

Student Learning Outcome (SLO) #4: Engage critically with creative or artistic works.

Definition: **Critical thinking** is a habit of mind characterized by the comprehensive exploration of issues, ideas, artifacts, and events before accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion. **Creative thinking** is both the capacity to combine or synthesize existing ideas, images, or expertise in original ways and the experience of thinking, reacting, and working in an imaginative way characterized by a high degree of innovation, divergent thinking, and risk-taking.

This SLO is met in the following General Education categories: D – Understanding and Creating Ideas – Courses in this category capture the process of imagination in the creation of aesthetic objects, environments, or experiences influencing and affecting one or more of the senses, emotions, and intellect. They also apply universal ideas through focusing on meanings of events and their impact on society, and exploring issues, artifacts, and events before accepting or formulating a position or conclusion.

Performance Rating Levels

Critical Thinking

Ability	4 (Excellent)	3 (Good)	2 (Fair)	1 (Poor)
Formulation of analysis of creative works.	Able to formulate innovative analyses of creative works.	Able to formulate strong analyses of creative works.	Able to formulate basic analyses of creative works.	Unable to formulate analyses of creative works.
Application of own thoughts and connecting them to greater meanings in analysis of creative works.	Excels in ability to develop unique thoughts and connect them to greater meanings in analysis of creative works.	Effectively capable in ability to develop unique thoughts and connect them to greater meanings in analysis of creative works.	Satisfactory in ability to develop unique thoughts and connect them to greater meanings in analysis of creative works.	Minimal ability to develop unique thoughts and connect them to greater meanings in analysis of creative works.

Creative Thinking

Ability	4 (Excellent)	3 (Good)	2 (Fair)	1 (Poor)
Engagement in the exploration of creation techniques.	Seamlessly engages in the exploration of creation techniques.	Effectively engages in the exploration of creation techniques.	Satisfactorily engages in the exploration of creation techniques.	Minimally engages in the exploration of creation techniques.
Formulation of new ideas or expertise in an original way.	Excels in the formulation of new ideas or expertise in original ways.	Capably formulates new ideas or expertise in original ways.	Satisfactorily formulates new ideas or expertise in original ways.	Minimally formulates new ideas or expertise in original ways.
Demonstration of creative thought.	Consistently demonstrates high levels of creative thought.	Demonstrates moderate levels of creative thought.	Demonstrates some creative thought.	Minimally demonstrates some creative thought.
Creation of original, innovative work.	Consistently creates original, high-level, innovative works.	Effectively creates works with moderate level of originality.	Satisfactorily creates works with some level of originality.	Minimally demonstrates original creative work.

***Revised:** 2018

**** Updated:** Spring 2025