

Strategic Thinking and Planning for Managers

Managers skilled in strategic thinking can identify emerging opportunities, appraise risks and lead their organizations toward the future. But strategic thinking isn't just about making better decisions or weeding out bad ideas. It's about rising above the barriers and breaking free of the traps that hold even the sharpest minds back.

In this live, interactive course, you'll explore the various dimensions of strategic thinking. You'll discover invaluable tools and techniques to vault over obstacles and sidestep mental snares. Then, you'll learn how to apply strategic thinking to develop robust plans that answer the question, "What do we need to do today so we can thrive tomorrow?"

Enroll today and find out how to stimulate and strengthen your strategic thinking skills — and inspire the same in others. Amplify your capacity to unearth opportunities and spark fresh insights. Learn to spot patterns that shape strategic planning and leverage your organization's competitive advantage for future growth like never before.

Session 1

Understanding How to Think Strategically

- Determine your dominant hemisphere and understand how it influences your thought processes
- Discuss the 4 stages of strategic thinking
- Differentiate strategic, critical and creative thinking and know when to apply each
- Identify and address common obstacles to strategic thinking
- Create a team culture that promotes strategic thinking

Session 2

Laying the Foundation for Strategic Planning

- Explain the concept of strategic planning — what it is and isn't
- Foster a common understanding of your organization's mission, values and vision
- Practice writing a vision statement for your organization
- Use the 3-phase strategic planning process to assess your organization's direction
- Examine accountability tactics that help ensure plan execution

Session 3

Exploring and Evaluating Strategic Opportunities

- Discuss commonly used strategic thinking and planning tools
- Incorporate proven tools into daily into daily problem-solving and decision-making situations
- Practice tactics for eliminating stumbling blocks to focus on possibilities
- Identify ways to monitor results and assess the effectiveness of your plan