

GANPAT UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES

Programme		Master of Business Administration				Branch/Spec.	---		
Semester		I				Version	1.0.0.0		
Effective from Academic Year			2026-27			Effective for the Batch admitted in		July 2026	
Course Code		IAE507CTM	Course Name			Critical Thinking for Managers			
Teaching Scheme						Examination Scheme (Marks)			
(Per week)	Lecture (DT)		Practical (Lab.)		Total		CCE	SEE	Total
	L	TU	P	TW					
Credit	2	0	0	0	2	Theory	25	25	50
Hours	2	0	0	0	2	Practical	-	-	-

Pre-requisites

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Course Objective

The course aims to develop MBA students' critical thinking and analytical abilities to examine managerial problems, arguments, evidence, and business situations systematically. It enables students to identify biases and logical fallacies, evaluate alternatives using critical thinking tools, and make well-reasoned, evidence-based managerial decisions and recommendations.

Course Outcomes

On successful completion of the course, the students will be able to:

CO1	Explain the meaning, nature, and standards of critical thinking and describe the role of managers as critical thinkers in business and managerial contexts.
CO2	Analyze arguments, reasoning structures, and logical patterns in managerial and business situations using deductive and inductive reasoning.
CO3	Evaluate information, evidence, and sources critically to identify fallacies, biases, and limitations influencing managerial judgment and business decisions.
CO4	Evaluate managerial problems, decision options, and case scenarios using critical thinking tools in order to justify effective business decisions and recommendations.

Theory Syllabus

Unit	Content	Hrs.
1	Introduction to Critical Thinking in Management: Foundations of critical thinking in management, including types of thinking, the manager's role, standards, benefits, and barriers in effective decision-making. Analysing managerial arguments through logic, premises and conclusions, truth and validity, and the use of deductive and inductive reasoning in business decisions.	6
2	Critical Thinking and Problem Solving for Managers: Critical evaluation of business information, arguments, evidence, and sources, including fallacies, language, and limits of managerial judgment. Managerial problem-solving through clear problem definition, root-cause analysis, objectives, assumptions, and alternative generation. Understanding the importance of managerial problem-solving, defining problems and root causes, setting objectives, assumptions, and alternatives, applying decision criteria, implementing solutions, and reviewing outcomes for learning and improvement.	8
3	Critical Thinking in Managerial Decision-Making: Nature of decision-making in management and business; single-criterion decision-making; decision-making with multiple criteria and alternatives; gathering, analysing, and interpreting data for managerial decisions; identification and evaluation of decision options; decision-making tools and techniques for managers; evaluating decision outcomes and effectiveness; managerial mindsets and biases in decision-making.	8
4	Critical Thinking and Management Case Analysis: Applying critical thinking to management cases by identifying problems, evaluating alternatives, justifying decisions, and developing actionable recommendations.	8

Practical Content

Practical, assignments and tutorials are based on above syllabus.

Text Books

TB1	Sen, M. (2010). <i>An introduction to critical thinking</i> . Pearson Education.
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Reference Books	
1	Atanasiu, R. (2021). <i>Critical thinking for managers: Structured decision-making and persuasion in business</i> . Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-73600-2
2	Prasad, A. S., & Agarwal, S. (2019). <i>Critical and analytical thinking</i> . Cengage Learning India.
3	Swamy, Narayana M.A.V.S. (2025). <i>Thinkerbook – Volume 1: Master Logical Fallacies To Better Your Critical Thinking</i> . Notion Press.
ICT/MOOCs Reference	
1	Critical Thinking, By Partha Chatterjee https://onlinecourses.swayam2.ac.in/e-learning/preview/aic19_ma06

Note: Version 1.0.0.0 (First Digit= New syllabus/Revision in Full Syllabus, Second Digit=Revision in Teaching Scheme, Third Digit=Revision in Exam Scheme, Forth Digit= Content Revision), L=Lecture, TU=Tutorial, P= Practical/Lab., TW= Term work, DT= Direct Teaching, Lab.= Laboratory work, CCE= Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation, SEE= Semester End Examination.

Mapping of CO with Programme Outcomes (PO) and Programme Specific Outcomes (PSO)										
	PO1	PO2	PO3	PO4	PO5	PO6	PO7	PSO1	PSO2	PSO3
CO1	2	3	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	2
CO2	3	3	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	1
CO3	2	3	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	2
CO4	3	3	0	3	1	0	1	3	0	3

3= High/substantial correlation; 2 = Medium/moderate correlation; 1= Low/slight correlation; 0= No correlation