

CRITICAL THINKING CONFERENCE

AGENDA -- June 4- 6, 2008

Foundational Track

Wednesday afternoon – June 4, 2007

- 1:00 Welcome to the Conference and the Conferees Room 222/224
- 1:15 *What is Critical Thinking? A Facilitated Discussion* Room 226
Karen Howie, NMC (Northwestern Michigan College)
- 2:15 Break
- 2:30 *A Model For Critical Thinking: Introduction to Richard Paul-Part I* Room 226
Betty Stolarek, Ferris State University
- 3:30 Break
- 3:45 *A Model For Critical Thinking: Introduction to Richard Paul-Part II* Room 226
Betty Stolarek
- 4:45 Afternoon Wrap-up Room 222/224
- 5:30 Wine Tasting Tour and Dinner, see directions in packet
(Cost for dinner not included with registration.)
Wine Tasting: Black Star Farms
Dinner: Stella's Tratoria

Thursday – June 5, 2008

- 8:15 Breakfast
- 9:00 *The Art of Questioning: An Introduction* Room 226
Betty Stolarek
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 *Critical Reading: More than Accumulating Information* Room 226
Betty Stolarek
- 11:15 Break
- 11:30 *Group Work as a Vehicle for Getting Students to Think Critically* Room 220
Jeff Straw, Northwestern Michigan College
- 12:30 Lunch

Foundational Track (continued)

Thursday, June 5, 2008

- 1:15 *Teaching the Millennial Generation* Room 220
Anne Monroe, Northwestern Michigan College
- 2:15 Break
- 2:30 *Teaching Global Students* Room 222/224
Regis McCord, Northwestern Michigan College
- 3:30 Break
- 3:45 *Teaching Tactile-Kinesthetic Students* Room 222/224
Regis McCord
- 4:45 Afternoon Wrap-up Room 222/224
- 5:30 Sailing on West Grand Traverse Bay
Elmwood Marina, see directions in packet
13051 West Bay Shore, Traverse City MI
David Terrell's cell phone #231.883.1965
- Sailboat A**
Captain Fred Wilmeth
End of north dock (#2)
 - Sailboat B**
Captain Steve Wyckoff
Slip #92
 - Sailboat C**
Captain David Terrell
Slip #17
 - Sailboat D**
Captain Dennis Farr

CRITICAL THINKING CONFERENCE

AGENDA -- June 4 – 6, 2008

Advanced Track

Wednesday – June 4, 2008

- 1:00 Welcome to the Conference and the Conferees Room 222/224
- 1:15 *The Art of Questioning: Practicing Socratic Questioning in the Classroom*
Betty Stolarek, Ferris State University Room 222/224
- 2: 15 Break
- 2:30 *Designing Assignments for Critical Thinking—Part I* Room 222/224
David Terrell, John Mauk, Regis McCord / Northwestern Michigan College
- 3:30 Break
- 3:45 *Designing Assignments for Critical Thinking—Part I* Room 222/224
David Terrell, John Mauk, Regis McCord
- 4:45 Afternoon Wrap-up Room 222/224
- 5:30 Wine Tasting and Dinner, see directions in packet
(Cost for dinner not included with registration.)
Wine Tasting: Black Star Farms
Dinner: Stella's Tratoria

Thursday – June 5, 2008

- 8:15 Breakfast
- 9:00 *Assessing Student Performances for Critical Thinking – Part I* Room 222/224
David Terrell, John Mauk, Regis McCord
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 *Assessing Student Performances for Critical Thinking – Part II* Room 222/224
David Terrell, John Mauk, Regis McCord
- 11:15 Break
- 11:30 *Redesigning your Course for Critical Thinking-A Facilitated Activity* Room 222/224
David Terrell, John Mauk, Regis McCord
- 12:30 Lunch

Advanced Track (continued)

Thursday, June 5, 2008

1:15 *Redesigning Your Course for Critical Thinking-A Facilitated Activity* Room 222/224
David Terrell, John Mauk, Regis McCord

2:15 Break

2:30 *Conciseness: The Road Less Traveled* Room 226
Gary Klotzbach, Northwestern Michigan College

3:30 Break

3:45 *Critical Thinking in a Post Modern World* Room 220
John Mauk, Northwestern Michigan College

4:45 Afternoon Wrap-up Room 222/224

5:30 – Sailing on Grand Traverse Bay
Elmwood Marina, see directions in packet
13051 West Bay Shore, Traverse City MI
David Terrell's cell phone #231.883.1965

