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**Abstract**

This article explores the ways we might use modern and post modern theory to examine problems in comparative higher education. The problems or objects of study on which comparative higher education currently focuses are problematized and interrogated. The implications of several versions of globalization theory for comparative higher education are explored as are the various post-alities. Mann's political sociology of social power, Foucauldian theory of knowledge/power regimes, and feminist theory. Finally, the article looks at methods that might be used when drawing on these theories to study comparative higher education. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)