

CRITICAL THINKING & PROBLEM SOLVING RUBRIC

Competency in critical thinking is a student's ability to analyze and organize information, recognize and use unique ideas, use problem-solving strategies, and/or develop creative responses.

Scores should be assigned for all applicable skills dimensions outlined below. If the parameters of the assignment used to measure this student learning outcome do not offer the opportunity to demonstrate a given performance criterion, a score of N/A should be recorded.

ISLO 1	4 Exemplary	3 Accomplished	2 Developing	1 Beginning
1a: Identify & Explain Issues in Context Interpret, analyze, and assess available evidence, information, and ideas	Clearly identifies and thoroughly summarizes main issues or problems in relation to relevant contexts; successfully explains why and how they are problems or questions; and identifies embedded or implicit issues, addressing their relationships to each other.	Clearly identifies and summarizes the main issues or problems in relation to relevant contexts, but does not explain why or how they are problems or create questions.	Identifies main issues or problems, but not in relation to relevant contexts, or does not explain them clearly or summarize sufficiently.	Inaccurately identifies the main issues or problems, or inappropriately represents them in relation to relevant contexts.
1b: Evaluate Implications & Consequences Explore implications, inferences, assumptions, and alternate solutions	Identifies and thoroughly assesses important implications and consequences, considering all relevant contexts, options, and evidence.	Identifies and assesses important implications and consequences, considering most but not all relevant contexts, options, and evidence.	Identifies some implications and consequences, but only partially assesses them with unclear, underdeveloped, or incomplete consideration of context, options and evidence.	Misidentifies implications and consequences or does not assess them or consider the key relationships between the elements of the issue or problem (context, options, and evidence).
1c: Formulate Conclusion(s) Construct and defend logical conclusions that are firmly supported by sufficient and relevant evidence	Formulates a clear and precise personal point of view that offers a logical solution or conclusion that is firmly supported by the evidence.	Formulates a clear personal point of view that offers a reasonable solution/ conclusion that is adequately supported by the evidence.	Formulates a vague or indecisive point of view that offers a functional but underdeveloped or ineffective solution or conclusion due to insufficient support from the evidence.	Formulates a point of view but offers an unclear, unconvincing, or inappropriate solution or conclusion based on the evidence.
1d: Consider Alternate Perspectives/Solutions Formulate creative solutions in consideration of and in response to relevant contexts, opinions, opposition	Acknowledges both major and minor objections, fairly considers rival positions, and thoroughly assesses the strengths and weaknesses of alternate solutions and conclusions.	Identifies major objections, fairly represents rival positions, and competently assesses the strengths and weaknesses of alternate solutions and conclusions.	Anticipates minor but not major objections and rival positions, or unfairly considers weak but not strong alternative solutions or conclusions. Attempts to assess their strengths and weaknesses are only partially effective or incomplete.	Does not anticipate relevant objections or unfairly represents rival positions. Attempts to assess alternate solutions or conclusions are minimal or absent.