

Critical Thinking and the Secrets to Navigating & Deciphering Information

The Recipe for Empowering Students While Building a Classroom Culture of Effective Inquiry and Productive Communication

Today's educators are teaching in an age of unlimited information, increased polarization, and complex social, political, cultural, historical, and economic issues. For social sciences teachers, the challenge is no longer simply delivering content. The challenge is helping students think critically, listen carefully, communicate respectfully, and engage difficult topics without turning the classroom into chaos.

This professional development and coaching session equips educators with practical tools to build classroom cultures where open dialogue, productive communication, and meaningful inquiry can thrive.

Led by Jeff Searcy, a former government and economics teacher, organizational executive, consultant, trainer, entrepreneur, speaker, and former United States Marine, this session is grounded in more than 30 years of practical experience across both the public and private sectors, locally to globally. Jeff brings a rare combination of classroom experience, leadership training, organizational insight, and real-world perspective to help educators address one of the most urgent needs in education today: restoring critical thinking.

Jeff often says, “**Critical thinking is in critical condition.**” The truth of that statement is visible in classrooms, communities, media, politics, and public discourse. But all is not lost. Critical thinking is not accidental. It is a skill, a purposeful endeavor, and a discipline that can be cultivated and honed.

The Framework

At the center of this session is Jeff's framework: **The 3 P's of Information.**

Position

the where

Purpose

the why

Perspective

the lens

All three must be considered collectively when taking in information. This framework gives teachers and students a shared set of lenses for examining information, arguments, decisions, policies, primary sources, current events, historical narratives, economic choices, and controversial issues. It also helps establish classroom culture, expectations, and norms that support inquiry rather than reaction.

If we expect current and future generations to address the political, cultural, societal, and economic issues facing our country and world, we must give them the tools to effectively do so.

Educators Will Learn How To

- Build classroom cultures that support respectful discussion and inquiry
- Facilitate hot topics and controversial issues without classroom chaos
- Help students analyze information through a practical shared framework
- Connect real-world issues to government, economics, history, and social studies standards
- Strengthen student confidence, communication, reasoning, and perspective-taking
- Support teachers with adaptable tools that fit their own classroom style and personality

Designed For

- Social studies educators and department heads
- Government, economics, history, and civics teachers
- School administrators
- School district executives and decision makers
- Professional development coordinators

Available Formats

- Half-day workshops
- Full-day workshops
- School-year kickoff sessions
- Professional development sessions
- Department workshops

- Virtual department coaching
- Customized training opportunities

What Educators Are Saying

“Mr. Searcy was excellent. Not only was his presentation fantastic for the classroom, but also for us as humans as well. His strategy to teach kids the why and to be open to all perspectives in the world is phenomenal. His presentation was by far the best out of any I have been to at the conference. I would recommend anyone to take the time to listen to what he has say. It was very eye opening.”

Logan H. | Social Studies Teacher, Greene County, GA

“I loved your presentation and got a great deal out of it and would like your presentation as to i think it would provide a powerful framework on how teachers have students analyze primary documents. Thank you again for your presentation today.”

Nat B. | Social Studies Teacher and Department Head, Rome, GA

Schedule a Session

Equip teachers. Empower students. Build classrooms where critical thinking can thrive.

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