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Critical thinking are important characteristics that distinguish humans from other animals. In the modern era of information explosion and rampant misinformation, it is crucial to learn how to filter and analyze information. Philosophy is one of the rare academic disciplines that specifically studies " Critical thinking." Philosophers pay special attention to the quality and appropriateness of arguments. This course will introduce various argumentation techniques employed by philosophers. Once these argumentation techniques are learned, their application extends beyond the field of philosophy and becomes relevant to all academic disciplines as well as our daily lives. In this course, we will first introduce the basic tools of philosophers, such as what constitutes an argument and what qualities make a good argument. We will also explore arguments that intrinsically bad in their form. Once we have a certain level of understanding of these basic tools, we will delve into advanced argumentation tools, including various reasoning methods commonly used by philosophers. Furthermore, we will explain how to analyze and evaluate arguments, and how to examine the connections between premises and conclusions. Throughout the course, we will provide philosophical cases, daily examples, statistical cases, and other supporting materials to illustrate the course content.

outline:

We hear the term " critical thinking" in our daily life, and have a general understanding of it. It's essentially the art of reasoning. We all engage in reasoning in our everyday lives, and many times we can make successful conclusions. However, without a systematic study of this skill, it's easy to get distracted by other factors, leading to false or inappropriate reasoning. So, this class is all about introducing 'reasoning' in a structured way.

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Throughout our lives, humans are constantly faced with various forms of reasoning and decision-making. The fundamental spirit of critical thinking lies in effectively analyzing data and applying information, drawing appropriate conclusions through proper reasoning and inference. A good reasoning approach can help us be efficient and accurately derive conclusions, assisting us in making important and crucial decisions in life. The main objective of this course is to enable students to have a certain level of understanding of appropriate reasoning methods and argument evaluation techniques, and to have the ability to apply them in their daily lives.

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Textbooks: Fosl, P. S., & Baggini, J., 2020, The Philosopher's Toolkit: A Compendium of Philosophical Concepts and Methods, Wiley Blackwell. Missimer, C. A., 2004, Good Arguments: An introduction to

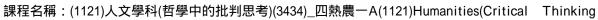Critical Thinking, Pearson. References: 1. Patten, B. M., 2004, Truth, Knowledge, or Just Plain Bull: How to Tell the Difference, Prometheus Books. 2. Sinnott-Armstrong, W., 2018, Think Again: How to Reason and Argue, Pelican.

1	9.11~9.18	Syllabus and course introduction	8 8-12 ( ) 12
2	9.18~9.25	Argument, premises and conclusion	
3	9.25~10.02	Deduction, induction and validity	28 ( ) / ( ),29 ( )
4	10.02~10.09	How to argue against an argument	29
5	10.09~10.16	Abduction and Hypothetical-deductive-method	6 ( ) ( ) 10 ( ) ( )
6	10.16~10.23	Arguments from analogy	14 18
7	10.23~10.30	Scientific inference	24 ( ) 25 ( ) ( )
8	10.30~11.06	Review before the mid-exam	30
9	11.06~11.13	Mid-term exam	3-9
10	11.13~11.20	Philosophical case: lottery paradox	13 ,16
11	11.20~11.27	Philosophical case: Newcomb's paradox	

12	11.27~12.04	Philosophical case: Gibbard's paradox	24-28 24
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13	12.04~12.11	Fallacious reasoning	
14	12.11~12.18	Biased reasoning	12
15	12.18~12.25	Statistic reasoning	
16	12.25~1.01	group presentation (1)	22 25 ( )
17	1.01~1.08	group presentation (2)	1 ( ) ( )
18	1.08~1.15	group presentation (3)	5~11 10~11