BLACKBIRD FOR TRAINING

Analytical and Critical Thinking Skills Advanced Course

4 – 8 January 2027
Cape Town (South Africa)

UK Traininig
PARTNER



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Ref: 321758_299053 **Date:** 4 – 8 January 2027 **Location:** Cape Town (South Africa) **Fees:** 4200 GBP

Introduction

Analytical and critical thinking are two essential cognitive skills that play a pivotal role in personal and professional success. While analytical thinking involves breaking down complex information into smaller components to assess and understand it, critical thinking involves evaluating the validity and reliability of that information before making decisions or judgments. Together, these skills enable individuals to think deeply, solve problems effectively, and make informed decisions.

In today's fast-paced and complex world, the ability to think analytically and critically is in high demand. This comprehensive one-week critical thinking training course will provide participants with the key techniques and methodologies to improve their critical thinking skills. By embracing open-mindedness, curiosity, and intellectual rigor, participants will learn to navigate challenges, avoid biases, and develop creative solutions in both personal and professional contexts.

Whether you're aiming to sharpen your cognitive abilities for career growth or seeking to improve your problem-solving approach, this course will help you develop a mindset that empowers you to think like a skilled and effective decision-maker.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Understand the difference between analytical and critical thinking and how they complement each other in problem-solving.
- Develop a structured approach to improve critical thinking and enhance strong analytical and critical thinking skills.
- Master the critical thinking steps to identify, assess, and solve problems effectively.
- Learn how to evaluate data carefully to make evidence-based decisions.
- Ask the right critical thinking questions to gain deeper insights and drive innovation.
- Utilize strategies for improving critical thinking and applying it to real-world situations.
- Develop a deeper understanding of the process of critical thinking and its role in decision-making.



Course Outlines

Day 1: Introduction to Critical Thinking

- Defining critical thinking and exploring its relevance in personal and professional contexts.
- Understanding the difference between analytical and critical thinking and how both contribute to effective problem-solving.
- The key elements and benefits of critical thinking.
- Developing a mindset conducive to critical thinking for career growth.
- Understanding how critical thinking goals can improve decision-making and drive innovation.

Day 2: Observing and Reframing

- Changing perspectives by defamiliarizing from existing knowledge and assumptions.
- Reframing problems to create innovative and creative solutions.
- The significance of precise problem statements in enhancing critical thinking.
- Learning how to focus and broaden understanding: zooming in and zooming out.
- Practicing the skill of observation using various analytical lenses for a well-rounded analysis.

Day 3: Asking Critical Questions

- The power of questioning in analytical and critical thinking.
- Different types of questions to achieve specific goals and provoke deeper thinking.
- Evaluating and critically analyzing data sources and methodologies.
- Shifting focus from “why” to “how” for more future-oriented thinking and proactive solutions.
- Applying rigor to curiosity and seeking insights through effective questioning techniques.

Day 4: Seeking Differing Perspectives

- Cultivating open-mindedness and embracing the potential for being wrong.
- Involving others to disrupt thinking patterns and overcome cognitive biases.
- Navigating constructive disagreement and learning from conflicting viewpoints.
- Strategies for empathetic listening and understanding diverse perspectives for well-rounded decision-making.
- Leveraging the power of differing perspectives to reach comprehensive solutions.



Day 5: Analyzing Information and Making Decisions

- Challenging certainty and exploring alternative possibilities in decision-making.
- Using integrative thinking to enhance problem-solving and leadership decisions.
- Overcoming biases and reevaluating prior assumptions to promote critical thought.
- Rational decision-making amidst uncertainty and ambiguity.
- Applying critical thinking skills to analyze information, weigh evidence, and make informed, evidence-backed decisions.

Why Attend This Course: Wins & Losses!

- Enhance your cognitive skills: Learn how to improve critical thinking skills and sharpen your ability to make informed decisions that drive success.
- Master the steps of critical thinking: Develop a strong understanding of critical thinking steps and analytical thinking processes to approach challenges strategically.
- Gain a competitive edge: Critical thinking certification will increase your professional credibility, demonstrating your ability to solve complex problems and make rational decisions.
- Innovative problem-solving: Cultivate an integrative approach to problem-solving, enabling you to come up with creative and innovative solutions to complex challenges.
- Avoid biases: Learn how to overcome cognitive biases and engage in evidence-based thinking to improve the quality of your decisions.

Conclusion

Critical thinking is essential for personal and professional development. Through this comprehensive training on analytical and critical thinking, you will not only sharpen your ability to analyze complex information but also develop the skills necessary to make well-informed decisions. This course will empower you with the tools needed to navigate uncertainties and become a skilled decision-maker.

Register now to unlock your full potential by mastering critical thinking techniques that will elevate your career and problem-solving abilities to the next level!

