

Critical Thinking Theory and Practice

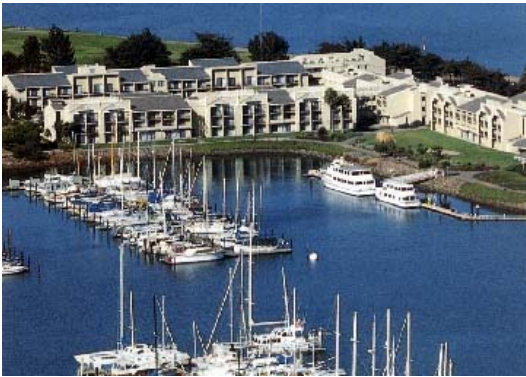
For Business Executives, Managers, Decision-makers, Team Leaders

Foundation for Critical Thinking

Three-Day Corporate Seminar

September 11-13, 2007

DoubleTree Hotel and Marina, near UC Berkeley, CA



Beware the Miracle Cure.

An array of “critical thinking” workshops and seminars are available now, promising the miraculous and near miraculous transformation of mind and performance through painless instruction. Criticality, creativity, out of the box thinking, brain integration, problem solving, decision making, mastery of global competition, are waiting for you at a moment’s notice.

Be forewarned: There is no miracle cure. Your mind cannot instantaneously be transformed. Critical and creative thinking are the products of intellectual work with progressive payoffs developing over extended periods of time.

The Foundation for Critical Thinking, in association with **the National Council for Excellence in Critical Thinking** can help you lay the foundations for the systematic improvement of your thinking. But you must do the work, and it does involve intellectual pain (no pain no gain).

For more than a quarter century, the Foundation for Critical Thinking Research Fellows have published hundreds of articles and numerous books on critical thinking. The Foundation has developed critical thinking tests and assessment tools and has designed academies, workshops, and 26 International Conferences (including events at Princeton

and the University of Cambridge). One of its upcoming events is scheduled for Oxford University.

The seminar will be led by one of the founders of modern critical thinking, Dr. Richard Paul, and his distinguished colleague, Dr. Linda Elder.

We promise no miracle cure, but we do promise you a healthy dose of the real thing:

- the ultimate structural foundations of thinking (that enable you to better analyze thinking),
- the intellectual standards used by all skilled thinkers (that enable you to assess thinking for quality), and
- the traits that perfect the human mind: intellectual humility, intellectual empathy, intellectual perseverance, and fair-mindedness (that are the hallmarks of the fair-minded critical thinker).

You will develop a comprehensive vision of where you need to go and how you can (intellectually) get there. You will be introduced to everyday problems that involve the interplay of thoughts, feelings, and desires. You will develop a game plan for progressively improving the quality of your thinking. Your development will begin at the workshop, but it will be up to you to access the resources you need over time---think years not days---in which you will become a more rational, more sensitive, more ethical, more effective, and more broad-minded thinker.

The seminar will be interactive, and will be focused on two books written by the seminar leaders:

[Critical Thinking: Tools for Taking Charge of Your Professional and Personal Life](#)
And
[Twenty-Five Days to Better Thinking and Better Living](#)

Remember, use your critical thinking to evaluate “critical thinking” workshops and seminars. If you’re going to put your time and money into it, invest in the real thing, not a counterfeit.

Registration fee:

One person - \$1895

2-3 people - \$1695 each person

4 or more - \$1495 each person

Registration will open soon. To be placed on the waiting list, please email cct@criticalthinking.org

Why Do We Need Critical Thinking?

The world is swiftly changing and with each day the pace quickens. The pressure to respond intensifies. New global realities are rapidly working their way into the deepest structures of our lives: economic, social, cultural, political, and environmental realities — realities with profound implications for thinking and learning, business and politics, human rights and human conflicts. These realities are becoming increasingly complex; many represent significant dangers and threats. And they all turn on the powerful dynamic of accelerating change.

Can we deal with incessant and accelerating change and complexity without revolutionizing our thinking? Traditionally our thinking has been designed for routine, for habit, for automation and fixed procedure. We learned how to do our job once, and then we used what we learned over and over. But the problems we now face, and will increasingly face, require a radically different form of thinking, thinking that is more complex, more adaptable, more sensitive to divergent points of view. The world in which we now live requires that we continually relearn, that we routinely rethink our decisions, that we regularly reevaluate the way we work and live. In short, there is a new world facing us, one in which the power of the mind to command itself, to regularly engage in self-analysis, will increasingly determine the quality of our work, the quality of our lives, and perhaps even, our very survival.

Yet we are unprepared to deal with the complexities in the world we now face. The question of how to survive in the world is a question continually transforming itself. Accelerating change, increasing complexity, and intensifying danger sound the death knell for traditional methods of thinking. How can we adapt to reality when reality won't give us time to master it before it changes itself, again and again, in ways we can but partially anticipate? Unfortunately, the crucial need for ever-new modes of thought to adapt to new problems and situations in new and humane ways is ignored by most cultures and today. Short-term thinking leading to quick-fix solutions still rule the day.

The Foundation for Critical Thinking

At the Foundation for Critical Thinking, we strive to contribute to a more reasonable, more rational, more productive, more just world. We help people develop the skills of mind they need to function better in their work and in every part of their lives.

The human mind is our most powerful resource. Yet it is largely undeveloped, unskilled, prejudiced. It distorts, engages in delusions and illusions, is narrow-minded. Problems in thinking lie at the root of most of the significant problems facing us today and that we will face into the future. At the Foundation for Critical Thinking, we therefore seek to promote essential change in business, education and society through the cultivation of fair-minded critical thinking, thinking predisposed toward intellectual empathy, humility, perseverance, integrity, and responsibility. A rich intellectual environment is possible only with critical thinking at the foundation of society. Moreover, in a world of accelerating change, intensifying complexity, and increasing interdependence, critical thinking is now a requirement for economic and social survival.



Dr. Richard Paul

As Director of Research and Professional Development at the Center for Critical Thinking and Chair of the National Council for Excellence in Critical Thinking, Dr. Paul is an internationally recognized authority on critical thinking, with eight books and over 200 articles on the subject. He has conducted hundreds of workshops on critical thinking.

Dr. Paul's views on critical thinking have been canvassed in the *New York Times*, *Education Week*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *American Teacher*, *Reader's Digest*, *Educational Leadership*, *Newsweek*, and *U.S. News and World Report*. Dr. Paul's wide-ranging knowledge, practical strategies, and enthusiasm make him highly sought-after as a keynoter and workshop presenter.



Dr. Linda Elder

As President of the Foundation for Critical Thinking and an educational psychologist, Dr. Elder has extensive experience in leading seminars in such topics as infusing critical thinking into your professional life, taking charge of the affective dimension of thinking (of thoughts, feeling and desires), and *Critical Thinking: The Key to Survival in a World of Accelerating Change, Intensifying Complexity and Increasing Danger*. She has co-authored four books, along with Richard Paul, including *Critical Thinking: Tools for Taking Charge of Your Professional and Personal Life*, and *Twenty-Five Days to Better Thinking and Better Living*. She has also co-authored eighteen Thinker's Guides to Critical Thinking. Dr. Elder reaches workshop participants on a one-on-one basis. Her workshops are very highly ranked.

The Foundation for Critical Thinking
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