

## **CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS**

Throughout history, astute people have been concerned with the art and science of inquisitive thinking. In the 21st century, the ability to engage in reflective thought has been viewed as a fundamental characteristic of an independent person and as a skill for an increasingly wide range of jobs. As a result, this is a significant way to gain a competitive advantage in career and organization development. This seven-hour course takes critical thinking skills and techniques and makes them accessible to all employees.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion, participants will be better prepared to:

- Evaluate the reasoning in an argument and determine its validity
- Make complex decisions with more efficiency and effectiveness
- Make a multi-perspective view of an issue for better decisions
- Use creative thinking techniques to expand the possibilities of viable solutions

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

1. Overview
2. Thinking Map – An approach to critical thinking especially suited for evaluating the validity of statements and conclusions
3. Grid Analysis – An approach to decision making especially suited for evaluating complex situations involving many alternatives and factors
4. Lateral Thinking – An approach to organizational problems especially suited for breaking down “silo” thinking
5. Action Plan