CRITICAL THINKING PROCEDURES & PROCESSES

TABLE 2: ELEMENTS OF REASONING Process of Thinking Things Through	
Purpose	What am I trying to achieve or make happen?
Question at Issue	What is the central question I am trying to think through?
Information	What facts, data or evidence do I need to figure things out?
Concepts	What are the organizing ideas, theories, or principles that influence my thinking?
Assumptions	What am I taking for granted that forms the basis of my thinking?
Interpretation	What are the connections I am making, and, conclusions or solutions I am coming to?
Implications	What are the consequences that follow my line of thinking?
Point of View	What are the other relevant perspectives that I need to consider?

TABLE 3: INTELLECTUAL STANDARDS Process to Construct Questions in An Argument Think About My Thinking	
Clarity	To what extent is the point easily understood by myself and others?
Accuracy	To what extent is my information true or correct without distortion?
Precision	To what extent is my information exact and specific to the necessary level of detail?
Relevance	To what extent odes my information and input relate to the issue at hand?
Depth	To what extent am I engaging with the complexities of the issues?
Breadth	To what extent am I considering the issue at hand within the necessary contexts and relationships?
Logic	To what extent do my conclusions follow from the evidence?
Significance	To what extent can I identify and focus on the most important aspect of the issue at hand?
Fairness	To what extent am I able to avoid privileging my own biases?

TABLE 4: Procedural Questions To Ask When Analyzing New Information



WHO:	Who benefits from this? Who is most directly harmed or affected? Who will be the key person in this situation?
WHAT:	What is most important and/or least important? What is another perspective? What is another alternative?
WHERE:	Where can more information be obtained? Where do we go for help with this? Where are areas for improvement?
WHEN:	When is this acceptable or unacceptable? When is the best time to take action? When can we expect change?
WHY:	Why is this a problem or challenge? Why is it relevant to me or others? Why is there a need for this today?
HOW:	How does this disrupt things? How will we approach this safely? How can we change this for our good?