How Might a Psychology Professor Teach Critical Thinking?

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Objectives

- Psychology & Critical Thinking

- Critical Thinking & Source Evaluation in Psychology Instruction
  - Examples from multiple courses

- Critical Thinking & Source Evaluation in Library Instruction
  - PSY 294
Psychology

◆ Study of Mind and Behavior

◆ Measured Indirectly
  ◆ Inferences & Assumptions
  ◆ Validity / Reliability
  ◆ Critical Thinking
    ◆ Skills
    ◆ Motivation
Intrinsic vs Extrinsic Motivation

Milgram’s Obedience Study

Fundamental Attribution Error

Challenge misconceptions
- Use 10% of brain
- Multiple personality disorder
- Implant memory in Adult
PSYCHOLOGY - Online Discussion

- Original Post
  - Complex, Real-life Questions
  - Impact Them
- Reply to Peer

- Grading -- extensive feedback
  - Extra Credit if Support with Valid Resources
  - Ungraded APA Citation help
PSYCHOLOGY - Online Discussion

- Real life questions
  - Prescription Opioids
  - Vitamins and Supplements
  - Caffeine regulation
  - New “non-addictive” drug
PSYCHOLOGY - Assignment

- Scientific Article - Is Mental Illness Real?

- Question Assumptions
- No simple answers
PSYCHOLOGY - Assignment

- Final Written Assignment
  - Opinion of Effectiveness of Drug Policy & Effects

Skills
- Explain WHY
- Support
- Consider multiple sides

Motivate
- Treat like a fun challenge
LIBRARY Instruction - Source Quality & Critical Thinking

- Indirectly Study Complex Topics
- Approach = Skills and Motivation

- PSY 294
  - 2 Sessions using Scaffolding
Skills - Finding and Accessing Quality Resources via Library
LIBRARY Instruction - Session 2

- Scholarly Communication & Peer Review
  - Evaluate Predatory Publishers

- Lecture
- Handouts
- Demonstrations
- Hands-on Group Work
- Patience & Perseverance
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