

Developing A Critical Race Mixed Methods Study: Combining Critical Race Theory and Mixed Methods Research

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Workshop Agenda

- Part I: Theory
 - Introductions/Race Activity
 - Race and Education
 - Understanding CRT
 - Critical Race Methodologies
- Lunch Break
- Part II: Methods
 - Mixed Methods Designs
 - Critical Race Mixed Methodology (CRMM)
 - Creating Your Own CRMM Study

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Introductions

- Name
- Affiliation
- Research Interest(s)
- Why are you interested in Critical Race Theory and Mixed Methods Research?

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Quick Poll

1. Have you taken a critical race theory course or workshop?
2. Have you used critical race theory in your research?

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Experiences with Race

- Think about your first (or most memorable) experience with race/racism.
 - What happened?
 - How was the situation resolved (or not)?
 - How did you feel about the experience?
 - What did you learn from the experience?

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Understanding Race

- Race is a way of categorizing people based upon phenotypical characteristics such as skin color. Race also helps to determine power and influence.
- Race is multifaceted and operates in intricate and complex ways.
- Race is context and time specific.
- Race is socially-constructed.
(Omi & Winant, 2014)

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Understanding Your Experiences with Race

- Experiences with race and racism impact your sense of racial identity:
 - Your view of your racial group
 - Your perceptions of other racial groups
 - Your feelings regarding your membership in your racial group
- Experiences with race and racism impact how you experience and view the world in terms of power.
- Experiences with race and racism influence your positionality.

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Goals of Critical Race Theory

- To understand how white supremacy and its subordination of people of color has been created and maintained in America.
- To understand the relationship between law and racial power as well as how to *change* it. (Crenshaw et al, 1995)

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•Critical Race Theory (CRT) can be used to address experiences with race/racism in everyday life, including in education.

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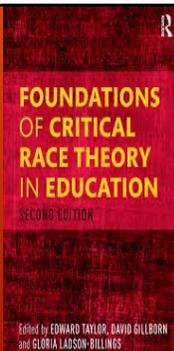
What is Critical Race Theory (CRT)?

- “Critical race theory (CRT) first emerged as a **counterlegal scholarship** to the positivist and liberal legal discourse of civil rights. This scholarly tradition argues against the **slow pace of racial reform** in the United States. Critical race theory begins with the notion that **racism is normal in American society**. It departs from mainstream legal scholarship by sometimes employing **storytelling**. It critiques liberalism and argues that Whites have been the primary beneficiaries of civil rights legislation” (Ladson-Billings, 1999 p. 7).

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CRT component	Focus
Centrality of race and racism	Permanence of racism in society
Challenge to dominant ideology	Questioning of the dominant perspective
Property rights of whiteness	White privilege and the value of whiteness
Intersectionality	Intersecting subordinate identities
Worth of meritocracy	Challenging the idea that hard work and ability will ensure success
Centrality of experiential knowledge	Highlighting the voices (and experiences) of people of color
Historical/contextual perspective	Importance of including the history and context of a situation/problem
Commitment to social justice	Promoting systemic change
Interdisciplinarity	Examining racism from various academic disciplines
Reinterpretation of civil rights outcomes/interest convergence	Challenging current civil rights outcomes that disadvantage BIPOC

DeCar-Garby, J. T. (2020). Using critical race mixed methodology to explore the experiences of African Americans in education. *Educational Psychologist, 55*(4), 244-255.



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Something to Think About...

- How have others (e.g. fellow students, professors, family, etc.) perceived your interest in race-based/critical race research?
 - If not supported, how do their reactions make you feel?
 - What are the repercussions of your work?

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Critical Race Methodology

(Solórzano & Yosso, 2002)

- Critical Race Methodology—theoretically grounded approach to research that
 - Foregrounds race and racism in all aspects of the research process
 - Challenges the traditional research paradigms, texts, and theories used to explain the experiences of students of color
- Offers a liberatory or transformative solution to racial, gender, and class subordination
- Focuses on the racialized, gendered, and classed experiences of students of color
- Uses interdisciplinary knowledge

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Critical Race Methodology

(Solórzano & Yosso, 2002)

- Counterstories
 - Types—Personal, Other people's, and Composite
- Creating Counterstories
 - Data collected in research study
 - The existing literature
 - Own professional experiences
 - Own personal experiences
- Requires theoretical sensitivity (p. 33)

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Quant Crit

(Gillborn, et al, 2018)

