13.9.2026

Author

TIERNEY, William G.

Title

The autonomy of knowledge and the decline of the subject : postmodernism and the reformulation of the university

Publication year

2001

Source/Footnote

In: Higher Education. - 41 (2001) 4, S. 353 - 372

Inventory number

12506

Keywords

Hochschulen : allgemein ; Hochschule : gegenwärtige Situation ; Hochschule : Idee und Aufgabe

Abstract

The article pertains to how one might employ postmodern assumptions in the study and analysis of comparative higher education. The text first critiques the idea of modernism by way of a discussion about postmodernism. The author then analyzes the implication of postmodernism for comparative higher education research. in doing so, the author outlines five tenets of postmodernism that revolve around alternative ways of thinking about knowledge production and identity construction. The premise of the text is that postmodernism offers a different interpretation from modernism about the twin ideas of knowledge and identity. The author concludes by offering suggestions about how postmodernism might reorient the work of comparative higher education research. Accordingly, the goal of the text is to delineate competing conceptions of reality with regard to knowledge production, identity, and the role of the university. (HRK / Abstract übernommen) William G. Tierney, E-mail: wgtiern@usc.edu