

## COURSE OVERVIEW

# Strategic Thinking

## OVERVIEW

In a world that's changing as fast as ours, the ability to think strategically has become the responsibility of every employee—from the boardroom to the front line.

This course introduces an innovative, new way to think about and approach the troubling business problems and challenges so many leaders are up against today. This training addresses the skills, attitudes, traits and behaviors employees need to think critically, find new answers, uncover new opportunities and make better decisions.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Understand how to apply strategic thinking to any challenge—big or small
- Discuss strategies for creating flexible plans you can quickly modify should conditions change
- Explain methods for asking questions that generate new thinking and solutions
- Recognize how to challenge “that’s the way we’ve always done it” attitudes
- Recognize falling into self-limiting thinking patterns and how to avoid it
- Discuss the impacts of your decisions, both short-term and long-term

## COURSE HIGHLIGHTS

### Strategic thinking in a complex business world

- Strategic thinking is a process: Step-by-step tips you’ll use for years
- What many people wrongly assume about their view of the world
- Ask this question first when creating a new vision
- Things you need to know before identifying an objective
- An open mind will absolutely change your thinking—and your business
- Which is more important: Strategic thinking or strategic planning?
- Strategic thinkers know which skills to work on

### Make better decisions by thinking beyond today

- Flexibility is the breakfast of strategic champions
- Make strategic thinking time a priority and you don’t have to be a prophet to predict the future
- Scanning your external environment for trends and developments

### Tools that’ll supercharge your thinking and results

- Strategic thinkers rely on the big-picture view
- Intuition can be a double-edged sword
- Allowing your imagination to kick in

- Break free from thinking ruts with mental exercises

### Give your thinking a creative boost

- What you know vs. what you think you know
- Asking the magical “5 whys”
- “What-if” thinking can help you deal with any uncertainty
- Pattern recognition—a handy tool for making effective decisions quickly

### Move from strategy into action—the key to results

- Defining specific action steps that will turn your strategy into change
- Align change from the inside out, not the outside in
- Recognize all constraints—both internal and external
- Avoid this communication blunder
- Identifying resources and gaps

## TRAINING DELIVERY

- Pre-training: Tailoring and customization of content
- Delivery of training using presentation, small group exercises, case studies, role-plays, games, etc.
- Post-training: Follow-up within 30 days to review information, provide coaching, set goals, etc. (optional)