



SAN DIEGO STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
College of Education

# DIÁLOGOS VIRTUALES

A COE Lecture/Discussion Series on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & the Global in Education

Thursday, May 6, 2021, 12:00 - 1:30 PM (PT)

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## "Philosophy with Children: Creating Inclusive Spaces"

Debi Talukdar, Doctoral Candidate

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University of Washington

Philosophy for Children or P4C encourages children to think independently, helping them better express their own perspectives, challenge and build on each other's thinking, and make clearer sense of the big questions that matter to them. What makes someone a friend? Is it ever okay to lie? What is justice? A community of philosophical inquiry nurtures open-mindedness, confidence, and deepens skills in listening and empathy. It democratizes the learning environment by allowing each student to be a co-constructor of knowledge. P4C is also compelling because there are no settled answers to the questions being examined.

The environment created by this open inquiry illuminates ways for students, especially those who struggle with traditional classroom learning, to become involved. In this session, we will spend most of our time participating in philosophical inquiry as a group. Experiencing this approach firsthand is a great way to practice modeling it for your students. This session will be particularly useful for teacher candidates and educators working in K-12 settings. It will also be valuable to scholars interested in P4C as a pedagogy.



### About the Speaker

Debi Talukdar is Program Director at the UW Center for Philosophy for Children and Executive Director at the Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization (PLATO). She loves thinking about big questions with young people and regularly facilitates philosophical discussions with K-12 students in Seattle. She also organizes a monthly philosophy session with educators and other adults interested in philosophy for children. Her research focuses on using philosophical inquiry as a form of dialogic reflection in teacher professional development. Debi is also a facilitator and ensemble member at Theater for Change UW which uses interactive theater to spark dialogue about systems of power, privilege, and oppression. She holds a Masters in Developmental Psychology from University College London, and is a Ph.D. candidate at the UW College of Education.