

BUSN410

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

Course Summary

Course : BUSN410 **Title :** Critical Thinking Strategies for Business Decisions

Length of Course : 8

Prerequisites : N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description: This course provides students opportunities for analysis, synthesis, and application of critical thinking applied to decision making at all levels in an organization. This course equips students with critical thinking skills to identify problems utilizing rational decision making. Students learn to solve organizational problems and provide strategic direction based on critical thinking.

Course Scope:

Students taking this course will examine the decision making process, from problem formulation and identification to argument construction and support. The emphasis is on understanding the rudiments of a compelling idea that is communicated in a credible and persuasive manner. Critical thinking is central to the rational decision making that is common in business and in everyday life, and is the key to identifying beneficial choices and creating persuasive proposals. Students will focus on examining arguments, researching positions, and writing convincing articles.

Objectives

This course of instruction is intended to provide the student with a solid academic background to continue taking business courses, and for those students so inclined, the background needed to start, run, and grow successful ventures. Students will:

- CO-1 Examine the process involved with problem formulation.
- CO-2 Apply critical thinking to problem identification.
- CO-3 Describe techniques used in decision making.
- CO-4 Examine decision-making models.
- CO-5 Apply decision-making techniques.
- CO-6 Determine factors affecting decision implementation.
- CO-7 Evaluate resources and actions required for implementation.
- CO-8 Evaluate ethical implications of a decision.
- CO-9 Evaluate decision-making outcomes and processes.

Outline

Week 1:

Topic(s)

Critical Thinking: Perceptions And Decision Making Styles

Learning Objective(s)

LO1: Analyze the process involved with problem identification.

LO2: Apply critical thinking to problem identification.

Week 2:

Topic(s)

Language and Communication
Knowledge, Evidence, and Errors in Thinking

Learning Objective(s)

LO1: Analyze the process involved with problem identification.

LO2: Apply critical thinking to problem identification

LO3: Deconstruct techniques used in decision-making.

LO6: Assess barriers/risks to decision implementation

LO7: Evaluate resources and actions required for implementation.

Week 3:

Topic(s)

Recognizing, Analyzing, and Constructing Arguments

Learning Objective(s)

LO2: Apply critical thinking to problem identification

LO3: Deconstruct techniques used in decision-making

LO4: Examine decision-making models.

LO5: Apply decision-making techniques.

LO6: Assess barriers/risks to decision implementation

LO7: Evaluate resources and actions required for implementation.

Week 4:

Topic(s)

Midterm Exam

Learning Objective(s)

LO1: Analyze the process involved with problem identification.

LO2: Apply critical thinking to problem identification

LO3: Deconstruct techniques used in decision-making.
LO4: Examine decision-making models.
LO5: Apply decision-making techniques.
LO6: Assess barriers/risks to decision implementation
LO7: Evaluate resources and actions required for implementation.

Week 5:

Topic(s)

Proper Use of Statistics and Errors in Thinking

Learning Objective(s)

LO2: Apply critical thinking to problem identification
LO3: Deconstruct techniques used in decision-making.
LO4: Examine decision-making models.
LO5: Apply decision-making techniques.
LO6: Assess barriers/risks to decision implementation

Week 6:

Topic(s)

Implications of Decisions

Learning Objective(s)

LO2: Apply critical thinking to problem identification
LO5: Apply decision-making techniques.
LO6: Assess barriers/risks to decision implementation
LO7: Evaluate resources and actions required for implementation.
LO8: Evaluate ethical implications of a decision.

Week 7:

Topic(s)

Mass Media
Law and Politics

Learning Objective(s)

LO2: Apply critical thinking to problem identification
LO5: Apply decision-making techniques.
LO6: Assess barriers/risks to decision implementation
LO7: Evaluate resources and actions required for implementation.
LO8: Evaluate ethical implications of a decision.

Week 8:

Topic(s)

Final Exam

Learning Objective(s)

LO2: Apply critical thinking to problem identification

LO5: Apply decision-making techniques.

LO6: Assess barriers/risks to decision implementation

LO7: Evaluate resources and actions required for implementation.

LO8: Evaluate ethical implications of a decision.

Evaluation

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Forums	24.00 %
Plagiarism	2.40 %
Week 1 Introduction	2.40 %
Week 1 Forum	2.40 %
Week 2 Forum	2.40 %
Week 3 Forum	2.40 %
Week 4 Forum	2.40 %
Week 5 Forum	2.40 %
Week 6 Forum	2.40 %
Week 7 Forum	2.40 %
Week 8 Forum	2.40 %
Minor Assignments	8.00 %
Week 1	2.00 %
Week 2	2.00 %
Week 5	2.00 %
Week 6	2.00 %
Major Assignments	28.00 %
Week 3	14.00 %
Week 7	14.00 %
Exams	40.00 %
Midterm	20.00 %
Final	20.00 %

Materials

Book Title: Various resources from the APUS Library & the Open Web are used. Links provided inside the classroom in the Lessons section.

Author:

Publication Info:

ISBN: N/A

Web Sites

In addition to the required course texts, the following public domain web sites are useful. Please abide by the

university's academic honesty policy when using Internet sources as well. Note web site addresses are subject to change.

American Psychological Association (APA) Style Website	http://www.apastyle.org/
Purdue Online Writing Lab	https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/
YouTube Video on Formatting an APA Style Paper	http://youtu.be/9pbUoNa5tyY
Microsoft Office Training Website	http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/support/training-FX101782702.aspx

Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted as part of coursework to the School of Business.
- Please note that no formal citation style is required on forum assignments in the School of Business—only attribution of sources (please see details regarding forum communication below).

Tutoring

- [Tutor.com](http://www.tutor.com) offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

Late Assignments

- Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. The due date for each assignment is listed under each assignment.
- Generally speaking, if arrangements are not made in advance, a late penalty of 10% will be assessed for any assignment submitted 1-7 days past the due date. Assignments will not be accepted after the 7th day. No work will be accepted past the final day of class, unless prior arraigments have been made with the instructor.
- As a working adult, your time is limited and often out of your control. Faculty may be more flexible if they know ahead of time of any potential late assignments.

Turn It In

- Faculty may require assignments be submitted to Turnitin.com. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

Academic Dishonesty

- Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web

services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

Submission Guidelines

- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc). See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure the all submitted work can be accessed and opened by the instructor.

Disclaimer Statement

- Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of a particular group or class.

Communicating on the Forum

- Forums are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although there is a final posting day/time after which the instructor will grade and provide feedback, it is not sufficient to wait until the last day to contribute your comments/questions on the forum. The purpose of the forums is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.
- "Substantive" means comments that contribute something new and important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says "I agree" is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.
- As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each individual's own opinion. Hateful and hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.
- Students must post a response to the weekly forums prompt and post the required number of replies to other students – refer to the grading rubric and/or forum instructions for specific expectations on number of replies and word count requirements.
- The main response to the forum need to be provided mid-week – refer to the grading rubric and/or forum instructions for specific expectations. Late main response posts to a forum will not be accepted without prior instructor approval.
- Replies must be posted in the week due and replies after the end of the each week will not be graded.

Quizzes and Exams

- Quizzes and exams may consist of true/false, multiple choice, and short essay questions. Each quiz/exam is accessible only once. Once a quiz/exam is accessed, you will not be able to access it again if you disconnect. Therefore, allocate time to complete your quiz. Weekly quizzes must be submitted by midnight Eastern Time, Day 7 of the assigned week. Late quizzes or exams will not be accepted without prior instructor approval.

University Policies

[Student Handbook](#)

- [Drop/Withdrawal policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)

- [Appeals](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

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