

Spring 2009  
Professor Jean Anyon  
Policy Area Seminar 73100  
Tuesday, 4:15

**Critical Social Theory in Education Policy Studies**

What is critical social theory? How can it be useful? For example, how are power and resistance theorized, and how can we study or utilize such theories in empirical research? How can we use theory and research to assist in or organize daily struggles against unjust power?

(An asterisk before a title means it is a book that you should purchase or otherwise obtain.)

**January 27. Uses of Critical Social Theory**

What is critical social theory? What can it do (and un-do)?

Overview: Several ways theory affects (and is affected by) empirical research.

**February 3. Pierre Bourdieu: Power, Culture, Education**

Introduction to Pierre Bourdieu - A summary and clarification of his important concepts (Handout).

The Forms of Capital. In *Handbook of Theory and Research for the Sociology of Education*. John G. Richardson, Editor. NY: Greenwood Press. 1986: 241-160. (Handout)

Cultural Reproduction and Social Reproduction. In *The Structure of Schooling: Readings in the Sociology of Education*. Richard Arum and Irene Beattie, Editors. NY: McGraw Hill. 1973: 56-68. (Handout)

Authors who apply Pierre Bourdieu:

Lareau and Horvath (critique of sociological uses of P.B.)

Stanton-Salazar (sc and Latino communities)

Prudence Carter (sc and Black communities)

James Albright (P.B. and literacy education)

**(February 10 . No Class) Anyon out of town.**

**February 17. Foucault: Power and Resistance**

Introduction to Foucault's thought (Electronic handout).

\*Foucault, *History of Sexuality Vol 1*. Read the *second* Chapter 2.

**February 24. Foucault: Genealogy and the Care of the Self**

"Nietzsche, Genealogy, History," Foucault. In *Language, Counter-Memory, Practice*. Ed. Bouchard. (Handout.)

The Care of the Self Interview (handout). Darla's quote

Education writing with Foucault at the center:

*Dangerous Encounters: Genealogy and Ethnography*. Tamboukou

*Dangerous Coagulations: The Uses of Foucault in the Study of*

*Education*. Baker and Heyning

*Doing Foucault in Early Childhood Studies*. MacNaughton

David Carlson's articles on using Foucault in English Education

**March 3. Theory and Empirical Research**

\**Theory and Educational Research: Toward Critical Social Explanation*. 2009. Anyon et al. (Whole book)

**March 10. William H. Sewell, Jr.: Agency and Structure**

William H. Sewell, Jr. *Logics of History: Social Theory and Social Transformation*. 2005. Chapter 4 (Electronic)

**March 17. Karl Marx: Capitalism and Class Struggle**

\*Chapters on Marx in *Marx, Durkheim and Weber: Formations of Modern Social Thought*. Morrison

**March 24. David Harvey: Accumulation by Dispossession**

\*David Harvey. *The New Imperialism*.

**March 31. Judith Butler: Performativity**

\*Sarah Salih. *Judith Butler: Essential Guides for Literary Studies*.

**April 7. Saba Mahmood: Religion as Resistance.**

\*Saba Mahmood. *Politics of Piety: The Islamic Revival and the Feminist Subject.*

**(April 14. GC Vacation - No Class)**

**April 21 Arjun Appadurai: Globalization and the Cultural Imaginary.**

\*Arjun Appadurai. *Modernity at Large: Cultural Dimensions of Globalization.*

**April 28. Critical Race Theory: Race and Resistance to Structures of Oppression**

**TBA.**

**May 5. Gramsci: Class and Culture**

\**Gramsci, Culture and Anthropology.* Crehan (Chapters 2, 4, 5, 6 only)

\**Gramsci and Education.* Eds., Carmel Borg, et al. (Chapters TBA).

**May 12. James C. Scott: Public and Private Transcripts and Resistance**

\*James C. Scott. *Domination and the Arts of Resistance: Hidden Transcripts.*

**Final Project**

The final project is a paper, about 20 double spaced pages, not counting the bibliography.

In this paper, please develop your thoughts on theory in research (using theoretical concepts that are important to you). Refer extensively (with appropriate citations) to several of the authors we have read. Also, bring in other theorists you have read if you want or need to. **The point of the paper should be to describe your theory and discuss how it relates, or could relate to, the research you are planning to do for your dissertation.**

**NOTE:** *The intellectual work you do for this paper, and perhaps large chunks of the paper itself, may be very useful in writing your second doc exam and your dissertation proposal.*

**Other Recommended Theorists:**

Lila Abu-Lughod. *Veiled Sentiments: Honor and Poetry in a Bedouin Society*

Stephen Ball. *Education Policy and Social Class: The Selected Works of Stephen Ball*

Glen Loury. *The Anatomy of Racial Inequality.*

Linda Tuhiwai Smith. *Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples*.

Sandy Grande. *Red Pedagogy: Native American Social and Political Thought*. 2004.

Richard Delgado. *Critical Race Theory*. Second Edition.

Paulo Freire. *Pedagogy of Hope: Reliving Pedagogy Of The Oppressed*

Steven Lukes, *Power: A Radical View*. Second Edition

David Couzens Hoy, *Critical Resistance: From Poststructuralism to Post-Critique*.

Nancy Fraser - "Rethinking the Public Sphere," and "Rethinking Recognition" (articles)

Deleuze and Guattari. *A Thousand Plateaus: Capitalism and Schizophrenia*.

Iris Marion Young. *Justice and the Politics of Difference*.

Henri Lefebvre. *Critique of Everyday Life*.

Lather – *Getting Smart: Feminist Research and Pedagogy With/in the Postmodern*.

Michel de Certeau. *The Practice of Everyday Life*.

Edward Soja. *Thirdspace: Journeys to Los Angeles and Other Real-and-Imagined Places*