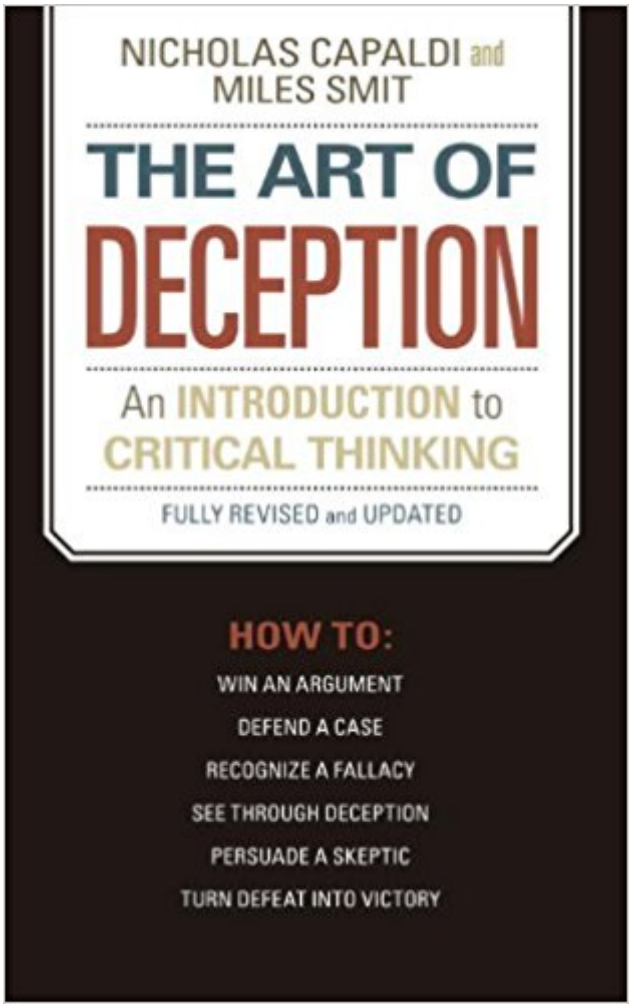
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The Art Of Deception: An Introduction To Critical Thinking



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Synopsis

Can you tell when you’re being deceived?This classic work on critical thinking Ã¢â ¬â • now fully updated and revised Ã¢â ¬â • uses a novel approach to teach the basics of informal logic. On the assumption that "it takes one to know one," the authors have written the book from the point of view of someone who wishes to deceive, mislead, or manipulate others. Having mastered the art of deception, readers will then be able to detect the misuse or abuse of logic when they encounter it in others Ã¢â ¬â • whether in a heated political debate or while trying to evaluate the claims of a persuasive sales person. Using a host of real-world examples, the authors show you how to win an argument, defend a case, recognize a fallacy, see through deception, persuade a skeptic, and turn defeat into victory. Not only do they discuss the fundamentals of logic (premises, conclusions, syllogisms, common fallacies, etc.), but they also consider important related issues often encountered in face-to-face debates, such as gaining a sympathetic audience, responding to audience reaction, using nonverbal devices, clearly presenting the facts, refutation, and driving home a concluding argument. Whether youÃ¢â ¬â„¢re preparing for law school or you just want to become more adept at making your points and analyzing othersÃ¢â ¬â„¢ arguments, The Art of Deception will give you the intellectual tools to become a more effective thinker and speaker. Helpful exercises and discussion questions are also included.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"I would recommend this book to anyone interested in learning about intellectual self-defence. It

should be on every student’s book shelf, and on every educators list of recommended reading." --Dr Jason Braithwaite, Behavioural Brain Sciences Centre, University of Birmingham.

Nicholas Capaldi, PhD (Baton Rouge, LA), holds the Legendre-SoulÃƒÂ© Distinguished Scholar Chair in Business Ethics at Loyola University of New Orleans. He is the author or editor of many books including Affirmative Action: Social Justice or Unfair Preference?; Immigration: Debating the Issues; and John Stuart Mill: A Biography.Miles Smit, PhD (Toronto, Ontario), works as a business analyst in Canada and holds a PhD in philosophy from the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium.

It was recommended by a law student and everything the law student told me was true. The book breaks down arguments and defences in a way that makes sense. It outlines attack strategies and defence initiatives. Well balanced and imperative for beginners.

interesting

Very good read!

Great read

it is written in a dry style that was dense and hard to follow at times. i got the most out of scanning the book, which gave good information and perspective, but when I tried to read it, I couldn’t get into the book, even though I was very interested in the subject. Maybe it was the layout and illustration? the content seemed to be very good, but hard to digest for some reason.

Great! My only regret is that I purchases the Kindle version and it’s difficult to find specific locations. I plan to buy the print edition so that I can keep it handy as a reference. The writing is not only clear, but it is extremely funny. This lady could (and, perhaps, has) develop a stand-up routine based solely on punctuation.

This book gives great detail into the accounts of formal and informal arguements. It also discusses the inductive and deductive reasoning. So far the book is serving me greatly. I am currently using this book in a class for Elementary Logic

Who open scroll always profit says an ancient Chinese motto. The same applies to books. I profited from reading this one, but I didn't profit much or enough. The work is uneven and needs focus. The title is poor because it misnames the subject of the book which is, incidentally, not how to win an anrgument, but how to think clearly. Some of the author's points would have passed me by and probably other points would have been downright confusing had I not had a background in logic. And one wonders about a book on the Art of Deception deceiving people into believing that the book is one thing when it is really about something else. Perhaps some well meaning editior or PR person mispersuaded the author to use this fake and phony title in the hope of increased sales. A few bones: I don't like the word argument because of its two meanings. Demonstration is better. The formal analysis of arguments (my demonstrations) in chapter three hits the reader on the head: Although it is technically correct, without a background in formal logic you might get lost fast. The chapter could have done better explaining the differences between contraries and contradictions and the reasons for the other errors which are never clearly stated. The author just assumes the reader will get it when I have a feeling derived from teaching logic for years that they won't and don't. For intstance, why the undistributed middle term invalidates a proof is clear to me only because I knew it from previous studies, and thought long and hard about it, not from what the author says here in his book. And the worst sin of all: Somewhere in the middle of the discussion of groupthink, the author seems to get bored with his own discussion. No wonder the reader nods off. Those interested in improving their critical thinking should read Asking the Right Questions. Those interested in understanding errors in logic might consult The Art of Argument by St. Aubyn, a book that hits hard where we need improvement by showing us the common errors of thinking of overgeneralization, false analogy, vague definition, and partial selection of the evidence.

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