

Critical Thinking in the Healthcare Sector

14 – 18 June 2027
Lisbon (Portugal)

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Introduction

Critical Thinking has become an essential professional skill in sensitive environments where decisions must be made with accuracy, clarity, and a deep understanding of available information. As workplace conditions grow more complex and responsibilities become more demanding, individuals must be capable of evaluating data objectively, identifying underlying issues, and responding to challenges with balanced and well-reasoned actions. The ability to apply Critical Thinking allows professionals to interpret situations more precisely, reduce errors, and make decisions that support stability, safety, and overall performance.

This course provides a comprehensive approach to understanding and applying Critical Thinking in daily professional tasks. It introduces participants to structured methods for analyzing situations, recognizing cognitive biases, evaluating evidence, and understanding the difference between assumptions and facts. Through practical exercises, case-based discussions, and guided analysis, the course strengthens the ability to process information logically and make decisions that align with professional standards and organizational goals.

Designed for individuals working in environments that require careful judgment, attention to detail, and the ability to manage uncertainty, this program equips participants with tools that enhance clarity of thought, support effective communication, and improve the quality of professional interaction. By the end of the course, participants will be able to analyze situations more effectively, manage complex challenges with confidence, and adopt a more systematic approach to decision-making.

Course Objectives

This course aims to reinforce practical Critical Thinking skills by enabling participants to:

- Understand the concept of Critical Thinking and its role in sensitive professional environments.
- Recognize the key components of Critical Thinking and how they support decision-making.
- Analyze information from multiple sources and assess its reliability.
- Identify personal biases and understand how they influence judgment.
- Differentiate between factual information and subjective opinions.
- Formulate meaningful questions that reveal hidden or overlooked details.
- Interpret data and evidence objectively to reach accurate conclusions.
- Apply structured methods for analyzing complex problems.
- Evaluate various alternatives before selecting the most appropriate decision.
- Strengthen independent thinking and reduce reliance on assumptions or emotional reactions.

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A graphic of a chessboard with several chess pieces. In the foreground, a gold king piece stands prominently. Behind it, a silver pawn and a gold pawn are visible. The chessboard is set against a background of concentric circles, suggesting a strategic or analytical theme.

Course Outlines

Day One: Foundations of Critical Thinking and Core Components

- Introduction to Critical Thinking and its professional importance.
- Characteristics of a critical thinker.
- Differences between emotional thinking and analytical thinking.
- Identifying problems accurately in sensitive environments.
- Understanding common thinking patterns and how to improve them.
- Initial assessment to determine current Critical Thinking abilities.

Day Two: Information Analysis and Evidence Evaluation

- Gathering information from diverse and reliable sources.
- Standards for assessing accuracy and credibility.
- Methods for dealing with conflicting information.
- Distinguishing raw data from interpretations.
- Tools for analyzing information objectively.
- Practical exercises on evaluating real examples of evidence.

Day Three: Identifying Biases and Logical Errors

- Understanding cognitive and emotional biases.
- Recognizing common logical errors in reasoning.
- Strategies for reducing the influence of assumptions.
- Case examples illustrating how biases affect decisions.
- Reassessing previous decisions to identify hidden biases.
- Group discussion to improve clarity and correct faulty reasoning.

Day Four: Analytical Problem-Solving

- Steps for analyzing complex, multi-layered problems.
- Developing practical solutions based on structured analysis.
- Comparing potential solutions and selecting the best option.
- Evaluating risks associated with different decisions.
- Applying Critical Thinking techniques in sensitive scenarios.
- Practical case analysis requiring analytical judgment.

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A graphic illustration of a chessboard with several chess pieces. In the foreground, a gold king piece stands prominently. To its left, a silver pawn and a silver knight are visible. The background shows concentric circles emanating from behind the king piece, suggesting a strategic or analytical theme.

Day Five: Decision-Making and Professional Judgment

- Building balanced and well-reasoned decisions.
- Understanding factors that influence decision quality.
- Anticipating consequences before executing decisions.
- Creating strategies for improving future decision-making.
- Final group exercise to demonstrate analytical skills.
- Comprehensive scenario requiring full Critical Thinking application.

Why Attend This Course: Wins & Losses

Wins Benefits

- Improved ability to analyze sensitive situations with clarity and precision.
- Enhanced decision-making based on logic and structured reasoning.
- Greater awareness of hidden details and overlooked information.
- Stronger ability to evaluate data for accuracy and reliability.
- Reduced influence of personal and cognitive biases.
- More effective problem-solving skills using systematic approaches.
- Improved professional communication through clearer reasoning.
- Fewer errors in judgment due to improved analytical skills.

Training Methodology

The course relies on a blended training design combining theory and practical application:

- Clear explanations of Critical Thinking principles and frameworks.
- Individual exercises to strengthen independent analysis.
- Group discussions to explore different perspectives.
- Case studies drawn from realistic and sensitive professional scenarios.
- Structured analytical tasks focusing on evaluating information.
- Self-assessment tools to monitor individual progress.
- A final applied project demonstrating full integration of course skills.

Conclusion

This course provides a comprehensive and systematic approach to developing Critical Thinking in environments where careful analysis and informed decision-making are essential. Participants gain the ability to interpret information accurately, recognize bias, evaluate evidence, and make decisions that reflect clarity and professional judgment. Through a mixture of structured learning and applied exercises, the course strengthens the ability to think independently, manage complex situations, and build a more confident and analytical approach to professional responsibilities.

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By integrating the methods and tools practiced throughout the program, participants will be able to enhance their daily performance, reduce errors caused by rushed thinking, and contribute to a more effective and stable work environment. The skills developed in this course serve as a foundation for continuous improvement, enabling individuals to respond to future challenges with increased awareness, precision, and reasoning.

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