xuexitong
15.	Dec. 12	● Introduction to Critical Thinking Part, GMAT	Exercises
16	Dec. 19	● Summary & Review	Self-study
17	Dec. 26	● Final Examination	Open-book (tentative)

Note: Some chapters or sections may leave for self-study, this is the students' duty to learn and understand, they may also be included in the quizzes or exams.
 A review in Chinese may be held during L.C. and O.H. in the semester.

Teacher's Office Hour

- ◆ The instructor's office hour is shown in the front of the office door.
- ◆ Students are suggested to use the instructor's office hour and learning center to ask questions or talk with the instructor once at least per week for good communication and effective learning, which is recorded in the students' participation.
- ◆ The time can be scheduled by instructors or students, or both.

Cheating and Plagiarism

Cheating is not tolerated. Any student caught cheating on a quiz; test or exam will be given a mark of zero (0) for the particular work. At the beginning of the semester the definition of plagiarism will be carefully explained, when any thoughts or writings of another person are used, they must be clearly identified (usually one uses quotation marks) and the source notes. **If any student is caught cheating on any**

homework assignment, the highest score the student can earn in that course is a "C".

Important Dates

Midterm Test	Week 9 or 10
Final Exam	Week 17 (Refer to the notice of the CUEB Academic Affairs Office)

Note: This syllabus is tentative and may be changed or modified throughout the semester. All students will be notified and a new syllabus will be given.

Instructor: 李险峰

Department Head: 张薇

