



Critical Thinking

Syllabus

III 2.8

MBA 544

Specialty: 073 “Management”

Educational program “Business Administration”

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Course Description

Critical thinking is the analysis of information to form a judgement, propose an action or predict an outcome. It involves crafting relevant questions to be answered and effective actions to be taken to analyze an issue, take a decision, implement an idea, better predict future outcomes.

Critical Thinking involves differentiating between useful and useless information, between appropriate and inappropriate methodologies, and between relevant and irrelevant analyses. It involves identifying and understanding significant interrelationships and causalities, affecting the question, idea or proposed actions. It helps in identifying and mitigating fraud.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

PH.1. Critically comprehend, select and use the necessary scientific, methodological and analytical tools for management in unpredictable conditions.

PH.2. Identify problems in the organization and justify methods of solving them.

PH.10. Demonstrate leadership skills and ability to work in a team, interact with people, influence their behavior to solve professional problems.

PH.4. Substantiate and manage projects, generate business ideas.

PH.13. Be able to plan and implement information, methodological, material, financial and personnel support of the organization (unit).

Competences:

CK1. Ability to choose and use concepts, methods and tools, including in accordance with defined goals and international standards;

CK7. Ability to develop projects, manage them, show initiative and entrepreneurship;

3K6. Ability to generate new ideas (creativity);

3K7. Ability to abstract thinking, analysis and synthesis.

Internationality: The international aspect of the course includes:

- study of theoretical and practical aspects of critical thinking using international and national cases as examples.
- obtaining systematic knowledge about the construction of logical statements, sound decisions in international business;
- analysis of factors of national and international levels that influence the formation of critical thinking, science and pseudoscience;
- study of the experience of foreign companies, decision-making organizations as a result of the development of critical thinking.

Communications

For individual issues, students should contact the professor **ONLY** by given e-mail or by Moodle. In the Subject line they should put: UACUFirstNameLastName. E-mail messages will normally be answered within 24 hours.

Note! Only emails sent from the student's corporate email address will be answered.

Student Responsibilities

Time Commitment

The study of technical courses is cumulative (i.e., an understanding of earlier material is necessary to grasp concepts covered later). Past experience has shown a high correlation between procrastination and low grades. Students must be committed to completing tasks on time.

Technical Aspects

The student is obliged to provide himself/herself with all the necessary technical equipment for the educational process (laptop or computer, webcam, headsets or headphones and microphone), as well as access to the Internet.

Note: Only students signed-in with their own first and last name are allowed into video lectures in Zoom.

Grading Policy

The course is based on mastery of course outcomes. Student grades for this course will be calculated based on performance.

Note: the minimal grade to pass a subject is 70%.

Graduate Grading Guidelines

The assignment of a letter grade for a course is an indication of the student's overall success in achieving the learning outcomes for the course. The course letter grade may be viewed as a summary statement of the student's achievement in individual assessments (assignments & activities). These assessments are intended to identify for students their strengths as well as those areas in need of improvement. Student work is assessed according to the guidelines below.

Course-level Grading guidelines:

Grade	ECTS Grade	International Grade
90% - 100%	A	5 (Excellent)
83% - 89%	B	4 (Very Good)
75% - 82%	C	4 (Good)
70% - 74%	D	3 (Good)
35% - 69%	FX	Not acceptable, possible repetition of course

Criteria for grading:

ECTS grade	Requirements for the student
A	The student demonstrated a comprehensive systemic and in-depth knowledge of program material; processed basic and additional literature; obtained a solid grasp of the conceptual apparatus, methods, techniques and tools provided by the program; found creative abilities in the presentation of the educational program material both on this issue and on related modules of the course and related courses, or the student had a current control of 90-100 points
B	The student demonstrated good knowledge of program material; processed the basic literature, mastered the conceptual apparatus, methods, techniques and tools provided by the program, but with some inaccuracies
C	
D	The student showed mediocre knowledge of the core program material; learned information mainly from a lecture course or just one textbook; mastered only certain methods, techniques and tools provided by the program
E	
FX	The student has significant gaps in knowledge of the main program material; fragmentary mastered the basic concepts, techniques and tools; significant mistakes are made when using them

Maximum total possible points – 100 points incl.

