

Advanced Tools to Improve Your Thinking

GoSkills online course syllabus

Skill level

Beginner

Lessons

17

Pre-requisites

No prior experience needed

Video duration

58m

Estimated study time

58m 52s

Instructor

Michael Shermer, PhD

Introduction

1 Improve your thinking with proven tools

The Search for Truth

2 What is truth, Anyway?

Understanding what makes something "true" is essential to being a critical thinker.

3 Negative truths

What does it take to prove something is true? In this lesson you'll discover the importance of skepticism to reasoning well.

4 The Invisible Dragon

Thinking about unique claims requires close attention to the support given to them.

5 Claims Require Evidence

Knowing when to be skeptical of an extraordinary claim can guide you to better conclusions.

6 How Science Works

Science is a wonderful tool to acquire new knowledge. After this lesson, you'll be able to state clearly the steps of the scientific method.

In Hot Pursuit

7 Defining Causality

Causality is one of the most important relationships to understand in science. After this lesson you'll be able to define causality clearly.

8

Determining Causality

Deciding when someone is caused by something else can be complicated.

9

Correlation and Causation

Correlation is a famously misunderstood relationship. In this lesson you'll recognize the complexities of correlation and causation.

10

Why Correlation does not mean Causation

Most of us want to know when something can be relied on to produce an effect we want.

Deep Thinks

11

How to Think About Coincidences

We've all experienced coincidences. But what do they mean? In this lesson you'll be able to evaluate just how special a coincidence is.

12

How to Think About Synchronicity

Even when the science might be dubious, coincidences can still feel emotionally resonant for us.

13

How to Think About Miracles

There's no agreed-upon definition of a miracle.

14

How to Think About Religious Miracles

Religious traditions are one of the most common sources of miraculous claims.

15

The Difference Between Beliefs and Facts

People may often ask you if you "believe in" certain ideas, but what's does it mean to "believe in" something?

16

Mysterian Mysteries

No matter how great of a thinker you are, there are some things that may remain unsolvable.

Conclusion

17

Now get thinking!

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