YAŞAR UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF COMMON COURSES COURSE SYLLABUS						
Course Title	**Course Code**	**Semester**	**Course Hour/Week**		**Yaşar Credit**	**ECTS**
Critical Thinking Skills	UFND 3310	SPRING	**Theory** **2**	**Practice** **0**	2	2
Course Type						
1. Compulsory Courses						
1.1. Programme Compulsory Courses						
1.2. University Compulsory Courses (UFND)						**x**
1.3. YÖK (Higher Education Council) Compulsory Courses						
2. Elective Courses						
2.1. Program Elective Courses						
2.2. University Elective Courses						
3. Prerequisites Courses						
3.1. Compulsory Prerequisites Courses						
3.2. Elective Prerequisites Courses						

Language of Instruction	English
Level of Course	Associate Degree (Short Cycle) X Undergraduate (First Cycle) Graduate (Second Cycle) Doctoral Course (Third Cycle)
(compulsory)	
Special Pre-Conditions of the Course (recommended)	NA

Course Coordinator		Mail: Web page:
Course Instructors		
Course Assistant(s)/Tutor (s)		
Aim(s) of the Course	This course aims to develop students' ability to think critically and rationally by moving beyond habitual cognitive patterns. Students will learn the foundational skills, methods, and attitudes necessary to evaluate situations logically and draw well-reasoned conclusions. The course further seeks to enhance students' ability to approach academic, career-related, and personal challenges with clarity, creativity, and analytical precision. By engaging with real-life examples and current issues, students will be equipped to make informed, reflective decisions across multiple contexts.	
Learning Outcomes of the Course	Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to: 1. **Define** fundamental concepts and principles of critical thinking. 2. **Improve** decision-making processes by distinguishing between facts, assumptions, and arguments. 3. **Apply** logical reasoning methods to solve problems quickly and effectively. 4. **Use** analytical and creative thinking to generate evidence-based, reasoned solutions. 5. **Evaluate** academic and personal problems from multiple perspectives using critical reflection.	
Course Content	The course explores how underlying assumptions, cognitive biases, and learned justifications influence human thought and behavior. While such mental shortcuts may offer efficiency, they often hinder effective decision-making and personal growth. Through the development of critical	

	thinking skills, students will learn to identify, assess, and adjust these patterns. The course covers logical reasoning, argument analysis, and problem-solving techniques, enabling students to view complex situations from multiple perspectives and make decisions based on sound reasoning and evidence.

COURSE OUTLINE/SCHEDULE (Weekly)			
Week	**Topics**	**Preliminary Preparation (Readings)**	**Methodology and Implementation (Theory, practice, assignment etc)**
1	MODULE 1: Orientation Course Introduction, Objective and Expectations	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Theory
2	MODULE 1: Critical Thinking Methods - What is critical thinking - Types of critical thinking - The importance of critical thinking	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Theory
3	MODULE 1: Critical Thinking Methods - Concept of reasoning - Reasoning techniques - Thought experiments	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Theory
4	MODULE 2: Logical Thinking Skills - What is logic - Deductive and inductive reasoning - Relationship between critical thinking and logical reasoning	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Theory
5	MODULE 2: Logical Thinking Skills - Six Thinking Hats model - Illustration and application of the model	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Theory
6	MODULE 2: Logical Thinking Skills - Fuzzy logic model - Dialectical logic model	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Theory
7	MODULE 3: Cognitive and Psychological Biases and Prejudices - Cognitive biases - Everyday examples of cognitive biases - Barriers to critical thinking	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Theory
8	MODULE 3: Cognitive and Psychological Biases and Prejudices - Examples of psychological and environmental biases - Techniques for overcoming cognitive and psychological biases	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Theory
9	MODULE 4: Critical Thinking Skills - Generalization - Identification - Inference - Explanation - Self-assessment	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Assignment
10	MODULE 4: Critical Thinking Skills - Rashomon technique - 360-degree technique - Learning from others' stories	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Theory
11	MODULE 4: Critical Thinking Skills - Problem-solving techniques - Gathering and evaluating information - Assessing and using evidence - Reasoning and evaluating reasoning	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Theory
12	MODULE 5: Applying Critical Thinking Skills - Case study analysis - Applying critical thinking to the case	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Theory

