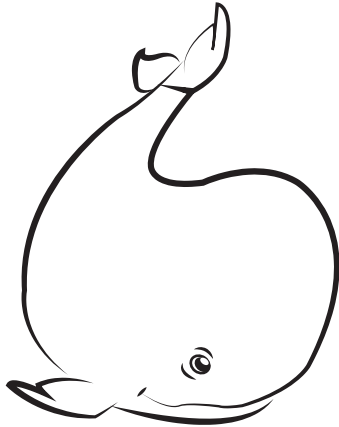
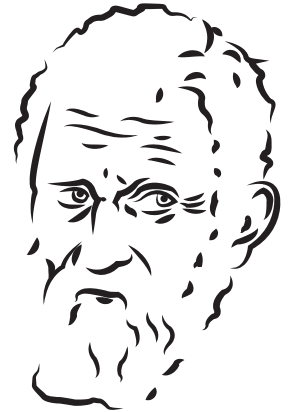


Marco Polo, Moby Dick, and Teaching Critical Thinking: An Applied Approach



Tuesday, August 28, 2012
University Center, Room 275
1:00-3:00 p.m.



MARCO POLO, MOBY DICK, AND TEACHING CRITICAL THINKING: AN APPLIED APPROACH:

Critical thinking is widely recognized as an important learning objective in higher education. Unfortunately, calls to improve critical thinking instruction have tended to embrace ambitious definitions of the subject but have not supplied a wealth of practical, classroom advice. As a predictable consequence, faculty who take critical thinking seriously can easily feel adrift in their attempts to reach this vague, but important, objective. Faculty can, in other words, be set off in the demoralizing search of a pedagogical Moby Dick. This workshop seeks to counter this trend, consider ways to recognize the critical thinking skills that our students bring to the classroom, and to identify a handful of discrete and manageable ways to develop these abilities. There is something to be said for going after smaller fish.

PRESENTER:

Dona Warren is a professor of philosophy and the Assistant Dean for Curriculum and Student Affairs in the College of Letters and Science at the University of Wisconsin –Stevens Point. Holding a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota, she has taught a stand-alone course on critical thinking every semester since 1995 and has been passionately involved in hosting conferences, facilitating faculty discussions, and giving presentations on the subject of critical thinking. In 2009, she received a UW Regents' Teaching Excellence Award.



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