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





Study of Mind and Behavior

Measured Indirectly

Inferences & Assumptions

Validity / Reliability

Critical Thinking

Skills

Motivation

PSYCHOLOGY - Classroom

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 QuestionsImpact 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 AssumptionsNo 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



2 Sessions using Scaffolding

LIBRARY Instruction - Session 1

 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

SKILLS

MOTIVATION

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