

Critical Thinking and Creative Problem Solving

Length: 3 Days

COURSE CONTENT

CRITICAL THINKING AND CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING ESSENTIALS

- Recognizing business reasons for creative problem solving in the workplace
- Defining creativity vs. innovation
- Exploring the thinking process
- Pinpointing problems and their outcomes
- Applying outcome-based thinking

LEVERAGING PERSONAL THINKING STYLES: ANALYZING PERSONAL PREFERENCES

- Dominance drives behavior

ASSESSING YOUR PREFERRED APPROACH TO THINKING

- Enhancing whole-brain thinking
- Leveraging left- and right-brain dominance
- Recognizing strengths and opportunities

IDENTIFYING THINKING PREFERENCES

- Recognizing others' preferred thinking styles
- Adapting to others' thinking styles
- Flexing to opposing styles

UNLEASHING YOUR CREATIVITY: THE CREATIVE ENVIRONMENT

- Exploring your own creativity
- Utilizing tools and techniques to become more creative
- Identifying elements that stimulate creativity
- Eliminating barriers to innovation

GROUP CREATIVE THINKING

- Brainstorming options
- Challenging assumptions
- Avoiding groupthink

APPROACHES TO PROBLEM SOLVING

- Methods of analysis
- Collecting data and information
- Defining boundaries and constraints
- Deconstructing problems

DECISION ANALYSIS

- Choosing among alternatives
- Establishing objectives
- Assigning weight to objectives in order to make the best decision
- Creating a satisfaction scale to choose between alternatives

AVOIDING ANALYSIS PARALYSIS

- Overcoming the "It won't work here" mentality
- Analyzing for outcomes, not solutions

DEPLOYING YOUR DECISION

- Clearly expressing analysis results
- Ensuring organizational benefit

**PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER: INTEGRATING
YOUR SOLUTION INTO THE BUSINESS**

- Constructing a blueprint for your action plan
- Reinforcing your newly developed creative thinking skills

YOUR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT TOOLKIT

- Educating others with creative tools
 - Practicing creative and critical thinking skills continuously
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