

Subjugated Knowledge and Curriculum Transformation



What is a grand narrative?

“Stories that speak to the universality of human experience and suggest that all people are tied together by overarching stories of humanized science and progress.” (Cherry M. Banks, 1996, p. 49)



Subjugated knowledge

Intellectual
knowledge



Lived experiences,
popular knowledge

Textbook knowledge



Process of retrieving intellectual knowledge

- Archival work: dig up knowledge about group
- Theorize about group's experience
- Re-theorize discipline based on group's experience
- Re-theorize epistemology in way that is centered around one's own group
- Seek connections across groups



People of African Descent: Creators, Thinkers, Builders

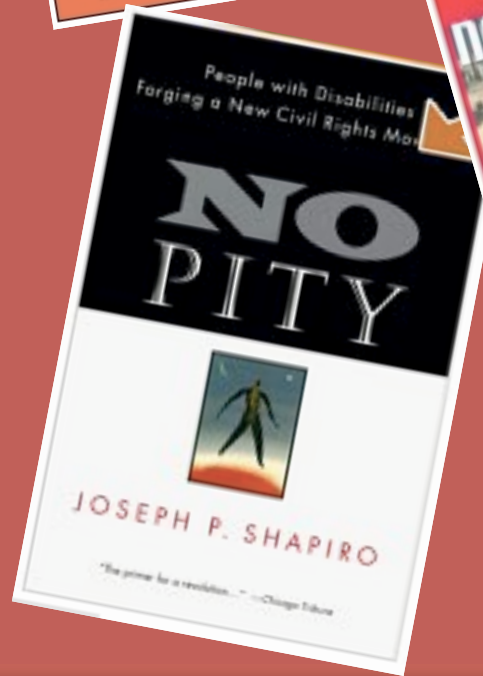
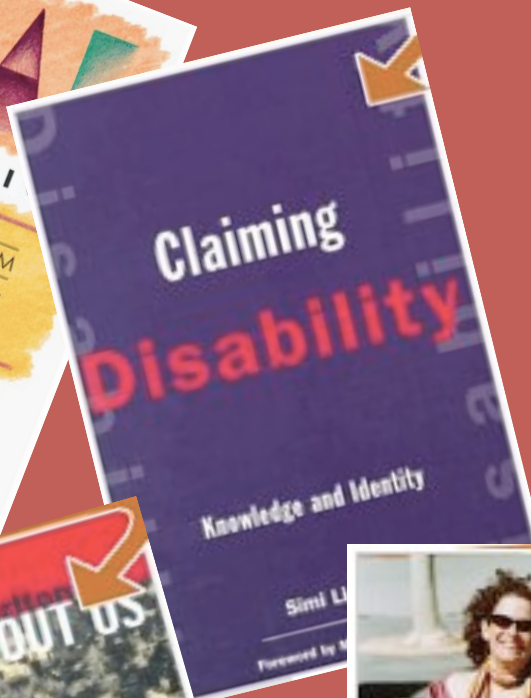
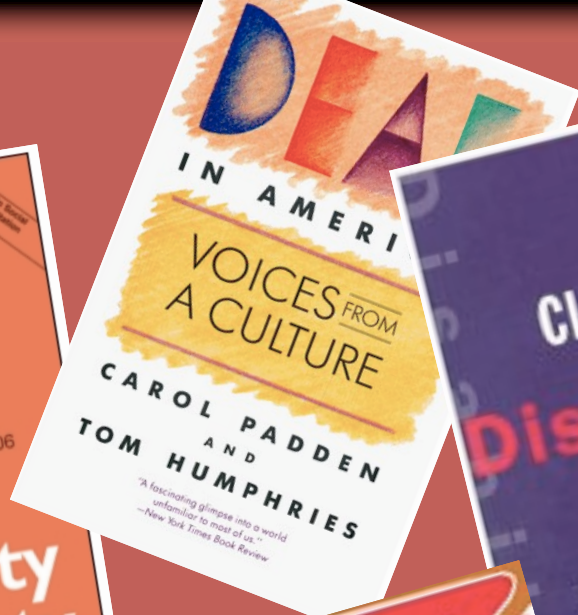
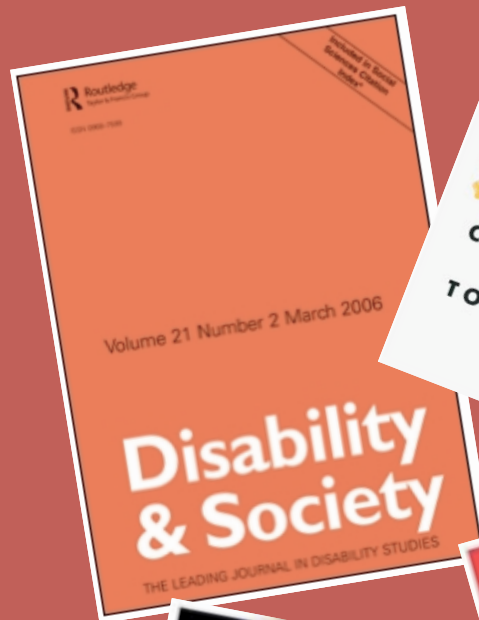
- Ancient Egypt, the cradle of civilization
- Other precolonial African civilizations
- Colonization and enslavement
- Building the church: The emergence of African American institutions
- Resisting the yoke of slavery
- The Harlem Renaissance
- The Civil Rights movement
- Black nationalism globally
- Creators, thinkers, and builders today



Themes in Women's Studies

- Sex, gender, and inequality
- The private sphere vs. the public sphere; the work women do in both
- Women speaking through personal narratives and the arts
- Violence as a means of gendered control
- Women, children and poverty
- Women as diverse
- Women as activists





Disability Studies

- Critique of pervasive deficiency, medicalized perspective
- Who gets to decide what counts as normal? Biology in social context
- Voices of people with disabilities
- Poverty, human needs and human rights
- Putting leadership in the hands of disabled people
- Disability culture, identity, and power



Models of Curriculum Transformation

	Banks	Sleeter & Grant	Feminist Phase Theory
Curriculum helps students learn to examine and act on social justice issues through various disciplines and historically marginalized groups' knowledge.	Social Action	Multicultural Social Reconstructionist	
Curriculum organized around major ideas in discipline or subject area, thoroughly re-worked using intellectual knowledge of multiple groups.	Transformational	Multicultural	Curriculum that Includes us All
Curriculum organized around experiences and intellectual work of one historically marginalized group, in depth.		Single-Group Studies	Woman as Curriculum; African Americans as Curriculum; LGBT as Curriculum; etc.
Compare experiences of dominant and subordinate groups in context of discipline.			Bi-Focal
Add to existing curriculum famous people, facts about historically marginalized groups.	Additive; Contributions	Human Relations	"Add and Stir"
Adaptations to help students from historically marginalized groups better understand existing curriculum.		Teaching the Culturally Different	
Curriculum before transformation		Business as Usual	Womanless Curriculum; White curriculum; etc.