

Goal 2: Critical Thinking

Fall 2024

Method: Course-embedded assessment in general education courses designated for Goal 2, scored by course instructors using adopted rubric

N = 73

Rubric: Goal 2 Literature

The objectives within Goal 2 – Critical Thinking and Reasoning are nested in nature. Students can receive a maximum of 3 total points. Students receive a point for summarizing, a second for analyzing, and a third for formulating. These objectives are nested in nature such that students much be capable of summarizing an argument in order to analyze it and students much be capable of both summarizing and analyzing arguments in order to formulate one of their own. Precisely what it means to have successfully summarized, analyzed, and formulated an argument is specified in the below rubric.

Students will summarize the logical form of arguments	0/1
For a student to count as having successfully summarized an argument, they have	
to be capable of accurately identifying the premises and conclusion(s) of the	
argument, and the type of argument it is (e.g. deductive, inductive, abductive).	
Students will analyze the logical form of arguments	0/1
For a student to count as having successfully analyzed an argument, they have to	
be capable of sufficiently explaining how premises lead to conclusion(s); whether	
the argument is logically valid and sound; and - if not - whether the argument	
exhibits a common logical fallacy.	
Students will formulate precise, discursive arguments	0/1
For a student to count as having successfully formulated an argument, they have to	
be capable of logically utilizing premises to lead to a novel, well-supported	
conclusion, and display an understanding of why they think the argument is	
logically valid and sound.	

% Achieving Ratings of 0 in Each Category					
Rating	Ν	%			
Summarize	14	19.71%			
Analyze	27	36.98%			
Formulate	49	67.12%			

% Achieving Ratings of 1 in Each Category					
Rating	Ν	%			
Summarize	57	80.28%			
Analyze	46	63.01%			
Formulate	24	32.87%			

Method: Question on Graduate-to-Be survey (June - December 2024) regarding students' perceptions of how well their undergraduate coursework developed their ability to do critical analysis.

December 2024

	Great Deal	Much	Somewhat	Little	Very Little
Critical Analysis	48.51%	34.47%	13.62%	1.70%	1.70%