

# The CUNY Critical Thinking Skills Initiative

## Coursework Learning Objectives

*Information in the Contemporary World* (COM 110, 3 credits)

In this course, students will:

1. Learn and practice critical thinking skills that require finding, examining, evaluating, and contributing to online resources.
2. Access and navigate resources for online research and collaboration for academic, professional, and social communication.
3. Evaluate and differentiate among scholarly, news, and popular sources of information online and use them appropriately.
4. Analyze how the format in which information appears may affect how it is understood or can be used.
5. Practice visual and quantitative literacy skills, and complete a major project requiring collaborative (group) learning.
6. Define a research topic, formulate research questions, locate appropriate sources, and refine the research topic based on the availability of relevant information resources.
7. Create a formal written project in digital format and integrate appropriate illustrations and/or audio-visual enhancements and links to web sources.
8. Consider best practices for interacting with information online, and practice writing for various types of media, including wikis, blogs, social networking sites, and discussion boards, as well as formal research projects.
9. Communicate in varying styles, evaluating and selecting the appropriate register for their audience and the information being conveyed.
10. Demonstrate an understanding of ethical, legal, and social issues surrounding plagiarism, copyright, and intellectual property and apply principles of academic integrity in their use of information.
11. Manage information effectively to provide evidence for a claim, both individually, and as a member of a group.
12. Integrate digital information into their writing, using correct styles to quote, paraphrase, attribute, and cite information.

*Internet Research Strategies* (LRC 103, 1 credit)

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of Internet concepts and appropriate use of Internet vocabulary.
2. Choose appropriate Web-based information sources and use them successfully.
3. Formulate and modify search strategies in order to retrieve needed resources successfully.
4. Critically evaluate electronic information resources.