This bespoke module teaches students how to facilitate P4C (Philosophy for Children) sessions and places them in a local primary school, working in teams to help young learners think deeply together.

Civic Engagement and Service Learning Philosophy in Irish Schools
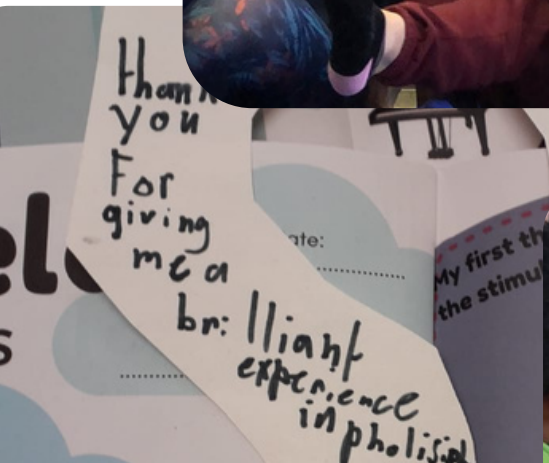
'I've just graduated summa cum laude [.....] I felt compelled to reach out and say thank you! Not only was studying in Galway a highlight, but teaching P4C will forever hold a place in my heart.'

-Sam (Georgetown)

Studying theory, developing practice and delivering sessions together builds close relationships between students, with instructors and our community partner.

Important information:
-Accepting students in both semesters
-Co-taught
-Delivered since 2017
-Over 600 students and 1000 learners
-Module Codes: PI2108 (Fall) PI2109 (Spring)

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My first th... the stimu...

'I have learnt so much about myself and how I look at the world through this module'

-Hallie (Williams College)

We teach this module because we believe thinking philosophically together should be available to everyone. It's a powerful way to understand how we think about and act in the world. Giving children this opportunity empowers and challenges them.

This module is one of the most fun classes we teach. We hope that you'll be part of it!

Dr Lucy Elvis & Dr Orla Richardson

Who are we?

We are experienced lecturers in philosophy and public philosophers. We've been delivering workshops at music festivals, conferences, in libraries, schools and galleries since 2017. We'll share our practice experiences with you in mentoring and reflection.

Who is this module for?

This is a bespoke module for JYA students. Here, you will meet Irish children in their school and facilitate philosophical thinking sessions with them. We'll give you instruction in the pedagogical approach, train you in delivery and reflect together on what happens during your placement. Students in Liberal Arts, Education and Psychology have found this module especially engaging.

What this module does for students:

- Meets course requirements: Philosophy/ Education / Service Learning
- Develops Critical Skills: Argument Literacy, Critical Reflection, Theory in Practice
- Supports Graduate Attributes: Communication, Teamwork, Civic Engagement, Self-Awareness

Required

- Training weekend
- Background check (from your home institution)
- Readiness to learn

Not required

- Philosophy background (we'll give you a theoretical grounding)
- Experience in schools (some is great, but we'll give you hands-on training!)

For information, email: lucy.elvis@universityofgawlay.ie