

Session	Course Content
<p><b>Session 1</b></p>	<p><b>The Importance of Critical Thinking and Digital Literacy in U.S. Graduate Studies</b>  The first session will introduce students to skills constituted as critical thinking and digital literacy and why they are important in U.S. graduate school admission. Participants will also learn how both critical thinking and digital literacy go hand in hand in assisting them to excel in graduate school. At the end of the session, participants are expected to comprehend why critical thinking and digital literacy skills are imperative to develop, exercise, and improve for academic and life success.</p>
<p><b>Session 2</b></p>	<p><b>Critical Thinking (Part A)</b>  This session will delve deeper into understanding arguments using critical thinking. Session 2 will cover various models of arguments, ways to evaluate the strength of an argument, exercises to identify biases and other common fallacies, and strategies to create a strong argument with supporting evidence. The expected outcome of this session is for students to sharpen their critical thinking habits, especially in an academic context.</p>
<p><b>Session 3</b></p>	<p><b>Critical Thinking (Part B)</b>  Part B will be a hands-on and interactive session in which students will apply critical thinking skills to build and assess an argument. The activities can be a group debate exercise and essay writing. The instructor will guide students on how to give constructive feedback and reflect on their own work.</p>
<p><b>Session 4</b></p>	<p><b>Digital Literacy in Academic Setting</b>  This session will teach students practical skills to find, assess, manage, and use information on the internet. Students will be trained to develop an efficient and effective search strategy to acquire the information they need using the accessible digital tools. They will practice their critical thinking in the digital literacy context, such as thinking rigorously about how to find what they are seeking rather than using what is available. Students will be taught how to determine source credibility, recognize fallacies, and leverage the acquired information for their purpose. The session will also develop the capacity to ensure writing stems from the writer’s own thinking and uses appropriate citations.</p>
<p><b>Session 5</b></p>	<p><b>Demonstrating Critical Thinking and Digital Literacy in U.S. Graduate School Application</b>  This session will give practical guidance to students on how to utilize their developed critical thinking and digital literacy skills to strengthen their application, including standardized tests and personal essays. Students will learn to respond critically to essay prompts requiring argumentative writing. Also, students will be expected to start planning or revising their personal essays, using skills gained from this course such as collecting evidence to support their stories and avoiding biases. At the end of Session Five, students are expected to have improved application materials.</p>
<p><b>Session 6</b></p>	<p><b>Evaluation</b>  Students will pre-complete an evaluation sheet on the course and their skills improvement. These and the results of their assignments will be discussed in the group. Students will also write the final assignment (reflection essay) and use various strategies.</p>