

# Foundations for Learning-GSD 101: What Students and Instructors are Saying



“GSD 101 (Foundations for Learning) is an awesome class! Not only has it inspired me to be more socially active here on EKU's campus, but it has also helped me to develop stronger critical and creative thinking skills that I use each and every day...GSD 101 is not just another class that has the soak up then sponge out effect, like most classes; you essentially gain knowledge of real world ideas and skills that you use during your college experience and in life as well.”

**-Brittany Guffey, Student, GSD 101**

“I've found myself thinking about S-E-E-I in most of my classes, and noticed how I had used it in a paper I wrote for English last week, without even realizing it. The things I have learned in GSD 101 have overlapped into other courses...I have a better understanding of what professors expect from me, and how to get to that point effectively.”

**- Casey Huffman, Student GSD 101**



“I think GSD should be a required class at the beginning of everyone's college career. The class can insure that the students know the importance of critical thinking. It is important to think critically in order to make it all the way through college. “

**-Brock Hart, Student, GSD 101**

“ I leave the classroom with a sense of self-awareness of how to better think analytically, and to apply it to all my other classes. It has opened my eyes to various perspectives of how to improve my development as a student. I tend to use S-E-E-I and PFC constantly during my day. I find myself using these methods, especially S-E-E-I, in answering various questions in my classes.

**-Stephanie Moore, Student, GSD 101**



“As the semester progressed, the transformation of my learners from inactive, passive observers to fully-engaged participants in the class was amazing. Each day, learners tell me they are using the concepts from GSD 101 in their other classes and in their daily lives. They are thinking things through more clearly, they are presenting information in class more accurately, they are utilizing illustrations when they want to be more precise. In other words, my learners are thinking more effectively, and this effective thinking is positively impacting their behavior, which is increasing their academic success.”

**- Stephen Haggerty, Instructor GSD 101**

“The critical thinking component of GSD 101 Foundations of Learning has opened new doors of teaching methodology opportunity for me. Now instead of simply teaching students to understand and learn I have a teaching methodology that stimulates my students to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information (scholarly works, problems, and more) resulting in their developing a deeper understanding of the coursework.”

**-Jim Larsgaard, Instructor GSD 101**



“I use the SEE-I method often to determine if my students are understanding the concept I am teaching or not. This helps me quickly identify if the students are missing the concepts and I know I need to review with them some more.”

**-David May, Instructor GSD 101**

**EKU will develop informed, critical and creative thinkers who can communicate effectively.**



# GSD 101 Quick Facts

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**Foundations For Learning (GSD 101)** is one of the ECU Quality Enhancement broad-based initiatives which is being piloted this fall 2008 for the first time. It is a three credit hour course which fulfills the University required Academic Orientation course for first-time freshmen who opt to enroll in the course, with two additional elective credits. The intent of the course is to provide foundational knowledge and skills in critical and creative thinking and to increase student success and retention.

**Central Question:** What do I need to know and do to be successful in college and in life?

## Current Text

Cuseo, Joseph B., Viki Sox Fecas and Aaron Thompson. Thriving in College & Beyond. Dubuque: Kendall/Hunt, 2007.

Elder, Linda and Richard Paul. "Analytic Thinking." How to Take Thinking Apart and What to Look for When You Do. Foundation for Critical Thinking, 2005.

## Topics Covered

Critical and Creative Thinking  
Diversity  
Educational Planning  
Career Planning  
Campus Resources  
Interpersonal Relationships  
Research, Writing, and Speaking  
Liberal Arts Education  
Strategic Learning  
Money Management  
Memory and Test Performance

Visit our website: [www.qep.eku.edu/course](http://www.qep.eku.edu/course) for more information

Contact Erin Barnett at [Erin.Barnett@eku.edu](mailto:Erin.Barnett@eku.edu) or 859-622-2994 with questions