Critical Thinking Definition
Approved APAC

Background:

What is Critical Thinking? This committee was tasked with coming up for a definition and a measurement for the university. The committee started the discussion about coming up with a definition that can applied across all the colleges. We started with a simple definition and the discussion expanded towards the measurement across general education. After some discussion – the committee voted unanimously to adopt this language for critical thinking and to begin to apply it to their disciplines.

Proposed Language by GenEdDRC:

*Critically thinking is the ability to arrive at a solution by using data and analysis to make logical connections between ideas.*

Suggestion from APAC members modified the language as listed below. There was unanimous approval from the committee for the modified definition. However, at subsequent APAC meeting there was a brief discussion about modifying the language as suggested by Dr. Aberdeen (SAC), but no overwhelming support from the committee to do so at this time. APAC members were instructed to inform their respective ACs about the new language to take into consideration as an overall guideline when reviewing and revising critical thinking (CT) PLOs.

*Approved Final Version:*

*Critically thinking is the ability to arrive at a solution and/or outcome by using data and analysis to make logical connections between ideas.*

This is effective 9/26/18.
MJR/APAC