

Executive Summary

Question Every Possibility—Think Critically

Broward College

In 2011, Broward College began the process of selecting and developing its first Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) to improve student learning; subsequently, critical thinking was selected as the QEP topic. The QEP is titled ***Question Every Possibility—Think Critically***. Broward College defines critical thinking as a process of evaluating information by questioning and testing assumptions, accepting or rejecting arguments and/or perspectives, and applying reasoning to make informed decisions.

The topic of critical thinking emerged as a result of broad-based input from College stakeholders combined with institutional data from the College's general education outcomes assessment process and data from the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) and the Community College Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (CCFSSE).

The conceptual framework of ***Question Every Possibility—Think Critically*** incorporates teaching and learning strategies, professional development and training, and outcomes-based assessment to improve students' critical thinking skills while positively impacting students' problem solving skills. The goals and outcomes of the QEP support the College's Mission to produce informed and creative students capable of contributing to a knowledge and service-based global society. The QEP has two overarching goals supported by student learning outcomes and operational outcomes.

Goals and Outcomes:

1. **The QEP will enhance students' critical thinking skills.**
Students will be able to:
 - 1.1. Analyze and interpret relevant information.
 - 1.2. Explain questions, problems, and/or issues.
 - 1.3. Evaluate information to determine credibility of argument and/or perspective.
 - 1.4. Formulate well-reasoned, logical conclusions.

2. **The QEP will enhance pedagogical practices that focus on critical thinking.**
Faculty will:
 - 2.1. Participate in targeted professional development and training.
 - 2.2. Develop in-house training modules on critical thinking.
 - 2.3. Incorporate teaching and learning strategies that focus on critical thinking skills.
 - 2.4. Produce a portfolio with revised syllabi and assignments that emphasize critical thinking.

The outcomes for each goal will be assessed through multiple direct and indirect measures and then triangulated to determine the success of the QEP. Successful implementation of ***Question Every Possibility—Think Critically*** will be mutually beneficial for students, faculty, and other college stakeholders engaged in the project.

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