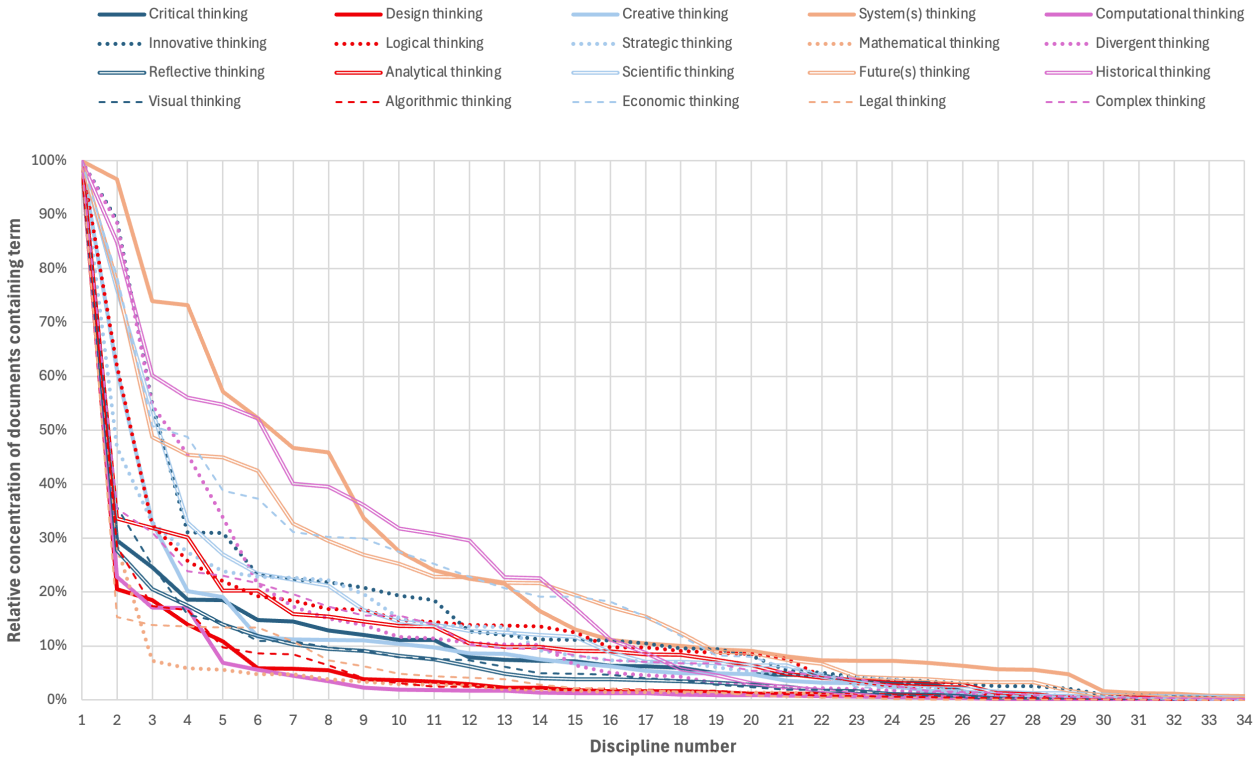
Additional data

Line graph showing the concentration of 20 ways of thinking across different disciplines (normalised against the concentration level for each way of thinking in its first discipline). The disciplines are ordered from that with the highest term concentration (1st) to that with the lowest term concentration (34th). The table lists the disciplines for each way of thinking: cells for Education (C23) are highlighted; cells with zero values are crossed out. Data source: Dimensions database: full text search; date range from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2024.



