

**NorthWest Arkansas Community College**  
**Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Education and**  
**Wellness, Legal and Protective Services**

**PHIL 2403 (Critical Thinking)**

**Catalog Description:**

The critical thinking course is designed to help students hone their skills in assessing the evidence for the truth of a claim. These skills will require the use of basic logical rules and have students judging source reliability, interpreting testimony, finding hidden assumptions, tracing unforeseen consequences, and looking at many other factors. Students practice their critical thinking skills in class by applying them to a wide range of topics, including politics, the media, popular culture, and entertainment. The class also addresses common hindrances to successful critical thinking. Special attention is given to translating what is learned into general strategies, specific rules, and the use of critical thinking in students' own real world education and professional settings.

**Prerequisites:**

None.

**Credit Hours/Contact Hours/Load Hours:**

3/3/3

**Course Outcomes:**

- Locate the argument in a passage.
- Detect errors of reasoning and explain how the reasoning is in error.
- Engage in cogent and respectful discussion.
- Analyze specific arguments for consistency and credibility.
- Apply good reasoning to issues in professional and personal contexts.
- Evaluate evidence and make appropriate inferences from that evidence.
- Determine what evidence is necessary and know how to find that evidence, if possible.
- Construct and defend arguments in support of or in opposition to particular propositions.
- Analyze and solve complicated strategic challenges.