

10.7.2026

Author

PABIAN, Petr

Title

Why "cheating" research is wrong : new departures for the study of student copying in higher education / Petr Pabian

Publication year

2015

Source/Footnote

In: Higher education. - 69 (2015) 5, S. 809 - 821

Inventory number

38265

Keywords

Ausland : Tschechien : Studenten, Studium, Lehre ; Ausland : Tschechien : einzelne Hochschulen

Abstract

In this ethnographic study, I will show that students at Czech university departments employ copying strategies as part of the dominant educational practices centred on the 'replication' of authoritative knowledge. In the teaching/learning situations that we observed, teachers 'transmit' knowledge to students, who are expected to 'replicate' it in exams, which students manage by either memorization or copying; either way, students are excluded from knowledge construction. This educational configuration is re/produced not just by students and teachers but also by buildings and spaces built for frontal instruction; by projection technologies transmitting fixed knowledge; by students' community websites that enable sharing and electronic replication of lecture or crib notes; and by public policies of higher education funding or quality assurance. In conclusion, I will argue that many fundamental aspects of research on student so called 'cheating' need to be re-examined because this study demonstrates that student copying is integral to the dominant configuration in Czech higher education. This 'normality' of student copying challenges the moralist consensus of the literature,

10.7.2026

expressed in the very term 'cheating' as well as in proposals to counter student copying by instilling academic integrity in students, while ignoring complex higher education configurations. (HRK / Abstract übernommen) Pabian, Petr, E-Mail: petr.pabian@gmail.com