



Critical Thinking

course syllabus for the academic year 2024/2025

Basic information	<p>Meeting times & place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">In-person, every Wednesday 12-14, room 117, WEiTI building. <p>Instructor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Antonio Vassallo, PhDEmail: antonio.vassallo@pw.edu.plOffice hours: Wednesday 10-11:30, room 506, Noakowskiego building.Contact also available via MS Teams (personal chat + course team)
Brief course description	<p>The course presents an extensive introduction to the foundations of critical thinking, with an emphasis on how it impacts both scientific research and everyday life. The course will provide the students with the analytical tools needed to develop arguments and evaluate their strength. In the end, the students will be able to assess the fairness of any debate and elaborate the appropriate arguments to win it.</p>
Assessment criteria	<p>40% Active participation during classes. 60% Written test.</p>
Course content	<p>The course topics are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Propositions.Argument Analysis.Fallacies.Categorical Propositions.Categorical Syllogisms.Reasoning with Syllogisms.Inductive Generalizations.Argument by Analogy.
Tentative source materials and other references (subject to	<ul style="list-style-type: none">D. Kelley – "The Art of Reasoning." Norton & Company Inc., 2014A. Thomson – "Critical Reasoning." Routledge, 2009.W. Sinnott-Armstrong, R.J. Fogelin – "Understanding Arguments." Wadsworth, Cengage Learning, 2010.

changes)	
Teaching and learning methods	During each class, the students will learn different techniques for the elaboration of rational arguments, especially in response to a dialectical challenge. The students will also be asked to solve a number of exercises that will train their critical thinking skills. A written wrap-up test will be given to the students at the end of the course to assess their overall progress.