

Module Descriptor: BAM 124 Thinking, Knowing and Arguing

<u>Module Name:</u>	Thinking, Knowing and Arguing
<u>Level/Credits:</u>	Level 1, 8 Credits
<u>Module Aim:</u>	<p>This module aims to contribute to students' induction into higher education, and to enable students to develop their skills of critical thinking and knowledge management. The module aims to promote the use by students of argument analysis and other specific thinking techniques, with a view to improving the quality of all their academic work, including their writing. It also aims to raise students' awareness of the problematic nature of knowledge and to encourage reflection on their epistemological beliefs.</p> <p>It is hoped that students will gain in confidence that they can successfully find, manage and evaluate knowledge, and communicate their views according to academic conventions. In so doing students will become progressively more independent learners.</p>
<u>Learning Outcomes:</u>	<p>On successful completion of this module students will have developed their:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills in knowledge management; • Skills in critical thinking; • Skills in presenting their own arguments; • Skills in creative thinking and techniques for problem-solving; • Understanding of knowledge, argument, and academic practice.
<u>Curriculum Content:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical thinking, e.g. argument analysis. • Elements of Edward de Bono's thinking techniques. • Brainstorming. • Mind-mapping. • Information/knowledge management, e.g. use of academic databases such as Business Source Elite, and Procite. • The nature of knowledge and learning.
<u>Learning Strategy:</u>	<p>The module will comprise a series of workshops wherein students will work sometimes together and sometimes individually. The emphasis will be placed on learning by doing and reflecting on the experience of doing. Students will be encouraged to participate fully in a supportive atmosphere.</p> <p>Directed tasks will be used to enable students to pursue further work done in class and to practise techniques introduced.</p> <p>The module will be supported by a website.</p>

<u>Assessment:</u>	Formative: There will be much in-class discussion, with opportunities for students to reflect, share experience, and to receive feedback from each other and from staff. The assessed essay will be submitted during the semester and students will receive feedback on this.
	Summative: Assignment (1500 words equivalent).