

Critical Thinking and Decision Making

Course Overview



Course Description

Although most leaders recognize the importance of critical thinking, decision making, and problem solving, surprisingly few have been formally trained in these skills. Nor do they recognize how much their individual attitudes, beliefs, and values influence the decisions they make daily.

To that end, this highly interactive course uses self-analysis, case studies, and group exercises to teach participants effective decision-making and problem-solving skills from a systems perspective. It also provides tips, tools, and techniques for thinking critically in the workplace.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this program, participants will be able to:

- Understand the subtle, but important differences between critical thinking, decision making, and problem solving;
- Distinguish between the three types of problems and then apply the three different approaches to solving each type;
- Leverage their decision-making strengths, while compensating for their associated weaknesses, as identified by the *Measuring Decision Style Survey*;

- Apply effective numerical decision-making techniques; and
- Engage in creative, systems-based approaches to decision making, problem solving, and strategic planning.

Key Topics Covered

This course explores the following in depth:

- Key Definitions: Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, and Decision Making
- Questions to Fire Up Our Critical-Thinking Skills
- How Attitudes, Beliefs, and Values Influence Our Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, and Decision Making
- The Three Types of Problems
- Three Types of Numerical Problem-Solving Techniques: Comparative Advantages, Anchor-Rating Scale, and Relative-Weight Scale
- Ten Considerations for Creative Problem Solving
- Obstacles to Effective Group Problem Solving and Decision Making
- Effective Brainstorming Techniques

For more information – or to schedule a workshop – please contact us today.



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