

## Evidence for ILO #2: Cognition

Think independently, creatively, and critically in order to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate ideas and information.

- CCSSE survey questions about critical thinking (Michael Carley)
  - The Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) asks several questions that are directly related to our critical thinking ILO. And, we have data that allow us to compare ourselves to other small colleges and to the entire 2017 CCSSE cohort.
  - There is a series of questions (#11) that ask “How much has your experience at this college contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas.” Of these, question 11d is the one that most applies to critical thinking. Here is the % of students who answered "Quite a bit" or "Very much".

	Small PC	2017 Colleges	2017 Cohort
11d Thinking critically and analytically	79.6%	71.5%	70.4%

- And, there is a series of questions (#5) that ask “During the current academic year, how much has your coursework at this college emphasized the following mental activities?” Of these, five questions seem to apply to critical thinking. Here is the % of students who answered "Quite a bit" or "Very much".

	Small PC	2017 Colleges	2017 Cohort
5b Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory	74.3%	68.0%	69.2%
5c Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	71.9%	67.2%	67.3%
5d Making judgments about the value or soundness of information, arguments, or methods	62.5%	55.4%	55.9%
5e Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	61.3%	60.6%	60.3%
5f Using information you have read or heard to perform a new skills	68.6%	66.6%	65.2%

- Success rates up in our critical thinking area courses
  - English 101B
  - Philosophy 107
  - Communication 105
- More students are completing educational plans (Primavera)
- More students are taking workshops/surveys (Primavera)

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- Student-Centered Teaching Workshop (the training that all instructors who teach English 101AX undergo) emphasizes teaching methods that integrate critical and creative thinking into all aspects of English 101AX (Ann Marie)
- “The Learning Pit” (a metaphor for critical thinking) is referenced by students in course surveys (Ann Marie)
- Health careers— students complete assessments that show critical and creative thinking, evaluating ideas and information (Lupe)
- Critical thinking course for RN program (Lupe)
- Student learning support services (are they helping more students?) (Primavera)
  - Check with Ian who wrote a report about the PASS program
- Athletics— our student athletes are always thinking on their feet and need to make almost instant decisions that require complex thinking (Joe)
- Examples of instructors integrating critical thinking in all disciplines (Bob)
- Examples of instructors integrating creative thinking in courses where such thinking might be expected (Creative Writing, art), but also where it isn't expected (James)
- Critical thinking in Natural Science courses as demonstrated by use of the scientific method (Joel)
- Time management reflects critical thinking (Joe)
  - Workshops offered by JEC
- CHAP encourages critical thinking (Ann Marie)

## Implementation Plan for ILO #2: Cognition

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Action	Person(s) Responsible	Completion Date/Notes/ Progress Check-in Date
<p><b>FLEX presentation about critical thinking across the disciplines</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Introduction to how we will integrate assignments/activities across curriculum by sharing best practices in the classroom</li> </ul>	Kathryn Benander	<b>Completed</b> (FLEX fall 2019)
<p><b>Tie into Pirate Maps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provide tools to help students think critically about their pathway               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This can be accomplished through the onboarding process using web links, student journey maps, EAB, career assessment and DegreeWorks.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Guided Pathway Entry Team	Goal was vague. Revisit in the next assessment cycle.
<p><b>Tie into transfer assistance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Help students to think about their transfer choices from many angles               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Financial aid</li> <li>○ Life circumstances</li> <li>○ Support                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Tools--investigate own career by searching universities' websites to find information for the program needed to achieve the degree for their career.</li> <li>■ Communication</li> <li>■ Workshop</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Entry Team/ Transfer Coordinator	Goal was abandoned. Revisit in the next assessment cycle.
<p><b>Make a connection between critical thinking and parenting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Child Development classes</li> <li>● Child care</li> <li>● Handout for parents</li> </ul>	Mary Jo Jordan Karen Ball Diane Thompson	Goal was abandoned. Revisit in the next assessment cycle.

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<p><b>Get away from technology to promote independent and creative thinking</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assignments                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Identify assignments that require critical thinking</li> <li>○ Hands on activities, activities that require students to dwell on a topic, treasure hunt, etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Faculty sharing best practices                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Research types of activities to promote critical thinking</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Division Chairs	Goal was abandoned. Revisit in the next assessment cycle.
<p><b>Promoting classes in art/literature/music/etc. as a way to develop critical thinking</b></p>	Division Chairs	Goal was abandoned. Revisit in the next assessment cycle.
<p><b>Market critical thinking as a career skill</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Embed something into Pirate Maps and/or the onboarding process from employers that talks about the value of critical thinking                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ JEC</li> <li>○ Examples on how critical thinking is used in different fields through focus groups and employer videos.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Diane Thompson (JEC) (check back with Entry Team)	Goal was abandoned. Revisit in the next assessment cycle.