PHIL-1311 Critical Thinking

THE UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS

Dr. David Gray

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MWF
11:30 AM - 12:25 PM

We encounter arguments, claims, and apparent evidence every day—in conversations, adver tisements, news reports, social media, scientific studies, and decisions about our own lives. Some are convincing for good reasons; others seem convincing even when the evidence is weak or the reasoning is misleading. How can we tell the difference?

This course develops practical skills for understanding, evaluating, and responding to argu ments and information. Students will learn how to interpret claims accurately, reconstruct ar guments fairly, distinguish strong reasoning from weak reasoning, find and evaluate evidence, recognize misleading uses of statistics, and consider alternative explanations.