



The Foundation for Critical Thinking presents

2010 Spring Workshops

MARCH 20 – MARCH 21, 2010
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

Critical thinking concepts and tools are the essential core of all well-conceived instruction. They define the ultimate goals of education.

Taking ownership of these goals is the crucial first step in educational reform. The second step consists in contextualizing the goals. This entails creating strategies for bringing critical thinking into the teaching of every subject.

For more than a quarter century, the Foundation and Center for Critical Thinking have been working together to bring about essential change in education through the cultivation of fairminded critical thinking. Each year we offer workshops and conferences to advance this important goal. Our spring workshops provide an opportunity for you to learn or deepen your understanding of the foundations of critical thinking and to contextualize them more in your work or teaching. Critical societies are created one person, one teacher, one professor, one administrator at a time.

We hope you join us.

Choose among the following three (*select one*):

- **Integrating a Comprehensive Understanding of Critical Thinking into Effective Design for Teaching and Learning Academic Content** — Dr. Richard Paul
- **Placing a Robust Framework for Critical Thinking At the Heart Of Your Institution's Mission, Accreditation or Reaccreditation Process** — Dr. Linda Elder
- **Approaching Students as Thinkers: Cultivating the Intellect** — Dr. Enoch Hale

Workshop descriptions...

Integrating a Comprehensive Understanding of Critical Thinking into Effective Design for Teaching and Learning Academic Content

Richard Paul

The most effective way to understand any "whole" is through its "parts." The most effective way to understand any "part" is through its function in the "whole." So too for critical thinking. In this session, Richard Paul will use his 30 years of scholarship and activism to help participants put the parts of critical thinking together in a practical holistic way. Participants should expect to come away from the session with a richer understanding of the theory and practice of critical teaching and learning.



Placing a Robust Framework for Critical Thinking At the Heart Of Your Institution's Mission, Accreditation or Reaccreditation Process

Linda Elder

Critical thinking is not an isolated goal unrelated to other important goals in education. Rather, it is a seminal goal which, done well, simultaneously facilitates a rainbow of other ends. It is best conceived, therefore, as the hub around which all other educational ends cluster. For example, as students learn to think more critically, they become more proficient at historical, scientific, and sociological thinking. They develop skills, abilities, and values critical to success in everyday life. All of this assumes, of course, that those who teach have a solid grounding in critical thinking and in the teaching strategies essential to it. To

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Academy Workshop Presenters:



Dr. Richard Paul
Fellow and Director of
Research, Foundation
for Critical Thinking.



Dr. Linda Elder
Fellow and President,
Foundation for Critical
Thinking.



Dr. Enoch Hale
Fellow, Foundation for
Critical Thinking.

Elder, continued

develop a deep understanding of the foundations of critical thinking involves a long-term approach to learning and applying those foundations. Faculty in a long range professional development program come to recognize explicitly that critical thinking is not just one of many divergent educational aims, but is rather a way of teaching and learning any content at a high level of effectiveness. This workshop will thus focus on a substantive, robust framework for critical thinking and how it can be placed at the heart of the institution's mission, accreditation, or reaccreditation process. A long-term approach to staff development will be emphasized.

Approaching Students as Thinkers: Cultivating the Intellect

Enoch Hale

There is no more important goal in schooling than cultivating the intellect. But we can't achieve this goal unless we place intellectual development at the heart of instruction. To do this, we must approach our students as thinkers, as persons capable of figuring things out for themselves, as persons with their own thoughts, emotions, and desires, as persons with minds

of their own. But thinking is often ignored in schooling (and indeed in society). Historically critical thinking has been treated in schooling as another add-on, as something interesting we combine with other things we do. But when we understand what it takes to cultivate the intellect we bring the concepts and principles of critical thinking into everything we do in the classroom. Critical thinking becomes the centerpiece of instruction. This is true because it is through critical thinking that we make explicit the intellectual tools students need to live successfully and reasonably, to grapple with the complex problems they will inevitably face, to think their way through content of any kind. But we can't foster critical thinking if we don't understand it ourselves. Realizing that we cannot deal with all of the theory of critical thinking in one weekend, this workshop will emphasize the foundations of critical thinking. We focus on initial internalization of these foundations, coupled with application to classroom structures, lessons and strategies. Participants will develop some modest initial plans for redesigning instruction with critical thinking at its foundation, and most importantly they will acquire a plan for continuing their own development as thinkers and teachers.

About us...

The Center and Foundation for Critical Thinking have together hosted critical thinking academies and conferences for more than a quarter century. During that time, we have played a key role in defining, structuring, assessing, improving and advancing the principles and best practices of fair-minded critical thought in education and in society. Throughout our work we emphasize and argue for the importance of teaching for critical thinking in a strong, rather than a weak, sense. We are committed to a clear and "substantive" concept of critical thinking (rather than one that is ill-defined); a concept that interfaces well with the disciplines, that integrates critical with creative thinking, that emphasizes the affective as well as the cognitive dimension of critical thinking, that highlights intellectual standards and traits. We advocate a concept of critical thinking that organizes instruction in every subject area at every educational level.

Conference Hotel Information

DoubleTree Hotel and Executive Meeting Center Berkeley Marina

The DoubleTree Hotel in Berkeley, California is located on the water, overlooking the San Francisco Bay.

The workshop rate is \$131.00 per night single / \$143 per night double.

Ask for the "*Critical Thinking Room Block*" – Code FDC.

This rate includes a full breakfast buffet every day of the academy (including beverage and gratuity). *This rate is available until March 8, 2010.*

For Hotel Reservations, call the Berkeley DoubleTree directly at 800.445.8667 or visit the hotel online at doubletree1.hilton.com



We encourage groups to attend; please see group rates when you register. Each participant will choose one of the three sessions.

To register or for more details, visit our website at criticalthinking.org/conference/index.cfm Or call us!



The Foundation for Critical Thinking

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