- Quant methods are no less open to false interpretations and misleading arguments than other approaches
- Statistical methods carry biases that are likely to discriminate against minoritized groups
- Quantitative Methods influenced by the assumptions and experiences of the researchers
 - Findings given greater weight and credence than qual work
 - People less likely to feel competent to challenge statistics
- No single method can capture the complexity of racism

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Quant Crit

(Gillborn, et al, 2018)

- Principles of Quant Crit
 - (1) the centrality of racism
 - (2) numbers are not neutral
 - (3) categories are neither 'natural' nor given: for 'race' read 'racism'
 - (4) voice and insight: data cannot 'speak for itself'
 - (5) using numbers for social justice

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CRT and Mixed Methods (DeCuir-Gunby & Walker-DeVose, 2013)

- Researchers differ in their belief about the compatibility of CRT and quantitative methods
 - Incompatible—Does not allow for the telling of individual stories
 - Compatible—Allows for composite stories through numbers
- Combining CRT and quantitative methods requires focusing on what constitutes a story or counterstory.
- Critical race mixed methods is a plausible alternative to quantitative methods.
- Critical race mixed methods is a way to expand the counterstory.

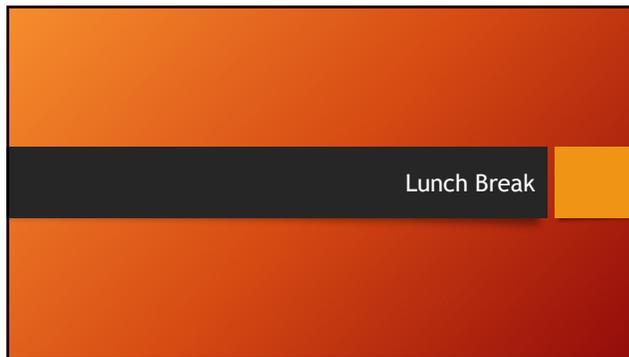
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Jamboard Activity:

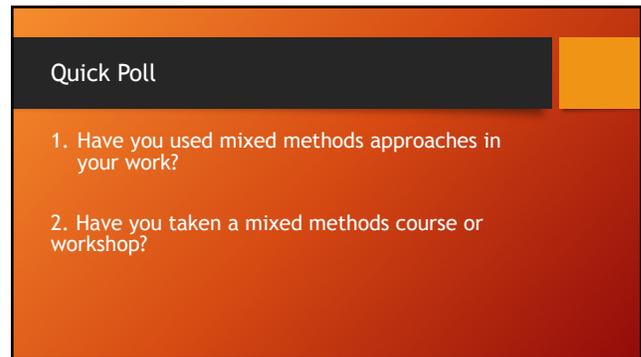
- Why is a CRT framework useful to study your research problem?

• <https://jamboard.google.com/d/10Z7cUvYcamPVTczlA-T53OvTJLWRO4jxCED-J0ojPcA/edit?usp=sharing>

