

## Sources of Influence Affecting Adult Arab EAP Students' Critical Thinking

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### Abstract

This study reports the results of a survey of adult Gulf Arab students' perceptions of influences that affect the development of their critical thinking skills. Drawing from Terenzini *et al.*'s conceptual model of college influence on student learning (1995), the study explores the impact of the three dimensions of integrated curricula, class-related activities, and out-of-class experiences on Arab students' critical thinking abilities. The study participants are first-year college students enrolled in English for Academic Purposes (EAP) course in a foundation program that prepares them for premedical education at a private American medical college located in Qatar. The survey results indicate students' attitudes towards integrated curricula and out-of-class experiences as the leading contributing factors to the development of their critical thinking skills.

*Keywords:* Critical thinking, Arab ESL learners, Integrated, curriculum, Arabic Speakers