

Preface

Evidently, Critical Thinking (CT), Critical Reasoning (CR), Analytic Thinking (AT), or Applied Logic (AL), and many other equivalent dyads, ought to be ubiquitous, across the 21st century, and beyond, within the global academe, research and development (R&D), world pedagogy and education, economy and finance, global sales and marketing, society, polity, culture, law, medicine and health care, the sciences, engineering, technology, and sustainability to name a few. Therefore, following my earlier co-authored book, 'Applied Logic—Critical Thinking in the Real World', co-authored/customized, with professor Lee, McGraw Hill Publishing, 2007, this is a new book that emphasizes the essential skills and techniques of rational and scientific thinking. Precisely, it encompasses many of the philosophic, economic, ethical, scientific, and applied criteria of my educational logic-math-ethics-science-technology-globalization (L-MEST-G) methodology, which extends far beyond the cherished science-technology-engineering-mathematics (STEM) proposals of world politicians and school administrators, educationally crucial nonetheless.

Exactly, my pedagogical/curricular acronym, L-MEST-G, aims at systemically and multi-dimensionally identifying constructs, issues, and problematics—theoretic, practical, and productive, to borrow from the ancient, Aristotelian epistemic taxonomy to knowledge. Namely, logically spotting, hypothesizing, modeling (mathematics, geometry, matricial calculi, and, especially, in this book, appealing to informal, or CT, logic), theorizing, forecasting, feedbacking, and forwardbacking global daily problems, concerns, or dilemmas. Equivalently, using the logical standards, levels, structures, dynamics, functions, and environments to properly situating all kinds of human and natural challenges. Thus, attempting to solving/resolving them!

Furthermore, critical (Greek from, kreinin, 'to inquire' or kriticos, to utilize one's 'discerned judgment') thinking zeroes in on open-mindedly exploring whether an opinion, belief, image, idea, emotion, feeling, logic or the lack thereof, abstract, form, ideal, action, claim, argument, explanation, and so on is/are logically true, false, or indeterminate. Whether opinions, beliefs, emotions, statements, contentions, etc., are factually (scientifically, empirically, statistically) true, false, or indeterminate. In short, the purpose of this new CT book is to identify fallacies and thinking errors, introducing thereby the introductory CT learner to the basic skills, techniques, algorithms, and diagnoses of sound rational and applied thinking. CT (and philosophy in general: classical or "the philosophy of ..."; please see *infra*) is the art/science of adequate definitions, logical and scientific rules, unbiased language, compatible and adaptive neuro-logic, fallacies' identification and diagnosis, thought logical and objective treatment or medicine, thinking systems appraisal, proper explanations, plausible arguments (deductions, inductions, and abductions), statistics, epistemology (science of knowledge) and methodology, predictive analytics, artificial intelligence, and infinitely much more!

Enjoy and reap ☺

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