Broward College defines critical thinking as a process of evaluating information by questioning and testing assumptions, accepting and rejecting arguments and/or perspectives, and applying reasoning to make informed decisions.

QEP Endorsed Events for Students

During the month of November, there were two student events that emphasized the importance of critical thinking skills.

First Event

On November 7, 2014, the Broward College South Campus chapter of Collegiate DECA sponsored the first 2014 Business Development Conference. Professor Erick Perez, a QEP Scholar, is the South Campus advisor. Professor Perez planned and organized the conference with assistance from South Campus colleagues. Approximately 80 high school and college students from several South Broward high schools and Broward College participated in various tasks that focused on current “hot topic” issues, problem solving, and teamwork in business, with critical thinking as a central component in the different activities.

Second Event

On November 17, 2014, the Social Sciences Group, the Dr. Who Club, and Phi Theta Kappa sponsored Edwin Black’s discussion titled, “Critical Thinking and the Middle East” on Central Campus. Mr. Black discussed the importance of thinking critically about “some of the greatest issues of our day,” specifically the Middle East—the crisis between Israel and Palestine. Mr. Black engaged the audience by asking questions that required higher-order thinking. Approximately 40 students and faculty attended the event. To watch the video, visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LiqnjBdR94Y

A special acknowledgement to the QEP Scholars who are involved in the student organizations that sponsored this event—Professors Kisha King and Josh Kimber and Dr. Rowena Hernandez-Muzquiz

*QEP Promising Practices*

QEP faculty have identified three promising practices to enhance students’ critical thinking skills. These promising practices are also linked to student motivation and student success.

- Metacognition Study Skills
- Questioning
- Student Involvement

If you have a promising practice you would like to share, email it to qep@broward.edu.

A few practices will be shared in an upcoming Critical Thinking Thursday Newsletter.

Critical Thinking Corner...

Suzette Spencer
QEP Taskforce Member

Information literacy is essential in developing our students as lifelong learners. It extends learning beyond the classroom and provides a foundation for students to succeed beyond their academic career. Being information literate encompasses the ability to locate, evaluate, and use information effectively and ethically. However, this skillset is incomplete without the presence of critical thinking skills. As a Faculty Librarian, the opportunity to collaborate with the QEP team has reinforced the importance of applying strategies to engage and challenge students’ critical thinking abilities. Optimal information literacy can be achieved through collective efforts of librarians and instructors to develop well-designed research assignments, where critical evaluation is fostered in all students.

To learn more about the QEP, visit www.broward.edu/qep or to ask questions, email qep@broward.edu

Information is the currency of democracy. – Thomas Jefferson