


EDUC6775 | Topic 1A.2
Understanding Curriculum
The Competing Functions of Curriculum

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What is the function of curriculum?

- The double problem of the relationship between:
 - **theory and practice**
[curriculum provides a set of representations of a 'world outside']
 - **education and society**
[curriculum operates as a site of cultural reproduction]
- Re-examining the work of Ulf Lundgren and the Deakin School, Green refers to this as the unresolved problem of representation and reproduction.



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The representation problem

Theory

Practice

3

The representation problem

theory / practice
[curriculum
provides a set of
representations of
a 'world outside']



4

The representation problem

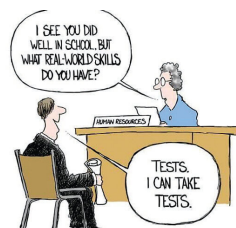
theory / practice
[curriculum
provides a set of
representations of
a 'world outside']



5

The representation problem

theory / practice
[curriculum
provides a set of
representations of
a 'world outside']



6

The representation problem

theory / practice
*[curriculum
provides a set of
representations of
a 'world outside']*



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The reproduction problem

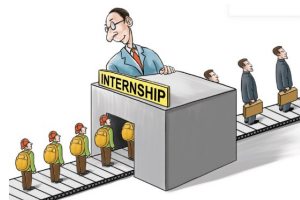
Classroom

Real World

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The reproduction problem

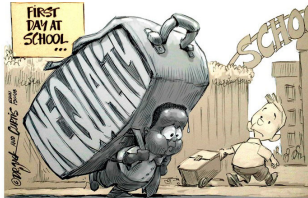
education / society
*[curriculum operates
as a site of cultural
reproduction]*



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The reproduction problem

education / society
[curriculum operates
as a site of cultural
reproduction]



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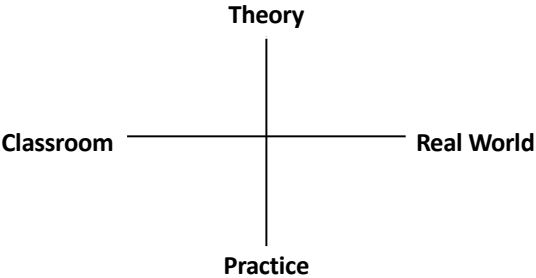
The reproduction problem

education / society
[curriculum operates
as a site of cultural
reproduction]



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The dual problem of curriculum



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theory / practice education / society

The dual problem of curriculum

Kemmis, S., & Fitzclarence, L. (1986). *Curriculum theorizing: Beyond reproduction theory*. Geelong, Victoria: Deakin University.

Green, B. (2010). Rethinking the representation problem in curriculum inquiry. *Journal of Curriculum Studies*, 42(4), 451-469.

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The Key Curriculum Question/s

Anglo-American Curriculum Tradition:

European Bildung-Influenced Didaktik Tradition:

What knowledge is of most worth?
What knowledge should be taught?

What will/should the student become?

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