DOUGLAS COLLEGE
Learning Centre

LC-DC Podcast Season 2, Episode 2: Teaching and Learning Critical Thinking with Dan, Natalie, and Pavel from the DSU Philosophy Club

Show Notes

Host Bios

Pavel is a Psychology student at Douglas College, a peer tutor (writing) in the Learning Centre, and an executive member of the DSU Philosophy Club.

Dan is a Psychology student at Douglas College and an executive member of the DSU Philosophy Club.

Natalie is a Psychology student at Douglas College and an executive member of the DSU Philosophy Club.

Episode Summary

In this comprehensive discussion, three executive members of the DSU Philosophy Club tackle the complex topic of critical thinking, with a focus on how it is taught and learned in post-secondary school.

To begin, the hosts each share their definition of critical thinking. Then, the discussion shifts to the “soft skills” that are conducive to critical thinking, including communication skills such as active listening, intellectual humility, and emotional regulation.

The hosts then discuss how critical thinking is taught in post-secondary school, sharing their experiences of taking the Critical Thinking course at Douglas College (PHIL 1101). The hosts agree that the best way to learn to

think critically is through practice, highlighting activities such as Philosophy club debates that helped them improve their critical thinking skills.

The group also suggests ways that instructors can teach critical thinking, such as encouraging curiosity and designing assignments that force students to consider both sides of an argument. The episode ends with a discussion of the educational value of engaging with controversial or emotionally charged topics, and what students can do to strengthen their critical thinking skills.

Resources

Visit the following webpage for more information about the DSU Philosophy Club: https://www.thedsu.ca/dsu-philosophy-club-1

Go here for details about Douglas College's Critical Thinking course (PHIL 1101): https://www.douglascollege.ca/course/phil-1101

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