

Week One, Class Three

Arum and Roksa

- “What is accomplished and what fails to be accomplished at college is thus central to the transitions of many emerging adults.”
- Metaphors of higher education: sieve, incubator, temple, hub
- What is the historical narrative they are suggesting about how higher education has changed?
 - From academic and moral development to personal growth and well-being. Emphasis now is on self-exploration and social well-being.
 - * Why does that happen?
 - From faculty in charge to administrators, students, and parents in charge
 - From faculty determining what counts as knowledge to employers determining what counts as skills
 - * Skills include “other-directed” skills: getting along with others, tolerance for diversity, socially suave, for example
- Summed up in Durkehim’s line, the goal of education is the “socialization of the human being.”
- If that shift is true, what does it mean for how we measure what students learn?
 - Social class-specific
- What are the big buckets?
 - Social life: Getting along with others, finding balance
 - Personal growth: Crucial product is a personality, feel more fully developed
 - Academic skills (critical thinking, complex reading, writing): measured in how much you work?
- What variables have we seen that would matter?