Appendix D

Example CT Elective Syllabus

(Two examples of CT standards; adapted from Paul

Week 1: Introduction
   What is Critical Thinking and Why is it Important?
   Cognitive Skills and Effective Behaviors
   Intellectual Standards

Week 2: Language
   Definitions and Semantics
   Informative vs. Emotive Language
   Inconsistent Language: Vagueness and Ambiguity, Contradiction and Oxymoron

Week 3: Logic
   Deductive vs. Inductive Reasoning
   Cause and Effect
   Categorical Logic and Venn Diagrams
   If-Then Statements

Week 4: Argument
   Construction of an Argument
   Logical Fallacies

Week 5: Claims and Evidence
   Do Statistics Tell The Truth?
   Scientific Evidence
   Individual Testimony

Week 6: Application
   Historical CT Blunders

Week 7: Application
   Problem Solving and the Decision Process
Week 8: Learning Theory
    Traditional vs. Emerging Theory

Week 9: The Affective Dimension
    Are Humans Disposed to Critical Thought?

Week 10: Biases
    Ego-centric and Ego-social Behavior

Week 11: Application: Bias in the Media
    Finding Biases and Fallacy in the Media

Week 12: Self-destructive Behavior
    Why Smart People Do Dumb Things

Week 13: Application: Considering Opposing Viewpoints
    Advocating and Discussing Difficult Issues

Week 14: Creativity
    Creative Problem Solutions and Decisions

Week 15: Harnessing Critical Thinking
    Socrates or Sophistry?

**Notes**