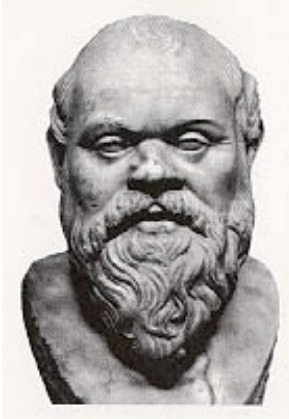


## What is Socratic Questioning?



Named for Socrates (ca. 470-399 B. C.), the early Greek philosopher/teacher, a Socratic approach to teaching is based on the practice of disciplined, rigorously thoughtful dialogue. The instructor professes ignorance of the topic under discussion in order to elicit engaged dialogue with students.

Although "Socratic questioning" appears simple. Individuals have the capacity to recognize contradictions, so Socrates assumed that incomplete or inaccurate ideas would be corrected during the process of disciplined questioning, and hence would lead to progressively greater truth and accuracy.

### Questions for clarification:

- Why do you say that?
- How does this relate to our discussion?

### Questions that probe assumptions:

- What could we assume instead?
- How can you verify or disapprove that assumption?

### Questions that probe reasons and evidence:

- What would be an example, or give an analogy?

### Questions about Viewpoints and Perspectives:

- What is another way to look at it?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of...?

### Questions that probe implications and consequences:

- What are the consequences of that assumption?
- What are you implying?
- How does...tie in with what we learned before?

### Questions about the question:

- What was the point of this question?
- What does...mean?
- How does...apply to everyday life?