Test / Assignment / Project – 60 points (several times during the course)

Final exam – 40 points

Student Workload

It is assumed that for each out of 6 class sessions a student spends about 10.5 academic hours of work. This includes 3.5 academic hours of lectures with the instructor and 7 academic hours of personal work. Personal work includes the lecture scope study and supplements, preparation for the practical seminars, providing group and individual researches and preparing essays and/or presentations.

Please pay attention that 1 academic hour equals to 40 minutes.

Assignment Format

- All work should be shown in time. If the student misses the deadline – the task is failed.

- The Final exam covered all course material and included multiple choice questions and cases (essays). It lasts for 1.5 hours. Admission to the Final exam is possible only if all the tasks of the curriculum are covered.

- After the Final was graded, a student has access to the grade only. Access to the attempt, corrects answers and information whether the answer is correct cannot be granted.

Academic dishonesty

Academic integrity is submitting one's own work and properly acknowledging the contributions of others. Forms of academic dishonesty include:

1. **Plagiarism** — submitting all or part of another's work as one's own in an academic exercise such as an examination, a computer program, or written assignment.
2. **Cheating** – using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on an examination or assignment, such as using unauthorized texts or notes or improperly obtaining (or attempting to obtain) copies of an examination or answers to an examination.
3. **Facilitating Academic Dishonesty** – helping another commit an act of dishonesty, such as substituting for an examination or completing an assignment for someone else.
4. **Fabrication** – altering or transmitting, without authorization, academic information or records.

Any violation of these rules constitutes academic dishonesty and is liable to result in a failing grade and disciplinary action. In case of any academic dishonesty a student is not allowed to continue or retake the assessment activity and for the Final the unsatisfactory grade (“0”) is assigned for the course total. Cases of the academic dishonesty are not considered by the Academic Council.

Final are valid only if they are taken on-campus (room defined by the dean's office) and on UACU's computer/laptop or online on the student's computer/laptop using Zoom and other conditions defined by the dean's office to avoid the cases of academic dishonesty. Students who will not meet this requirement will be expelled from the course with grade “0”.

In case of missed Final exam (for a valid reason like sickness or an emergency) a request to repeat the exam is possible. Permit to repeat a midterm or final exam is done through a letter to the dean's office with request and approval of subject lecturer.

Submission or retaking of any assessment activities after deadlines are forbidden.

Submission & Return Policy

Assignments must be submitted to the professor on or before the due date indicated in the Course Schedule. The assignments submitted after the due dates receive zero points.

****** NO MAKE –UP QUIZZES AND EXAMS ******

Schedule

Week #	Research Projects	Assignments Due	Points
Lecture 1	Nature and peculiarities of critical thinking Definition of critical thinking. Benefits of critical Thinking. Barriers to Critical Thinking. Basic Concepts.	Review Lecture Assignments	15
Lecture 2	The Critical Thinking Tool Set Characteristics of a Critical Thinker. Logical Fallacies. - Fallacies of Relevance - Fallacies of Insufficient Evidence	Review Lecture Assignments, applications and examples	15
Lecture 3	Logic and Arguments When an argument has different meanings. Categorical Logic. Propositional Logic.	Review Lecture Case study	15
Lecture 4	Reasoning	Review Lecture	15

	Inductive reasoning and strength. Deductive reasoning and validity.	Case study	
Lecture 5	Finding, Evaluating, and Using Sources. Science and Pseudoscience Finding Sources. Evaluating Sources. Taking Notes. Using Sources. How to Distinguish Science from Pseudoscience.	Review Lecture, Case study Student Presentations of the Project	
	Project defence + Final (6th class) 40% out of total amount of points for the course	Student Presentations of the Project Final	20 20

Recommended Materials

Main book:

1. Critical thinking : a student's introduction / Gregory Bassham, William Irwin, Henry Nardone, James M.Wallace – 6th ed., NY. – 2019.

Additional Reading Materials:

2. Critical Thinking for Students 4th Edition: Learn the Skills for Analysing, Evaluating and Producing Arguments. - London, United Kingdom. – 2010. – 128 p.

** The above schedule and procedures are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.*

Протокол засідання кафедр № 4 від 23.08.2022 року

Проректор з навчально-методичної роботи



Л.І.Кондратенко

Завідувач кафедри



Л.В.Жарова

Викладач



Н.М.Чаплинська