

WHY TAKE THE FOUNDATION PROGRAM?

A public introduction to the purpose of the three-course New Beansland foundation sequence.

WHY THIS PROGRAM EXISTS

Most people are not short on opinions. The harder skill is knowing what a conclusion has actually earned. The New Beansland Foundation Program exists to give students a repeatable way to slow down, define what is being claimed, examine what supports it, test comparisons, and decide how much confidence the available evidence deserves.

The goal is not to teach students to automatically say yes or no. It is to make the reasoning visible: what was asked, what was found, what may be missing, what could point the other way, and why the final conclusion is no stronger than the work behind it.

THE THREE QUESTIONS

APSK 101 Foundations of Skeptical Inquiry	<i>Should I accept this claim?</i> <i>Students begin by examining claims, sources, assumptions, bias, burden of proof, and confidence.</i>
ANSY 110 Introduction to Analogical Reasoning	<i>Does this comparison actually hold?</i> <i>Students learn to test whether similarities are relevant, where an analogy breaks, and whether comparison is being mistaken for proof.</i>
EBPR 120 Foundations of Evidence-Based Practice	<i>What does the evidence justify concluding?</i> <i>Students bring the foundation together by organizing evidence, weighing source quality and relevance, and forming a conclusion that can show its work.</i>

WHAT A STUDENT IS HERE TO PRACTICE

- Ask more precise questions before arguing about answers.
- Separate evidence from assumption, repetition, authority, and preference.
- Use analogies carefully instead of treating similarity as automatic proof.
- Evaluate whether sources and evidence actually fit the question being asked.
- Look for challenging evidence, missing information, and alternative explanations.
- State confidence without pretending certainty.
- Explain a conclusion clearly enough that another person can follow how it was reached.

WHAT THIS PROGRAM IS NOT

It is not a course in memorizing one approved opinion, and it does not assume that every question has one perfect answer. The student is expected to reason, compare, examine evidence, and be able to identify the strongest reason a conclusion could be wrong.

COMPLETION

The foundation sequence is completed in order: APSK 101 → ANSY 110 → EBPR 120. The required New Beansland passing standard is 90 or higher. Successful completion of all three courses qualifies the student for the first foundation-level New Beansland University certificate under the University's established completion process.

THE FOUNDATION METHOD

Ask better questions. Compare carefully. Follow the evidence. Earn the conclusion.