

Week 11

Part 1

Read the following three quotes. In a few sentences, write down what they mean in a simplified form.

Sokal, Alan. "Transgressing the Boundaries: Toward a Transformative Hermeneutics of Quantum Gravity." *Social Text* no. 46/47 (1996): 217-252.

"There exists an external world, whose properties are independent of any individual human being and indeed of humanity as a whole; that these properties are encoded in 'eternal' physical laws; and that human beings can obtain reliable, albeit imperfect and tentative, knowledge of these laws by hewing to the 'objective' procedures and epistemological strictures prescribed by the (so-called) scientific method."

"Feminist and poststructuralist critiques have demystified the substantive content of mainstream Western scientific practice, revealing the ideology of domination concealed behind the façade of 'objectivity.' "

"It has thus become increasingly apparent that physical 'reality,' no less than social 'reality,' is at bottom a social and linguistic construct."

Part 2

Find a newspaper article that you think is good. Write the citation for that newspaper article. Then, write a few sentences describing why you think it is good. I'll read it and tell you if I agree.