

# ENGAGED PHILOSOPHICAL INQUIRY IN EDUCATION

FACILITATING DEMOCRATIC, OPEN-ENDED DIALOGUE FOR ALL AGES



**UBC VANCOUVER**  
**2014 SUMMER INSTITUTE**



**July 8 | 4:30–7:30 p.m.**  
**& July 21–31 | 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.**

*Developed by the Department of Educational & Counselling Psychology, and Special Education*

## What is Engaged Philosophical Inquiry (EPI)?

Engaged philosophical inquiry is a way of facilitating a democratic and open-ended dialogue between children, youth and adults around bigger and smaller questions about life, knowledge, value, and meaning.

**Why is EPI important?** This long established inquiry-based way of teaching can be used in all school subjects. It encourages students to read, listen, think critically, see things from multiple perspectives, and develop social responsibility. EPI stimulates critical, creative and collaborative thinking, communication skills and social-emotional learning. Thus, it directly addresses the core competencies of the BC Ministry of Education's new Curriculum and Assessment Framework.

This 3-credit intensive program in EPI is essential for teachers (and teachers-to-be), and education students wishing to create a learning environment that supports democratic inquiry and collaborative thinking, as well as philosophy students who are keen to realize the deep and practical value of their discipline. Parents will learn to recognize the depth of their children's questions and how to cultivate an engaged dialogue around values and meanings in their homes.

**Register by Tuesday, May 27**

**Dr. Barbara Weber** has a PhD in philosophy, psychology, and education and is an Associate Professor in the UBC Faculty of education. She is the co-director of the Vancouver Institute for Philosophy for Children, and coordinates the Engaged Philosophical Inquiry Consortium (EPIC).

## EPI Summer Institute

During this program, students will explore methods of facilitating engaged philosophical inquiry and how to apply them in different learning environments. Students will also examine the philosophical and psychological theories behind these practices. In addition, participants will learn how to facilitate EPIs and will receive individualized coaching to help them find their own facilitation style that fits best their work-specific needs and unique abilities.

In summary, the course will provide:

- experience participating in and facilitating EPI.
- understanding of the contexts for using EPI.
- familiarity with fundamental theories of philosophical inquiry.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Faculty of Education**

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