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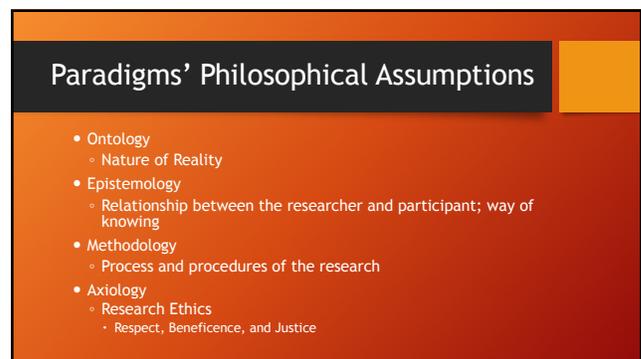
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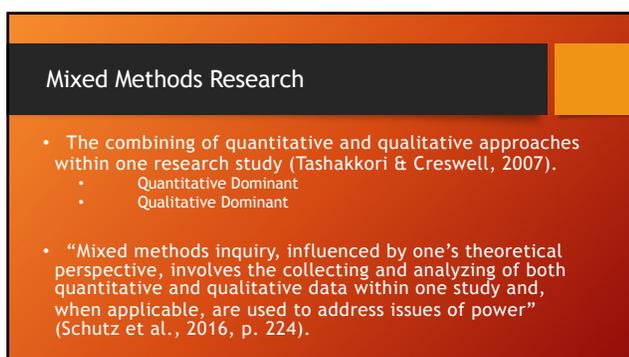
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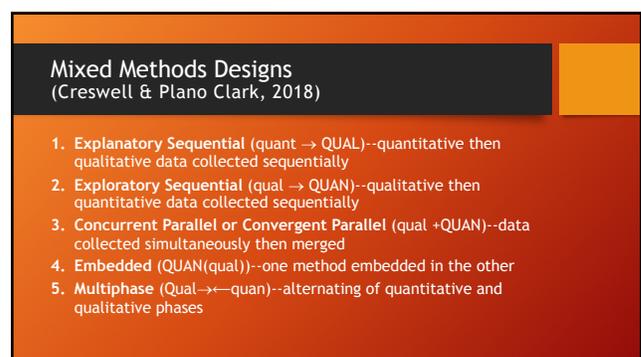
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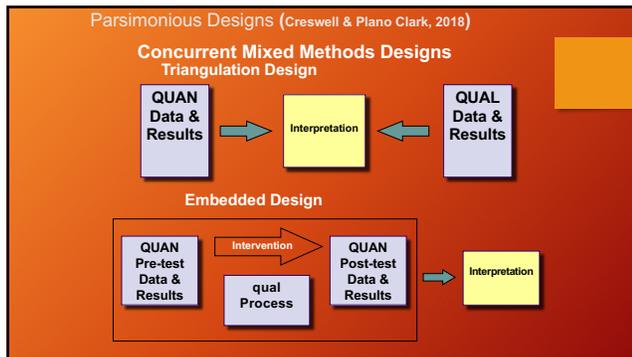
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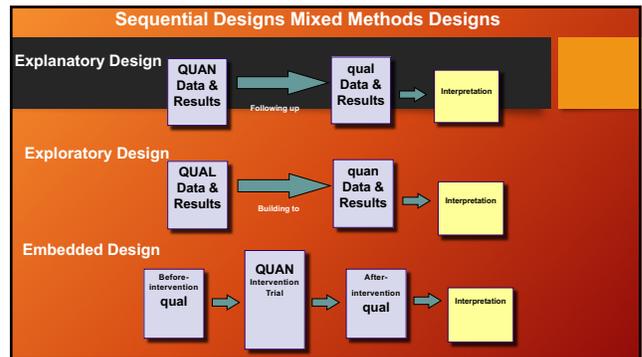
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Components of a Mixed Methods Study

- Definition
- Theoretical Framework (inquiry worldview, substantive content theories, subjectivity)
- Research Questions
- Mixed Methods Design (implementation, priority, data mixing)
 - Diagram
- Data Collection
 - Sampling
 - Instrumentation
- Data Analysis and Interpretation
 - Validation
- Data Integration

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Critical Race Mixed Methodology (CRMM)

1. The combination of traditional mixed methods designs with CRT (DeCuir-Gunby & Schutz, 2019).
2. Focuses on using mixed methods designs integrated with a CRT framework.
3. Integrates CRT throughout all stages of the mixed methods research process.

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3 Components of CRMM (DeCuir-Gunby, 2020)

1. The research must center on race.
2. The research must be grounded within a CRT framework.
3. A goal is to challenge power structures and to help to create change. Focuses on issues of race, examines power dynamics, and challenges systems of inequity.

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Components of CRMM

- Definition of Mixed Methods
- Racialized Theoretical Framework (inquiry worldview centering on CRT, substantive content theories, subjectivity that focuses on racial issues)
- Research Questions (focusing on racial issues and/or issues associated with power and social justice)
- Mixed Methods Design (implementation, priority, data mixing)
 - Diagram
- Data Collection
 - Sampling (racially/ethnically relevant participants and context)
 - Instrumentation (culturally relevant)
- Data Analysis and Interpretation (focusing on racial issues and/or issues associated with power and social justice)
 - Validation
- Data Integration (focusing on racial issues and/or issues associated with power and social justice)

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Activity: Designing A CRMM Study



Directions:

- The blank template is for you to practice reimagining your own traditional mixed methods research study into a Critical Race Mixed Methods study. Think about your research ideas and fill in the blanks.
- After you have finished reimagining your study, get into small groups and answer the following questions:
 - What CRT elements did you focus on for your study?
 - What mixed methods design did you use for the study?
 - What was most challenging about this activity?
 - What questions do you still have about CRMM?
- Return to the whole group once your small group has finished answering the questions.

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Activity: Designing a CRMM Study



Traditional

- Research Questions/Hypotheses/Goals
- Mixed Methods Design
- Theories
- Worldview
- Sample/ Context
- Instruments
- Analysis & Integration
- Outcomes/Claims

CRMM

- Research Questions/Hypotheses/Goals
- Mixed Methods Design
- Theories
- Worldview
- Sample/ Context
- Instruments/Analyses
- Analysis & Integration
- Outcomes/Claims

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Discussion



- What questions do you have about
 - CRT?
 - Studying Race?
 - Using a CRMM framework?

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