

Socratic Dialogue 2

UGRA_014959

Departments	Department of Society, Politics and Sustainability
Teaching Languages	English
ECTS	3
Teacher responsible	Starhemberg Constantin - constantin.starhemberg@esade.edu

Course Goals

The learning objectives of the course are:

- Keep practicing the main tools of Socratic Dialogue and be able to implement them both inside and outside the classroom. Identify the main challenges and strengths you face both as a facilitator and a participant of Socratic Dialogue.
- Reflect on some of the main challenges of our time. Develop the ability to be critical about them.
- Broaden your scope of reflection with the help of classical philosophical and literary texts. Get comfortable with complexity and with the interaction of different areas of knowledge to produce rigorous analysis of today's challenges.
- Get used to reading philosophical, sometimes laborious texts that will require time and effort. Persevere in the face of intellectual challenges.

Previous knowledge

to bring the knowledge acquired in SD I to this course.

Prerequisites

having successfully completed SD I.

Teaching methodology

During the semester, nearly every week you will have an Impact Talk by a guest speaker around a different topic followed by a session of Socratic Dialogue. These sessions will be facilitated by yourselves (each week by a different team of students).

Before each session you will be asked to learn about the week's topic by reading or watching videos. With that, you start reflecting about the issue before coming to class and the weekly sessions will be much more fruitful.

***Attendance** to all Impact Talks and Socratic Dialogues is mandatory.

In preparation for each class, you will be required to do the following:

- 1) Read the pre-class material, watch the required videos or documentaries.
- 2) Before and/or after every class, do what is required by the weekly reflection exercise.

Description

Course contribution to program

With this course we want to keep creating a space for slow, respectful and insightful reflection, meaningful conversation, and a profound understanding of one another. We want to provide you with the tools and the time to ponder about the complexities of our current times.

When we stick to prejudices and ideas that do not allow us to have a complex understanding of the world around us, the result is that we do not make the best decisions. Using the Socratic Dialogue methodology we will discuss some of the most important issues that appeal to us all. Each one of the sessions will

revolve around a specific topic which you will have explored beforehand.

By looking at what renown thinkers have said about those matters we will work on improving our ways of thinking, in order to better understand our perspectives, refine our thoughts, and appreciate the diversity of opinions that surround them. These exercises will help us improve our capacity to make decisions in complex environments, and thus become better managers and citizens.

Short description

On your second year, Socratic Dialogue will consist of sessions running from September of 2024 to December 2024. Every session (except the book sessions) will consist of an Impact Talk followed by a Socratic Dialogue, which we will do in two smaller groups and which will be led by teams of students. We have prepared Impact Talks on topics mostly related to philosophy, ethics and sociology. These will build on the topics and the knowledge you acquired during last year's course and will be delivered by ESADE professors who are experts on the topic. The main goal of the Impact Talks is, as it was last year, to understand some of the complexities of the world we inhabit and learn some theoretical frameworks that can help us make some sense of it.

With the Socratic Dialogues that follow each session we will create a space for slow, respectful, and insightful reflection, meaningful conversation. We want to provide you with the tools and the time to ponder about the complexities of what makes us human, and our role and responsibilities to ourselves and to others. This will foster a more profound understanding of what you are learning in the Impact Talks, help you draw connections with other topics and examine how those affect your lives. After all, as Socrates reminds us, an unexamined life is not worth living. Welcome!

The course is designed to:

1. Reflect about some big issues of our time: this year the focus will be on Ethics and Sociology.
2. Read classical texts to study them and put them in dialogue with the current and future challenges we face.
3. Connect the dots with other courses of the BA and do a metanalysis of their implications.
4. Create a space to examine the group dynamics developing and allow the time for any other personal worries or concerns you might have.

Activities

In-class discussions and debates

Socratic Dialogue in class, second part of the session.

Written and/or oral exams

Final Exam

Teamwork

Group work pillar is key: facilitation of a dialogue session by the respective team, it should lead and moderate a Socratic Dialogue.

Readings

Readings and/or video material before each session.

Assessment

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
In-class analysis and discussion of issues	Participation	Retake and ordinary round	35.00%
Individual or team exercises	Weekly reflections	Ordinary round	30.00%

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
Written and/or oral exams	Final Exam	Retake and ordinary round	35.00%
Final individual project	Final Reflection on every week of class.	Retake	30.00%

PROGRAMS

BITLASI22-Bachelor in Transformational Leadership and Social Impact (Undergraduates: Business)
BITLASI22 Year 2 (Mandatory)