Sailboat A

Captain Fred Wilmeth
End of north dock (#2)

Sailboat B

Captain Steve Wyckoff
Slip #92

Sailboat C

Captain David Terrell
Slip #17

Sailboat D

Captain Dennis Farr

Break Out Sessions

Friday – June 6, 2008

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7:45 Breakfast

8:30 – 9:45 a.m. Breakout Sessions

- ***Developing Critical Thinking Skills in a Self-paced Writing Course***

John Pahl, Northwestern Michigan College

Room 220

This presentation provides two contexts for students' continuing development of critical thinking: 1) analyzing others' arguments and writing their own; and 2) recognizing the urgent need for critical thinking in today's social/political environment. Short readings and exercises will involve participants in what students would normally do in this second-semester writing course.

- ***Using Critical Reading to Master Content***

Dave Terrell, Northwestern Michigan College

Room 226

This presentation is based on national data that strongly argues that about 50% of Americans aged 16 to 65 are functionally illiterate. This mean two things. First, they can read but have great difficulty turning words into meaning. Second, our students reflect the national population: some of them are functionally illiterate. The session will show how centering classroom activity around critical analysis of assigned reading(s) can help our students become more effective readers and thinkers.

- ***Teaching Critical Thinking ONLINE: Counterfactual Conversations***

Mindy Morton, Northwestern Michigan College

Room 222/224

How do you use discussion and counterfactual (what if?) essays to promote critical thinking. We'll begin with discussion and then reading a counterfactual essay that my students read followed by discussion. The second is an assignment where students have to write their own essay, and the lastly the discussion/comments on each other's conclusions.

9:45 Break

Break Out Sessions (continued)

Friday – June 6, 2008

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9:55 – 11:10 a.m. Breakout Sessions

- ***Calculus and Pre-calculus as Tools for Critical Thinking***

Dale Winter, University of Michigan
Room 220

The concepts of college mathematics can serve as powerful tools for critical thinking when applied in situations that can be represented quantitatively. We will illustrate a model for incorporating critical thinking into the college math classroom.

- ***Revamping the Research Paper, A Critical Thinking Approach***

Betty Stolarek, Ferris State University
Room 226

Technology has greatly improved both the research and the production processes of writing research papers, yet most teachers would agree that this has not led to better writing from students. This session looks at ways to improve student writing by incorporating critical thinking in the earliest prewriting stages of the writing process. Other benefits of incorporating critical thinking pedagogy include enhancement of authenticity in student writing and a reduction in plagiarism.

- ***Both/And: Critical Thinking and Creativity***

Brad Hokanson, College of Design, University of Minnesota
Room 222/224

The skills and methods inherent in critical thinking are essential to and supportive of learning in the creative and design fields. This session will focus on how critical thinking informs the creative classroom, with ideas applicable to other disciplines as well. Work from courses in creative problem solving and graphic design will be presented and discussed within a critical thinking context.

11:10 Break

Break Out Sessions (continued)

Friday – June 6, 2008

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11:20 – 12:35 a.m. Breakout sessions

- ***Round Table/Critical Thinking in Online Classes***
Facilitator: Karen Howie, Northwestern Michigan College
Room 220

- ***Round Table***
Beyond PowerPoint: How Students Can Demonstrate Critical Thinking in Their Presentations
Facilitator: Heather Sisto, Mott Community College
Room 226
Please come to this session ready to participate...with ideas (past, present, future ruminations) of how creative presentations or artifacts can demonstrate critical thinking beyond the formal paper or PowerPoint. How do we score these creations? Is there a good rubric available? Although the facilitator will start this session using creations from her students, the intent is to get everyone involved in the discussion. If you have something that works well for you, please bring it and share...and let's do some critical thinking on this topic!

- ***Critical Mass or Critical Mess: Why We Need to Reexamine Our Views of Critical Thinking***
Rowland Johnson, Northwestern Michigan College
Room 222/224
This presentation will look at the various ways in which critical thinking is viewed in academia and to discuss the ways it is viewed by others (the business community). To show both the need for "critical mass" (that is, teaching critical thinking properly across the curriculum) and the existence of the "critical mess" that we face in both the academic and business worlds when it comes to our lack of understanding about what we mean by critical thinking and how we value it will be the topic for discussion.

12:35 Conference Wrap-up

Room 222/224

Safe Travel Home!