Critical Thinking in Online Discussion

Yu-mei Wang, University of Alabama at Birmingham

This presentation reports a study designed to measure student critical thinking in online discussion. Critical thinking involves higher order cognitive skills such as analysis, synthesis and evaluation. Assessment plays an important role in promoting the quality of student postings. This study was designed to integrate assessment into online discussion for the purpose of promoting student critical thinking in their discussion contributions. The assessment criteria were implemented and its effects on student postings were investigated.