

# Critical Thinking Outcomes

## Student Leader Learning Outcomes (SLLO) Project

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### **Definition Of Critical Thinking:**

“...mode of thinking about any subject, content, or problem in which the thinker improves the quality of his or her thinking by skillfully taking charge of the structures inherent in thinking and imposing intellectual standards upon them.”

“Critical thinking is self-directed, self-disciplined, self-monitored, and self-corrective thinking. It presupposes assent to rigorous standards of excellence and mindful command of their use. It entails effective communication and problem solving abilities and a commitment to overcome our native egocentrism and sociocentrism.”

[Taken from The Foundation for Critical Thinking ([www.criticalthinking.org](http://www.criticalthinking.org))]

### **Consideration:**

There will be key communication points throughout a critical thinking process. Look for the ability to articulate logical and reasonable arguments, consider the ideas and perspectives of others, and synthesize multiple perspectives.

### **Outcomes:**

Students will be able to:

- Identify a problem
- Analyze the elements/facts of a specific situation/problem
- Communicate the important elements/issues
- Gather relevant situational information
- Interpret information effectively relative to the problem
- Establish relevant criteria and standards for acceptable solutions
- Develop alternatives to address criteria
- Clarify assumptions
- Predict implications and consequences
- Construct well-reasoned solutions/conclusions
- Support conclusions with fact
- Communicate decisions (and throughout the process)
- Use a process to make a decision

### **Other Useful Rubrics Related to This Topic:**

Project Management, Fiscal Responsibility

### **Rubric Component Were Adapted And/Or Taken From:**

- The Foundation for Critical Thinking ([www.criticalthinking.org](http://www.criticalthinking.org))

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### Notes:

#### Critical Thinking Outcomes for the Corps of Cadets Leadership Program:

A cultivated critical thinker

- Raises vital questions that are clearly formulated and precise
- Gathers and assesses relevant information
- Comes to well-reasoned conclusions
- Thinks open-mindedly
- Examines implications and practical consequences

Process: Method for attainment of accuracy, precision, consistency, relevance, sound evidence, good reasons, depth, breadth, and fairness in thought

### Resources:

- Definitions:
  - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Critical\\_thinking](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Critical_thinking)
- Online Resources
  - The Foundation for Critical Thinking  
<http://www.criticalthinking.org/>
  - Critical Thinking on the Web  
<http://www.austhink.org/critical/>
  - Strategies for Success: Critical Thinking  
<http://www.accd.edu/sac/history/keller/ACCDitg/SSCT.htm>
  - Study Guides and Strategies: Thinking Critically  
<http://www.studygs.net/crtthk.htm>
- Books
  - Moore, B. N. & Parker, R. (2005). *Critical thinking*. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill.

### AggiEfolio Competencies That This Rubric Addresses:

*To set up a free AggieEfolio account, please visit <https://career180.tamu.edu/portfolio/>*

#### Cluster 1: Problem Solving and Thinking Skillfully

- Solving Problems and Decision Making
- Creative Thinking
- Reading Ability
- Observation Skills
- Analyzing Critical Data

#### Cluster 2: Communicating Effectively

- Basic Communication Skills
- Oral Communication Skills
- Written Communication Skills

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- Listening Skills

- Interpersonal Skills

Cluster 3: Applying Technology

- Skills Related to Technology Uses

Cluster 4: Working Responsibly

- Personal and Professional Ethics

- Supporting Diversity

Cluster 6: Managing Resources

- Using Reference Materials Appropriately