

Developing Critical Thinking
Saturday November 12, 2011
Thatcher Hall, 2nd floor
SUNY Potsdam, Potsdam, NY

8:30-9:00 **Registration** **Thatcher Hall Lobby**

9:00-9:15 **Thatcher Hall**

Opening *Anneke J. Larrance, Executive Director, Associated Colleges of the St. Lawrence Valley*

Welcome *John F. Schwaller, President, SUNY Potsdam*

Introduction *Maria Hepel, Professor, SUNY Potsdam*

9:15-10:30 **Plenary** **Thatcher Hall**

An Introduction to Critical Thinking
 What is Critical Thinking? Why should we teach it? What is it to think critically within a field, discipline or subject matter?
Gerald Nosich, Professor, Philosophy and Humanities, Buffalo State; Fellow, Foundation for Critical Thinking

10:30-10:45 **Break** **Thatcher Hall**

10:45-12:00 **The Elements of Reasoning** **Thatcher Hall**

The elements are the nuts and bolts of critical thinking and participants will use them to analyze an important question or problem their students need to think through in their classes. There will be reflection on how the elements can be used in assessment, in group discussion, in analytic reading, in critical writing and in assignments.

Gerald Nosich, Professor, Philosophy and Humanities, Buffalo State; Fellow, Foundation for Critical Thinking

12:00-12:45 **Lunch** **Thatcher Hall**

12:45-2:00 **The Standards of Critical Thinking** **Thatcher Hall**

Participants will practice clarifying, using SEE-I as a strategy and will then work in groups on teaching students to ask questions based in the standards.

Gerald Nosich, Professor, Philosophy and Humanities, Buffalo State; Fellow, Foundation for Critical Thinking

2:00-2:15 **Break** **Thatcher Hall**

2:15-3:30 **The Affective Dimension of Critical Thinking** **Thatcher Hall**

Being a critical thinker involves cultivating intellectual traits of mind such as intellectual humility, intellectual courage, and intellectual perseverance. In this session, participants will

- work on gaining a deeper understanding of these traits
- identify some of the consequences these traits have for learning and thinking
- generate strategies to promote development of these traits in the classroom.

Gerald Nosich, Professor, Philosophy and Humanities, Buffalo State; Fellow, Foundation for Critical Thinking