

Critical Thinking

Why is critical thinking necessary for scholarly research? How can I think critically when it comes to my research project? During our class discussion the other day, Ashley Garcia made a claim that in order to think critically, it is necessary to question everything and to make connections between your research and your knowledge. With this in mind, I have developed a personal strategy for thinking critically.

- Summarize my perspective and experiences.
- Establish credibility, self-assess.
- Assess the situation at hand, what are my observations?
- Formulate my own opinion and back it up. If I am going to address problems, I should offer solutions to fix them.

As Bill Mangrum pointed out, critical thinking advances when you push and ask questions. By asking questions at every step, of myself and of others, it is possible to for me to dive deeper past generalizations and go beyond the surface.