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
critical thinking	C23	D34	D32	C21	C20	D33	D30	D27	C19	D31	C17	D26	C24	C22	D25	C13	C18	D29	D28	A03	A04	B11	C14	C15	C16	A02	B12	B07	A05	A01	A06	B08	B10	B09
design thinking	D32	C23	C13	C17	D34	C20	B11	C21	D33	C22	C24	C19	C18	C14	D30	A03	A02	A04	C15	D27	D25	B12	D26	D28	D31	D29	C16	B07	A06	A01	B08	A05	B10	B09
creative thinking	C23	D32	D33	C17	D34	D30	C21	C13	A04	C20	D27	C19	C24	D29	D31	D26	B11	D25	C22	C18	D28	C14	C15	C16	A03	B12	A02	B07	B09	A05	A06	B10	B08	A01
system(s) thinking	C13	D32	C23	C17	C20	C14	C21	C22	C19	A02	D34	D30	C24	C18	B11	B07	D27	D33	D31	A03	B12	C15	A06	D25	D28	A04	D29	C16	D26	A05	B10	B08	A01	B09
computational thinking	C23	D32	B11	D34	D33	C21	C17	C13	D30	C20	C22	A04	C24	C18	D25	D27	C19	C14	D26	C16	B12	A02	D31	B09	C15	A05	D28	B10	A03	D29	B07	A01	A06	B08
innovative thinking	C23	D32	C17	D34	C13	C19	D29	D33	C21	C20	C22	C24	D25	C18	D27	D30	C14	D31	D28	B11	D26	C15	A04	C16	B12	A03	B07	A02	A06	A05	B08	A01	B09	B10
logical thinking	C23	D30	D32	D31	C21	D34	D27	D33	D25	D29	C20	C17	A04	D26	B11	D28	C18	C13	C19	C22	C24	C16	C15	A03	C14	B12	A02	B10	B09	A05	B08	B07	A06	A01
strategic thinking	C19	C17	D25	C16	C23	D32	D34	C13	D28	C20	C21	C22	C24	C18	D30	C14	D33	D29	D27	D31	D26	B11	A04	C15	A02	B07	B12	A03	A06	A05	B08	B10	A01	B09
mathematical thinking	C23	D30	D32	A04	D29	C21	D33	D31	D27	D28	B11	D34	D26	B10	C15	C17	C16	C13	C20	C24	C22	C19	C18	D25	C14	B09	A02	B12	A03	A05	B07	B08	A06	A01
divergent thinking	D32	C23	A04	D33	C17	D30	D34	C21	C24	D27	B11	C20	C13	D26	C19	C22	D31	C15	C18	C16	D25	A03	D29	D28	C14	B12	B10	A02	A05	B09	A06	B08	B07	A01
reflective thinking	C23	D30	D32	C20	D33	C21	D34	A04	D31	C17	C24	D27	C19	D26	D25	A03	C22	B11	C13	C18	D29	D28	C14	A02	C16	C15	B12	B07	B10	A06	A01	A05	B09	B08
analytical thinking	C23	D32	D34	C17	C21	A04	D30	D33	C20	C19	D27	D31	D26	C13	C22	B11	C24	C18	D25	C16	D28	C14	D29	A03	A02	C15	B12	B10	A05	A06	A01	B07	B09	B08
scientific thinking	D30	C23	C21	D31	D28	D27	D32	D29	D34	C22	C19	D25	D33	C20	D26	A04	C18	C17	C15	C13	C14	C24	B11	C16	B07	A05	B09	A03	A02	B10	B12	A06	B08	A01
future(s) thinking	A04	D32	C23	C21	D30	C20	C13	D27	D34	C17	D29	C19	D33	C22	C14	C15	D31	C24	C18	D26	D28	D25	A03	B07	B11	A02	C16	A06	A05	B12	B09	A01	B10	B08
historical thinking	D28	C23	D29	D30	D27	D31	C21	D32	D34	D33	D25	C19	C15	D26	C22	C20	C18	C13	C14	C17	C24	A04	B11	B07	C16	A03	A05	B09	A02	B12	B10	A01	A06	B08
visual thinking	D32	C23	D30	D34	D33	C21	D29	C13	D27	D26	C15	D28	B11	C20	D31	A04	C17	C22	C14	C18	C24	C19	D25	A03	B10	C16	B12	B07	A02	A01	A05	A06	B08	B09
algorithmic thinking	C23	D32	B11	D34	C13	C21	D33	D30	C17	C19	C18	C16	C20	D25	D28	A04	D27	C22	D26	C14	D31	B10	C15	B12	C24	A02	B09	A03	A05	A01	B07	B06	B08	D29
economic thinking	C19	C16	C22	C21	D28	C17	D30	C18	C20	D25	D29	D34	C14	D31	C13	D27	D32	C23	D33	C15	D26	C24	B07	A02	A04	B11	B10	B12	A05	A06	A03	B09	A01	B08
legal thinking	C18	C19	D31	D28	C21	D29	D25	D30	D27	C20	D34	C22	D26	D33	C23	D32	C13	C14	C17	C15	C24	C16	B11	A04	A02	B07	B10	B09	A03	B12	A05	A06	A01	B08
complex thinking	C23	D32	C21	D30	D33	C20	D34	C19	D27	C17	A04	C22	D31	C13	D26	C18	D29	C24	D28	C14	C15	B11	D25	A03	C16	A02	B07	B12	A05	B10	A06	B09	A01	B08

The definition of each discipline is provided overleaf.

The 34 Units of Assessment (UoAs) defined by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), along with their mean annual document count over a five-year period. Dimensions database; date range from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2024.

Panel	Unit of Assessment	Documents/year
A: Medicine, Health and Life Sciences	A01: Clinical Medicine	597,381
	A02: Public Health, Health Services and Primary Care	90,065
	A03: Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	638,146
	A04: Psychology, Psychiatry and Neuroscience	195,745
	A05: Biological Sciences	122,615
	A06: Agriculture, Food and Veterinary Sciences	199,678
B: Physical Sciences, Engineering and Mathematics	B07: Earth Systems and Environmental Sciences	122,984
	B08: Chemistry	129,481
	B09: Physics	133,699
	B10: Mathematical Sciences	156,014
	B11: Computer Science and Informatics	464,397
	B12: Engineering	1,231,045
C: Social Sciences	C13: Architecture, Built Environment and Planning	79,204
	C14: Geography and Environmental Studies	81,448
	C15: Archaeology	11,915
	C16: Economics and Econometrics	16,317
	C17: Business and Management Studies	379,443
	C18: Law	80,636
	C19: Politics and International Studies	51,625
	C20: Social Work and Social Policy	50,203
	C21: Sociology	14,854
	C22: Anthropology and Development Studies	18,673
	C23: Education	213,558
	C24: Sport and Exercise Sciences, Leisure and Tourism	61,412
D – Arts and Humanities	D25: Area Studies	10,809
	D26: Modern Languages and Linguistics	47,388
	D27: English Language and Literature	42,129
	D28: History	54,366
	D29: Classics	5,019
	D30: Philosophy	17,542
	D31: Theology and Religious Studies	14,829
	D32: Art and Design: History, Practice and Theory	35,625
	D33: Music, Drama, Dance, Performing Arts, Film and Screen Studies	19,982
	D34: Communication, Cultural and Media Studies, Library and Information Management	34,293
	Total:	**5,422,518**

The data presented here are drawn from Table 2 and Figure 11 of the following publication.

Crilly, N. (2026). Critical thinking, creative thinking, systems thinking and many more: A comparative bibliometric analysis of prevalence and distribution. *Thinking Skills and Creativity*, *59*, 102014. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tsc.2025.102014