	- Evaluation of the application		
13	MODULE 5: Applying Critical Thinking Skills - Starting from personal expectations - Evaluating personal expectations - Evaluating dilemmas in career and personal life	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Theory
14	MODULE 5: Applying Critical Thinking Skills - Analysis of art and culture - The impact and contribution of critically judging different art and cultural products to critical thinking	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Theory
15	MODULE 5: Applying Critical Thinking Skills - Critical thinking in science and philosophy - The role of critical thinking in scientific and academic research - General evaluation	Reading the recommended resources and monitoring of the suggested videos	Theory
16	Final Project Presentation	Assignment	Project

Recommended (additional) Course Material (s)/Reading(s)/Other **The major course materials will be uploaded to the Sakai platform in the module sections. However, if you would like to make further readings, you may find a list of the recommended materials here in this list:**	

ASSESSMENT		
Semester Activities/ Studies	**NUMBER**	**WEIGHT in %**
Mid – Term Exam (Test)		
Attendance		
Quiz		
Assignment (s)	1	40
Project	1	60
Laboratory		
Field Studies (Technical Visits)		
Presentation/ Seminar		
Practice (Laboratory, Virtual Court, Studio Studies etc.)		
Final Examination (Test)		
Other (Placement/Internship etc.)		
TOTAL		**100**
Contribution of Semester Activities/Studies to the Final Grade		40
Contribution of Final Examination/Final Project/ Dissertation to the Final Grade		60
TOTAL	.	**100**

CONTRIBUTION OF LEARNING OUTCOMES TO PROGRAMME OUTCOMES							
No	Programme Outcomes	Level of Contribution (1-lowest/ 5- highest)				
		1	2	3	4	5
1	To identify changes in the surrounding world and compare, question and interpret data during the formation and advocacy of thought and decisions.					X
2	To demonstrate skills in learning, critical thinking and reasoning about human behaviour and experiences.					X
3	To show ability of gathering information from many sources to present a conclusive argument.					X
4	To demonstrate competence in reading and evaluating original scientific papers				X	
5	To recognize the significance of lifelong learning and use the learning skills and competences that developed in this program in other areas of life				X	

6	To demonstrate informational competence and the ability to use computers and other information technologies for many purposes	X
7	To conduct a study/project independently or take charge in a teamwork and to take responsibility to formulate solutions for unpredictable, complex problems in the study/project	X
8	To conduct efficient communication in oral and written forms within multi-cultural business environments	X
9	To formulate distinctive strategies through project management and innovative problem-solving skills	X
10	To be sensitive to social and individual problems with high consciousness of social responsibility	X

ECTS /STUDENT WORKLOAD				
ACTIVITIES	**NUMBER**	**UNIT**	**HOUR**	**TOTAL (WORKLOAD)**
Course Teaching Hour (14 weeks* total course hours)	14	Week	2	28
Preliminary Preparation and finalizing of course notes, further self- study		Week		
Assignment (s)		Number		
Presentation/ Seminars		Number		
Quiz and Preparation for the Quiz		Number		
Mid- Term(s)		Number		
Project (s)	1	Number	10	10
Field Studies (Technical Visits, Investigate Visit etc.)		Number		
Practice (Laboratory, Virtual Court, Studio Studies etc.)		Number		
Final Examination/ Final Project/ Dissertation and Preparation	1	Number	12	12
Other (Placement/Internship etc.)		Number		
Total Workload				50
Total Workload/ 25				2
ECTS				**2**

STUDENT WITH DISABILITIES OR SPECIAL NEEDS
Students with disabilities or special needs are encouraged to contact the instructor and the Unit for Student with Disabilities (http://eob.yasar.edu.tr/) for academic adaptations.

ASSESSMENT and EVALUATION METHODS:	
Final Grades will be determined according to the Yaşar University Associate Degree, Bachelor's Degree and Graduate Degree Education and Examination Regulation.	
PREPARED BY	
UPDATED	
APPROVED	