
FIGURE 1: The Findings of the Thesis.

- There is insufficient evidence to be confident that studying philosophy improves critical thinking skills any more than studying other disciplines.

- Studying philosophy appears to be less effective than studying critical thinking in its own right.

- The greatest improvements in critical thinking have been obtained through using innovative teaching techniques.

- Further research is desirable to gather better evidence in a number of areas.

- The meta-analysis showed an effect size of .26 SD for philosophy.

- The meta-analysis showed an effect size of .26 SD for philosophy and .12 SD for other disciplines taken as a whole.

- The meta-analysis showed effect sizes for three categories of critical thinking equal to or greater than .26 SD, albeit with overlapping confidence intervals.

- LAMP (Lots of Argument Mapping Practice), used in the context of philosophy studies, has made the greatest difference.

- The Keller Plan, as a method of teaching, makes a considerable difference.

- On the impact of philosophy on critical thinking skills.

- On the impact of other core disciplines on critical thinking skills.

- On the difference made by LAMP to the development of critical thinking skills.

- Traditional critical thinking inside philosophy had an effect size of .34 SD.

- Dedicated critical thinking outside philosophy had an effect size of .40 SD.

- Courses with some critical thinking had an effect size of .26 SD.