

NORTHWOOD TECHNICAL COLLEGE
HEALTH SCIENCES
STUDENT POLICIES

GOOD THINKING vs. POOR THINKING

Aspect	The Good Thinker	The Poor Thinker
General Traits	• Welcomes problematic situations and is tolerant of ambiguity. • Is sufficiently self-critical; looks for alternate possibilities and goals; seeks evidence on both sides. • Is reflective and deliberative, searches extensively when appropriate. • Believes in the value of rationality and that thinking can be effective.	• Searches for certainty and is intolerant of ambiguity. • Is not self-critical and is satisfied with first attempts. • Is impulsive, gives up prematurely, and is overconfident of the correctness of initial ideas. • Overvalues intuition, denigrates rationality; believes thinking won't help.
Goals	• Is deliberative in discovering goals. • Revises goals when necessary.	• Is impulsive in discovering goals. • Does not revise goals.
Possibilities	• Is open to multiple possibilities and considers alternatives. • Is deliberative in analyzing possibilities.	• Prefers to deal with limited possibilities; does not seek alternatives to an initial possibility. • Is impulsive in choosing possibilities.
Evidence	• Uses evidence that challenges favored possibilities. • Consciously searches for evidence against possibilities that are initially strong, or in favor of those that are weak.	• Ignores evidence that challenges favored possibilities. • Consciously searches only for evidence that favors strong possibilities.

Reprinted from "The Good Thinker" by Glatthorn and Baron