

# McKendree University

[http://www.mckendree.edu/academics/Critical Reasoning Rubric.aspx](http://www.mckendree.edu/academics/Critical_Reasoning_Rubric.aspx)

## Critical Reasoning Rubric

Performance Factor	4	3	2	1
Identifies and explains issues	<p>☐</p> <p>Clearly identifies and summaries main issues and successfully explains why/ how they are problems or questions; identifies embedded or implicit issues addressing their relationships to each other</p>	<p>☐</p> <p>Successfully identifies and summarizes the main issues, but does not explain why/ how they are problems or create questions</p>	<p>☐</p> <p>Identifies main issues but does not summarize or explain them clearly or sufficiently</p>	<p>☐</p> <p>Fails to identify, summarize, or explain the main problem or question; represents the issues inaccurately or inappropriately</p>
Recognizes stakeholders and contexts (i.e. cultural/ social, educational, political, economic, ethical, personal experience)	<p>☐</p> <p>Correctly identifies all the empirical and theoretical contexts relevant to all the main stakeholders; also finds minor stakeholders and contexts and shows the tension or conflicts of interest among them</p>	<p>☐</p> <p>Correctly identifies all the empirical and theoretical contexts relevant to all the main stakeholders</p>	<p>☐</p> <p>Shows some general understanding of the influences of empirical and theoretical contexts on stakeholders, but does not identify any specific ones relevant to situation</p>	<p>☐</p> <p>Unable to identify and explain any empirical or theoretical contexts for the issues; presents problems as having no connections to other conditions or contexts</p>
Frames personal responses and acknowledges other perspectives	<p>☐</p> <p>Formulates a clear and precise personal point of view and acknowledges objections and rival positions and provides convincing replies to these</p>	<p>☐</p> <p>Formulates a clear and precise personal point of view and seriously discusses its weaknesses as well as its strengths</p>	<p>☐</p> <p>Formulates a vague and indecisive point of view; or anticipates minor but not major objections to his/her point of view; or considers weak but not strong alternative positions</p>	<p>☐</p> <p>Fails to formulate and clearly express own point of view, or fails to anticipate objections to his/her point of view, or fails to consider other perspectives and positions</p>

Evaluates evidence	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Identifies and rigorously evaluates all important evidence offered; provides new data or information for consideration</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Identifies all important evidence and rigorously evaluates it</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Successfully identifies data and information but fails to thoroughly evaluate its credibility</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Fails to identify data and information</p>
Evaluates implications, conclusions and consequences	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Identifies and thoroughly discusses implications, conclusions, and consequences, considering all relevant assumptions, contexts, data, and evidence</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Identifies and briefly discusses implications, conclusions, and consequences considering most but not all the relevant assumptions, contexts, data, and evidence</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Suggests some implications, conclusions, and consequences, but without clear reference to context, assumptions, data, and evidence</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Fails to identify implications, conclusions, and consequences of the issue, or the key relationships between the other elements of the problem, such as context, assumptions, or data and evidence</p>