

QEP-2017 NEWS

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Topic Selection Team Recommends EKU's QEP-2017 CRITICAL READING for INDEPENDENT LEARNING

What is Critical Reading?

- Critical reading goes beyond comprehension – it involves summary, analysis, synthesis, evaluation, and application of information.
- Critical readers can understand complex text with extended arguments, elaborate structure, subtle relationships and intent, and rich detail and vocabulary.
- Critical readers adjust their reading strategies to fit the purpose for reading, the type of text, and the discipline.

What is Independent Learning?

- Independent learners need minimal guidance from others.
- Independent learners are willing to expend intellectual effort to understand information.
- Independent learners have a growth mindset – they believe they are able to learn through hard work and effort.
- Independent learners have a competitive advantage in the workforce and in life.

Critical Reading is an Essential Skill for Independent Learning

Critical Reading & Independent Learning are Valuable in Any Learning Environment

- Online and face-to-face courses
- Undergraduate and graduate courses
- General Education & discipline-specific courses
- Research/scholarly projects



Critical Reading & Independent Learning are Essential Skills Beyond College

- Graduate/professional school entrance exams
- Professional licensing exams
- Job analyses; Application materials
- Workplace reading tasks
- Professional development and advancement
- Informed citizenship; personal decision-making

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CRITICAL READING for INDEPENDENT LEARNING

How Will We Develop Critical Readers & Independent Learners?

- ⇒ Implementation plans will be based on the research of **metacognition** – teaching students to accurately assess and regulate their own learning.
- ⇒ **Metacognitive strategies...**
 - are effective in developing critical reading skills;
 - are effective at developing self-regulated learners;
 - are practical, concrete, easy to learn, & easy to implement;
 - engage students with course content and increase learning;
 - provide faculty with a tool box of practical techniques from which they can choose as appropriate to their discipline, course, and type of reading.
- ⇒ **Specific implementation plans will be developed over the next year.**
 - Faculty professional development and support for teaching are essential.
 - Faculty and students will be asked for input.

Critical Readers & Independent Learners Make Teaching More Enjoyable!

NEXT STEPS & TIMELINE

1. Create QEP focus statement (su15)
2. Develop implementation plan (f15-s16)
3. Present plan to campus (su16-f16)
4. Submit plan to SACSCOC (f16)
5. SACSCOC ECU visit (s17)
6. Implement QEP (f17-f22)
7. 5-yr report to SACSCOC (s23)

QEP Topic Selection Team

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