

METC100 Pedagogies for Teaching Ethics

ECTS Value: 5 ECTS

Module Description

This module will introduce prospective and current teachers to Ethics as a curricular subject, and the methodologies associated with it. The main methodology associated with the teaching of Ethics in Malta is Philosophy for Children. This methodology is based on the Community of Inquiry approach, which is characterised by discussion and debate on philosophical questions. This approach has been proven to work with children and is crucial to the teaching of Ethics. This methodology is a learner centred methodology that aims to answer deep philosophical questions of a moral nature through discussion in a group, utilising important skills and values such as critical thinking and respect for others.

Overall Objectives and Outcomes

By the end of this module, the learner will be able to:

Competences

- a. Critically engage with research literature related to the Philosophy for Children approach.
- b. Evaluate how this methodology contributes to the teaching of Ethics.
- c. Devise lessons and produce resources to teach Ethics in the primary classroom.
- d. Devise lessons and produce resources to teach Ethics in the middle and secondary schools.

Knowledge

- a. Differentiate between methodologies focusing on critical thinking, such as the Philosophy for Children approach and DeBono's Six Thinking Hats.
- b. Demonstrate knowledge of the Ethics syllabus and reflect critically on it.

Skills

- a. Select and evaluate stories and other forms of texts for their ethical content and incorporate them into lesson plans
- b. Adopt a Community of Inquiry approach in the Ethics classroom;
- c. Facilitate a Community of Inquiry model within the Ethics classroom.
- d. Develop a number of lesson plans, resources and activities related to the primary Ethics syllabus.
- e. Develop a number of lesson plans, resources and activities related to the middle and secondary Ethics syllabi

Mode of Delivery

This module adopts a blended approach to teaching and learning. Information related to the structure and delivery of the module may be accessed through the IfE Portal. For further details, kindly refer to the Teaching, Learning and Assessment Policy and Procedures found on the Institute for Education's website.

Assessment Methods

This module will be assessed through: Practical Assessment Tasks

Suggested Readings

Core Reading List

1. Cam, P. 2012, Teaching Ethics in Schools, Camberwell, Vic.: Australian Council for Educational Research.
2. The Ethics Curriculum (www.curriculum.gov.mt)
3. Lipman, M. (2003). Thinking in education. Cambridge University Press.

Supplementary Reading List

1. Worley, P. (2019). 100 Ideas for Primary Teachers: Questioning. London, Bloomsbury.
2. Worley, P., & Levi, T. (2013). The if machine: Philosophical enquiry in the classroom. London, Bloomsbury.