



Counter-Hegemony

Dimension 3: Culturally Sustaining

OER challenge historic methods of legitimising academia and recognise and celebrate each learner’s culture, inviting learners to engage with a topic through the richness of their own lens.

Evaluating OER against the Counter-Hegemony criterion

The Equity Rubric for OER Evaluation gives a resource a high rating for Counter-Hegemony if it “challenges the hegemonic ‘white gaze’ through which academic performance has been historically legitimised.”

The Rubric suggests looking for “content combining knowledge about learning, learners, families, and communities with the ability to see information, ideas, and details from the perspectives of others.”

Key Examples and Suggestions

Resource	Description	Link
‘Chapter 3: Indigenizing Your Classroom: A Practice in Inclusive Pedagogy’ in <i>Teaching in the University</i> by Qualla Ketchum	This chapter explores culturally responsive pedagogy as well as the benefits, to all students, of including Indigenous knowledges and voices in the curriculum. Note: This text was created in the US, through the lens of the knowledge and experience of a citizen of the Cherokee Nation.	Indigenizing Your Classroom
‘Hegemonic masculinity’ entry in <i>Democracy in Difference</i> by Carolyn D’Cruz	This entry explores the term ‘hegemonic masculinity’ as well as the broader term ‘hegemony’, providing several examples and counter-examples. D’Cruz clearly defines ‘hegemony’ in the following excerpt from page 178:	Democracy in Difference



Resource	Description	Link
	<p>“Hegemony refers not just to domination but an ideological structure that gains the consent of those who are subordinate in such a system.</p> <p>When an ideology (where patterns of making sense of the world appear as ‘natural’, as if separate from historical context, power and knowledge) becomes dominant, and people give consent to conform to processes of normalisation, we call that process hegemonic.</p> <p>In other words, hegemony is not a coercive exertion of power; people are not forced to align their interests with dominant ways of thinking. Rather, people willingly submit to prevailing ideologies tied to blocs of power.”</p>	

Table of key examples and suggestions demonstrating the [Counter-Hegemony criterion](#) of the Culturally Sustaining dimension.

[Suggest an Example](#)