Subject Designer: Dr Norva Y. S. Lo

Critical Thinking (semester 2 – fully online)

Subject Description & Aims

Thinking and reasoning are essential components of human life. But much of our thinking and reasoning is biased, distorted, and uninformed. Yet the quality of our life and that of what we produce, make or build depends precisely on the quality of our thoughts and reasons. This subject trains you to reason well, to think clearly and independently, and also to engage fairly with others in discussions and debates. You will develop useful skills in presenting, analysing and evaluating different types of arguments. You will learn to apply these skills to real cases from popular culture, current affairs, and philosophy. You will also learn to use diagrams and symbols to assist higher and more abstract levels of logical reasoning and systematic thinking. Because the ability to think and to argue clearly, logically, and fairly is central not just to philosophy, but to university studies in general and also to life long learning, many students find the experience gained in this subject immensely valuable, both within the university and later in employment whatever their subsequent areas of specialization.

Capabilities & Skills

The subject can help students develop the following range of capabilities and skills: (a) critical, logical, and systematic thinking, (b) creative problem solving, (c) clear and precise writing, (d) ethical and cultural awareness, (e) research and inquiry, (f) time management, (g) life long learning.

Learning Activities & Assessments

The subject is taught 100% online. There are no face-to-face classes. Online learning and assessment requirements are as follow.

- Study 12 weeks of **lectures** – PPT and MOV formats available to be studied as **slideshows** (at least 2 hrs/week)
- Study 12 weeks of **readings** (at least 2 hrs/week)
- Participate in 13 weeks of online **discussion forums** (at least 1 hr/week)
- Complete at least 9 (out of 12 available) weekly online **quizzes** (at least 1 hr/quiz, 9 x 5% = 45%)
- Complete exactly 4 (out of 12 available) weekly online **short questions** (at least 1 hr/short question, 4 x 5% = 20%)
- Take 1 online **exam** (35%)

Things to do	*Spend at least 5 hrs/week on the following*	*Complete at least 9 online Quizzes*	*Complete exactly 4 online Short Questions*	*Take 1 Online Exam*
TEACHING WEEKS		**DUE MONDAY 11.55.00 pm**	**DUE TUESDAY 11.55.00 pm**	**FRIDAY 1.00 – 4.15pm**
Week 1	Lecture 1 & Core Readings Discussion Forum 1			
Week 2	Lecture 2 & Core Readings Discussion Forum 2			
Week 3	Lecture 3 & Core Readings Discussion Forum 3	Quizzes 1 & 2 due Solutions to be released	Short Questions 1 & 2 due Solutions to be released	
Week 4	Lecture 4 & Core Readings Discussion Forum 4	Quiz 3 due Solutions to be released	Short Question 3 due Solutions to be released	
Week 5	Lecture 5 & Core Readings Discussion Forum 5	Quiz 4 due Solutions to be released	Short Question 4 due Solutions to be released	
Week 6	Lecture 6 & Core Readings Discussion Forum 6	Quiz 5 due Solutions to be released	Short Question 5 due Solutions to be released	
Week 7	Lecture 7 & Core Readings Discussion Forum 7	Quiz 6 due Solutions to be released	Short Question 6 due Solutions to be released	
Week 8	Lecture 8 & Core Readings Discussion Forum 8	Quiz 7 due Solutions to be released	Short Question 7 due Solutions to be released	
Week 9	Lecture 9 & Core Readings Discussion Forum 9	Quiz 8 due Solutions to be released	Short Question 8 due Solutions to be released	
Week 10	Lecture 10 & Core Readings Discussion Forum 10	Quiz 9 due Solutions to be released	Short Question 9 due Solutions to be released	
Week 11	Lecture 11 & Core Readings Discussion Forum 11	Quiz 10 due Solutions to be released	Short Question 10 due Solutions to be released	
Week 12	Lecture 12 & Core Readings Discussion Forum 12	Quiz 11 due Solutions to be released	Short Question 11 due Solutions to be released	
Week 13	Take Sample Online Exam Discussion Forum 13	Quiz 12 due Solutions to be released	Short Question 12 due Solutions to be released	
Week 15	Preparation for Exam			Online Exam
ASSESSMENT		5% per Quiz. Complete **at least 9**. Count 9 best scores.	5% per Short Question. Complete **exactly 4**. Count 4 scores.	1½ hrs + ¼ hr (reading time) + 1½ hrs (I.T. contingency time)
		45%	**20%**	**35%**