

# Why Am I Doing This?

## Philosophy of Education in Seven Easy Steps

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**“If you’re not sure where you’re going, any train will get you there.”**

### **Philosophy**

Greek - *philos* = love, *sophia* = wisdom. The of love or the seeking of knowledge and wisdom

English - “any personal belief about how to live or how to deal with a situation.”

### **Education**

Latin - *educio* = to lead

English - “activities that impart knowledge or skill”

## **Seven Question to Develop YOUR Philosophy of Education**

### 1. What is your world view?

From German *weltanschauung* meaning “look onto the world or world outlook.”

**“A world view is a set of presuppositions** (assumptions which may be true, partially true or entirely false) **which we hold** (consciously or subconsciously, consistently or inconsistently) **about the basic make-up of our world.”**

James W. Shire, *The Universe Next Door: A Basic Worldview Catalog*, Intervarsity Press, c. 1997

2. What is your belief about God? God's Word? Or, other sacred writings?

3. What is your belief about man? Man's relationship with God?

4. What is truth?

Greek - *treue* - trust, faith, fidelity.

English - "Conformity to fact or reality;" (*American Dictionary of the English Language*, Noah Webster, 1828)

## 5. What is wisdom and knowledge?

### **Wisdom**

Greek - *weise* - to know

English - "is the result of learning and using knowledge or a strategic advantage. After gaining knowledge, wisdom is used to meet new situation."

(<http://home.earthlink.net/~ddstuhلمان/defin1.htm>)

"Wisdom is meant as the ability and desire to make choices that can gain approval in a long-term examination by many people."

(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wisdom>)

### **Knowledge**

Greek and Latin - rooted in "know," generally to take, receive, or hold

English - "Knowledge is the awareness and understanding of facts, truths or information gained in the form of experience or learning."

(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/knowledge>)

"Knowledge refers to what one knows and understands.

(<http://dssresources.com/glossary> - subscription required)

"Knowledge is defined as the remembering of previously learned material.([www.ohlone.edu/org/capac/docs/blooms-tax2.html](http://www.ohlone.edu/org/capac/docs/blooms-tax2.html))

## 6. What is your definition of education?

“The propagation of a set of beliefs” ([www.workingpsychology.com/definit.html](http://www.workingpsychology.com/definit.html))

“Materials dealing primarily with teaching, learning, schooling, or training through formal instruction and supervised practice.”

([http://mic.imtc.gatech.edu/subjglos\\_1.htm](http://mic.imtc.gatech.edu/subjglos_1.htm))

“Instruction and discipline intended to enlighten the understanding, correct the temper, and form the manners and habits of youth, and fit them for usefulness in their future situation.” (American Dictionary of the English Language, Noah Webster, 1828)

## 7. What is your belief about parental responsibility? About children?

## Resources

*American Dictionary of the English Language*

Noah Webster, 1828

The Foundation for American Christian Education (F.A.C.E.)

800/352-3223

[www.face.net](http://www.face.net)

*Why so many Christian are Going Home to School*

Llewellyn B. Davis

c. 1991

The Elijah Company

(Used copies at Amazon.com)

*A Young Historians Introduction to Worldview*

Marcia Harris Brim

c. 2004

Brim Wood Press

4114 North Canyon Road

Camino, California 95709

[www.brimwoodpress.com](http://www.brimwoodpress.com)

Philosophy of Education

[www.molloy.edu/academic/philosophy/sophia/TOPICS/education.htm](http://www.molloy.edu/academic/philosophy/sophia/TOPICS/education.htm)

World View

[www.leaderu.com/orgs/probe/docs/w-views.html](http://www.leaderu.com/orgs/probe/docs/w-views.html)