Critical Thinking and Creative Problem-Solving

Course Summary

Description

Today's work environment is increasingly complex and ambiguous. At the same time, our managers and stakeholders are demanding we come up with more creative and innovation solutions to the problems we face. How can you find solutions and make decisions when faced with uncertainty? How do you respond to the demand for more innovative approaches in your process? This workshop will provide you with creative processes and tools that strike the right balance between critical thinking and creative solutions.

You'll receive your personal FourSight ™ Breakthrough Thinking Profile and discover how your thinking preferences can enhance or hinder how you and your team engage in the creative problem solving process. You'll be introduced to attitudes and tools that will help you build more creative solutions; the distinct phases of the creative problem solving process; strategies for gaining acceptance of your ideas and when to use critical versus creative thinking. In addition, you'll take away thinker toys and a learner guide with a bibliography of helpful references to further your learning.

Objectives
At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize the difference between critical and creative thinking and when to utilize each
- Understand the importance of balancing analysis with ideas
- Engage more productively in the creative problem solving process
- Use critical and creative thinking tools to develop more creative solutions
- Identify personal actions for continuing the development of your creative problem solving mind set and skill set

Topics

- The creative problem solving mindset
- The creative problem solving tool set
- Building your creative problem solving skill set

Audience

This course is designed for anyone working in complex, ambiguous circumstances that demand creative thinking and innovative results.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites required for this course.

Duration

One day

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Course Outline

I. The creative problem solving mindset
- A. Critical or creative? The importance of finding the right balance between analysis and ideas
- B. Attitudes that foster creative solutions
- C. Developing better solutions – how praise first and phrasing challenges as questions can transform your problem solving efforts
- D. Personal thinking preferences and their impact on teams and collaborative work environments

II. The creative problem solving tool set
- A. Ground rules for critical and creative thinking and when to use each
- B. The creative problem solving process
- C. Tools to help you clarify the problem, generate ideas, develop and implement more creative solutions

III. Building your creative problem solving skill set
- A. Practicing the creative problem solving mind set and tool set

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