CRITICAL THINKING RUBRICS

Based on a draft from Elaina Bleifield and the Paulus CT Group

CATEGORY ONE: KNOWLEDGE AND COMPREHENSION (understanding the basics)

4—The work consistently demonstrates clear, accurate, detailed and comprehensive understanding of the relevant facts / data / theories/ terms as well as the ability to organize the information for application, presentation, documentation, and/or further examination.

3--The work demonstrates an adequate understanding of the relevant facts / data / theories/ terms as well as the ability to organize the information for application, presentation, documentation, and/or further examination.

2-- The work demonstrates an uneven and shaky understanding of the relevant facts / data / theories/ terms as well as a limited ability to organize the information for application, presentation, documentation, and/or further examination.

1-- The work demonstrates an inadequate understanding of the relevant facts / data / theories/ terms as well as a limited ability to organize the information for application, presentation, documentation, and/or further examination.

CATEGORY TWO: APPLICATION AND ANALYSIS (attaining the concept)

4—The work demonstrates confident ability to work with the key concepts / information / process / theory -- applying or extending them to a wide variety of new problems or contexts, making predictions, recognizing hidden meanings, drawing inferences, analyzing patterns and component parts, communicating insightful contrasts and comparisons.

3--The work demonstrates adequate ability to work with the key concepts / information / process / theory -- applying or extending them to a variety of new problems or contexts, making predictions, recognizing hidden meanings, drawing inferences, analyzing patterns and component parts, communicating insightful contrasts and comparisons.

2-- The work demonstrates uneven and shaky ability to work with the key concepts / information / process / theory -- applying or extending them with mixed success to new problems or contexts, making predictions, recognizing hidden meanings, drawing inferences, analyzing patterns and component parts, communicating insightful contrasts and comparisons.

1-- The work demonstrates extremely limited ability to work with the key concepts / information / process / theory -- applying or extending them with very limited success to new problems or
contexts, making predictions, recognizing hidden meanings, drawing inferences, analyzing
patterns and component parts, communicating insightful contrasts and comparisons.

**CATEGORY THREE: SYNTHESIZING AND EVALUATING (going beyond the given)**

4—The work demonstrates surprising/insightful ability to take ideas / theories / processes /
principles further into new territory, broader generalizations, hidden meanings and implications
as well – as well as to assess discriminatively the value, credibility and power of these ideas
(etc.) in order to decide on well-considered choices and opinions.

3-- The work demonstrates adequate ability to take ideas / theories / processes / principles further
into new territory, broader generalizations, hidden meanings and implications as well – as well as
to assess discriminatively the value, credibility and power of these ideas (etc.) in order to decide
on well-considered choices and opinions.

2-- The work demonstrates uneven and superficial ability to take ideas / theories / processes /
principles further into new territory, broader generalizations, hidden meanings and implications
as well – as well as a limited ability to assess discriminatively the value, credibility and power of
these ideas (etc.) in order to decide on well-considered choices and opinions.

1-- The work demonstrates little ability to take ideas / theories / processes / principles further into
new territory, broader generalizations, hidden meanings and implications as well – as well as a
limited and superficial ability to assess discriminatively the value, credibility and power of these
ideas (etc.) in order to decide on well-considered choices and opinions.