

Classrooms against poverty

University of Lleida

Degrees in Medicine, Physiotherapy, Physiotherapy and Nutrition, Tourism, Law, Business Administration and Management, Social Education, Social Work, Psychology, Hispanic Philology, Technical Architecture and Construction, Primary Education and Audiovisual Communication and Journalism

Development and Cooperation Office

Programme description

The University of Lleida (UdL) launched the Aules contra la pobresa (Classrooms against poverty) programme in 2014 in order for lectures to cover the causes and consequences of poverty and suggest ways to fight against this injustice from the professional practice of each degree subject.

The programme forms part of a broader initiative for the inclusion of cooperation for development content and skills in the UdL's educational curriculum. Specifically, content related to cooperation, development, poverty and gender is worked on as part of the UdL's different degree courses.

The staff at the UdL Development and Cooperation Office are responsible for teaching the general part of the module (causes, effects and fight against poverty) and collaborate with the teachers of each subject to focus the specific module and organise the way that it is presented to the students. The goal is to raise awareness and work to eradicate a problem that is affecting an increasing number of people around the world, and is getting closer to our own homes.

Around 700 students took part in 2016/17, receiving classes in 13 subjects of the degrees in Medicine, Physiotherapy, Physiotherapy and Nutrition, Tourism, Law, Business Administration and Management, Social Education, Social Work, Psychology, Hispanic Philology, Technical Architecture and Construction, Primary Education and Audiovisual Communication and Journalism. Since the programme was set up in 2014 at the request of the 3.4 Commission, 1,300 students have taken part.

Why can't I do it?

University of Lleida

Programme description

Per què no puc fer-ho? (Why can't I do it?) is a one-day workshop aimed at presenting studies at the University of Lleida to 4th grade ESO (compulsory secondary education) pupils in the Lleida area without gender stereotypes, with the aim of encouraging female and male students to opt for degrees in which one of the two sexes is less represented.

Academic and professional choices today are still tainted by whether someone is a girl or a boy, or a woman or a man. Specifically, in the choice of university courses, it is observed that women typically tend to go for degrees oriented towards careers in care or education, while males are more inclined to opt for instrumental aspects (electronics, computer science, physical education, etc.). Why can't I do it? is about breaking down the influence of gender stereotypes when it comes to choosing university degrees.

The programmed activities include a presentation of degree courses, as well as their professional openings, guided tours and practical workshops. During the day, attending pupils get the chance to meet in person women and men in relevant positions in the academic and professional world. One of the goals is for girls and boys to have alternative role models to those that are usually on view and, ultimately, to promote gender equality in the respective professional fields.

This workshop is an adaptation of the European Girl's Day and Boy's Day projects that have been held at the University of Lleida since 2010.