Essential Skill 2:
Think critically in order to solve problems and create new ideas and solutions.

Graduates will think critically by evaluating assumptions and assessing information to make informed conclusions. They will also think creatively by combining ideas in original ways or developing new ways of addressing issues.

Benchmark College entry	Milestone End of 2 years of college	Capstone Bachelor's degree completion
Describes a problem in general terms based on gathered information.	Identifies aspects of a problem clearly by locating and using relevant sources of information.	Analyzes a problem and its components accurately using credible sources, data, and information.
Acknowledges personal perspectives and how these may help or hinder problem-solving.	Seeks out and considers different perspectives on a problem.	Evaluates alternative perspectives, allowing new information to add depth to thinking about a problem.
Compiles possible solutions that are loosely connected to a problem.	Articulates patterns, relationships, context, and other factors that are relevant to a problem.	Evaluates reasonable implications and weighs and synthesizes significant evidence and relevant perspectives to draw informed and innovative conclusions about a problem and potential solutions.
Contributes ideas that reflect an understanding of a problem in a brainstorming session.	Links concepts to generate novel ideas or solutions to problems.	Integrates diverse perspectives to propose an innovative idea or solution.