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## Team-based Learning in the Social Sciences: Leading Change, Translating Critical Thinking to Practice

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# Team-based learning in the social sciences: Leading change, translating critical thinking to practice

The Critical Thinking Project at GSEP

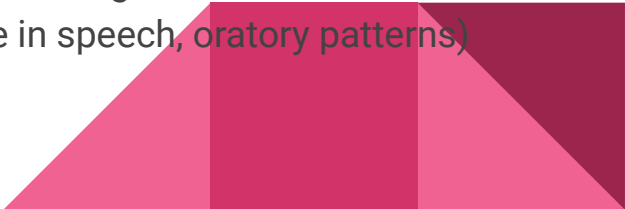
April 11, 2019

Los Angeles, CA

# Choose one opportunity

- 1) To develop the next great invention
  - 2) The ability to detect any existent or perceived challenges
-

# Promoting Critical Thinking

- Standards & Assessments
    - Connection to personal and community interests
  - Curriculum & Instruction
    - Does the curriculum create opportunities for students to share their backgrounds, journeys, families, and cultures in the context of the content area?
  - Professional Development
    - Authentic representation of the students and their cognitive development
  - Learning Environments
    - Is the environment responsive to the student?
    - Do we know what we do not know? What is outside the circle of knowledge?
    - Extra-linguistic cues and linguistic modifications (repetition, pause in speech, oratory patterns)
- 

# Reframing: Bolman and Deal

- **Structural**
  - Are there any institutional structures delaying change?
  - Am I aware of the policies, procedures and mechanisms that drive the institution?
- **Political**
  - Who are the constituents, stakeholders, and external community members involved?
  - How am I achieving and sustaining goals?
  - What opportunities are emerging?
  - Am I driving consensus and taking care of the environment?
- **Symbolic**
  - Are there artifacts, symbols, or rituals that deliver change?
- **Human Resources**
  - Are the right people doing the right things?
  - Are the roles systemic, attitudinal?



# Creating Impact

- To develop one's role as a leader
- To manage ambiguity and develop an integrated and systematic understanding of thinking in terms of standards, criteria and its effectiveness in inquiry
- To ask the right questions
- To become creators of knowledge



# Question Everything

1. From a social context, **where** does knowledge come from and who forms it?
2. **What** basis is inquiry derived?
3. Why think critical?
4. **What** is triangulation?



# Critical thinking for change

Reflective journaling: Who have I shared best practices with and how?

For how long?

How often?

What is the purpose

What tools do you use to become self-aware of the situation?

What questions remain about teaching and thinking skills?

Is there a reflective point that has developed your leadership insight?

What hinders you?

How many layers did you go through?

What knowledge got in your way?

What were the responses?

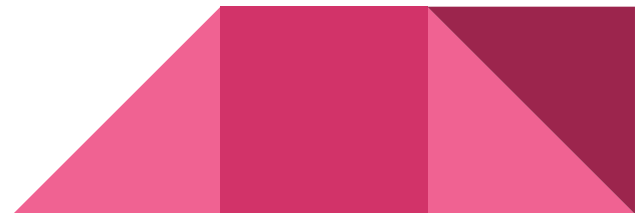
Emotional

Logical

Chronological

What were the descriptive assumptions?

What types of experiential opportunities should I introduce to understand cognitive biases?





# Standards of Reasoning (Ellerton)

-Equity

-Clarity

-Accuracy

-Relevance

-Precision

-Depth, breadth

-Logic

-Significance

-Purpose

-Point of View

-Assumptions and Interpretations

-Intellectual humility

# Critical Thinking for Social & Psychological Change



# Critical thinking: Beginning the Literature Review

For whom is the paper written?

Give a summary or overview in 3-4 sentences MAX:

example: This study fills an important gap in the literature, providing a view on the \_\_\_\_ of [your topic]

What value does it add to your topic? Why?

What in the paper needs to be fixed to make it suitable for [define other possible avenues for the research and explain]

To what extent is the research grounded in the past work of others? To improve the paper, what other important past research should it reference?

How sound is the research approach and method? How can it be improved?

Are the findings well supported? If not, what do you suggest the author do?

Are the conclusions drawn valid? Give examples where conclusions go beyond or has it underserved what the study found.

How can the methodology be improved?

What contribution does the paper make? To what extent are findings novel?

Do the authors relate the findings of this paper back to the prior work of others? If not, what other studies should they consider?

What are the most important things that the manuscript's authors could do to strengthen the work?

What type of modifications does it need: none, moderate, heavy?

**Enlighten the space for future research**

# Summary

Formulate your question

What is your purpose?

How did you develop your purpose?

What has led you to react to emerging questions?

Whose testimony are you seeking?

