



## UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

### BEL313: INTRODUCTION TO CRITICAL THINKING

<b>Course Name (English)</b>	INTRODUCTION TO CRITICAL THINKING <b>APPROVED</b>
<b>Course Code</b>	BEL313
<b>MQF Credit</b>	3
<b>Course Description</b>	This course is designed to develop the students' ability to think clearly, logically and critically in a wide range of situations. It focuses on the basics of critical thinking and the key elements of argument. They will be taught how to evaluate information, establish facts, make assumptions and inference, form opinions and develop arguments.
<b>Transferable Skills</b>	<p>Generic Transferable Skills (Applicable to all ELC/EWC codes) Additional Transferable Skills (May apply to certain ELC/EWC codes)</p> <p>Demonstrate ability to identify and articulate self skills, knowledge and understanding confidently and in a variety of contexts. Demonstrate practical and contemporary knowledge of relevant professional, ethical and legal frameworks.</p> <p>Demonstrate ability to manage personal performance to meet expectations and demonstrate drive, determination, and accountability. Demonstrate ability to apply creative, imaginative and innovative thinking and ideas to problem solving. Demonstrate ability to communicate clearly and confidently, and listen critically Demonstrate ability to investigate problems and provide effective solutions.</p> <p>Demonstrate ability to socialize with people from different walks of life. Demonstrate ability to analyse issues/problems from multiple angles and make suggestions. Demonstrate enthusiasm, leadership and the ability to positively influence others. Demonstrate ability to work professionally and contribute positively in a team. Demonstrate maturity of thoughts when responding to multiple inputs and contexts.</p>
<b>Teaching Methodologies</b>	Lectures, Problem Based Learning (PBL), Discussion, Small Group Sessions
<b>CLO</b>	CLO1 Identify basic concepts and terminology in arguments CLO2 Recognise elements of language in texts that shape thought CLO3 Evaluate arguments CLO4 Develop arguments and counter arguments
<b>Pre-Requisite Courses</b>	No course recommendations
<b>Topics</b>	
<b>1. Understanding the basic concepts of critical thinking and argument</b> 1.1) Reasons 1.2) Contention 1.3) Objections 1.4) Simple Arguments	
<b>2. Recognising elements of language in texts that shape thought</b> 2.1) Lexical and syntactic ambiguity 2.2) Persuasive language	
<b>3. Evaluating arguments</b> 3.1) Distinguishing inductive and deductive reasoning 3.2) Distinguishing fact from opinion 3.3) Identifying premises and conclusions 3.4) Recognising fallacies 3.5) Recognising rhetorical ploys	

**4. Developing arguments and counter-arguments**

4.1) Structuring arguments based on research

4.2) Refuting arguments in the written and oral forms

Assessment Breakdown	%
Continuous Assessment	70.00%
Final Assessment	30.00%

Details of Continuous Assessment	Assessment Type	Assessment Description	% of Total Mark	CLO
	Assignment	Listing 5 examples of contentions and 5 examples of objections taken from multiple sources (Pair Work)	20%	CLO1 , CLO2
	Assignment	Writing a paper of between 500-800 words based on secondary research. (Individual)	20%	CLO2 , CLO3 , CLO4
	Attendance	Fulfilling the attendance and submission of assignments on time.	10%	
	Discussion	A forum presentation with members presenting opposing views (Group Work)	20%	CLO3 , CLO4

Reading List	Recommended Text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cottrell, S. 2005, <i>Critical Thinking Skills</i>, Macmillan New York</li> <li>Butterworth, J. and Thwaites, G. 2005, <i>Thinking Skills.</i>, Cambridge University Press.</li> </ul>
	Reference Book Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Andolina, Michael. 2001, <i>Critical Thinking for Working Students.</i>, Albany, NY: Delmar</li> </ul>
Article/Paper List	This Course does not have any article/paper resources	
Other References	This Course does not have any other resources	