



## Aims

This subject is designed to take students from many backgrounds and language settings and give them the skills necessary to successfully study a range of subjects at an Australian university. Critical thinking specifically addresses learning areas to assist students who have had little exposure to western style education and whose first language is not English. To this end, students are taught concepts and methodologies that promote the development of independent analytical thinking skills via lecture listening, note taking and interactive tutorial style classes.

## Learning outcomes

After successfully completing this unit students should be able to:

- > identify and use the skills of argument and reasoning
- > clearly communicate arguments and positions
- > identify strengths, weaknesses and fallacies in arguments
- > diagram arguments and plan essays
- > assess and evaluate sources for argumentative credibility
- > obtain, critically analyse and evaluate information from a variety of sources
- > develop and understanding of deductive arguments, inductive argument and abductive arguments
- > write and present information to meet a range of academic requirements.
- > systematically plan and produce a capstone research project

## Prerequisites and assumed knowledge

There are no prerequisites or assumed knowledge for this subject.

## Subject content

Week	Topic and assessment schedule
1	Orientation week
2 – 8	Argument parts, categorical reasoning and Venn diagrams
9 – 11	Propositional reasoning and truth tables
12 – 13	Soundness and CE by Scenario
Break	
14	Types of writing
15 – 17	Argument mapping
16	Review test
17 – 18	Exam Week
19 – 20	Applied critical thinking
Break	
21 – 24	Metacognition
25 – 26	Induction and scientific reasoning
29	Inference to the best explanation
30	Report planning and writing
Break	
31 – 35	Research project
36	Review Test. SWOTVAC
37 – 38	Exams
39	Graduation and transcript collection
40	End of course



## Assessment

General weightings for each assessment item are outlined below

Assessment item	Weighting	Due dates
<b>Semester 1</b>		
Test 1 Argument parts	2%	Week 3
Test 2 Categorical arguments	4%	Week 6
Test 3 Venn diagrams	5%	Week 9
Test 4 Truth tables	5%	Week 12
Test 5 Soundness and CE by Scenario	5%	Week 13
Test 6 Types of writing	5%	Week 14
Test 7 Argument mapping	5%	Week 15
Test 8 Review	9%	Week 16
Mapping/Planning assignment	5%	Week 17
Attendance and effort	5%	
<b>Semester 2</b>		
Metacognition assignment Class participation	5%	Week 21
Induction test	8%	Week 25
IBE report	9%	Week 29
Project presentation	2%	Week 30
Project report	12%	Week 30
Review test	9%	Week 36
Attendance and effort	5%	