

Theory in research on higher education

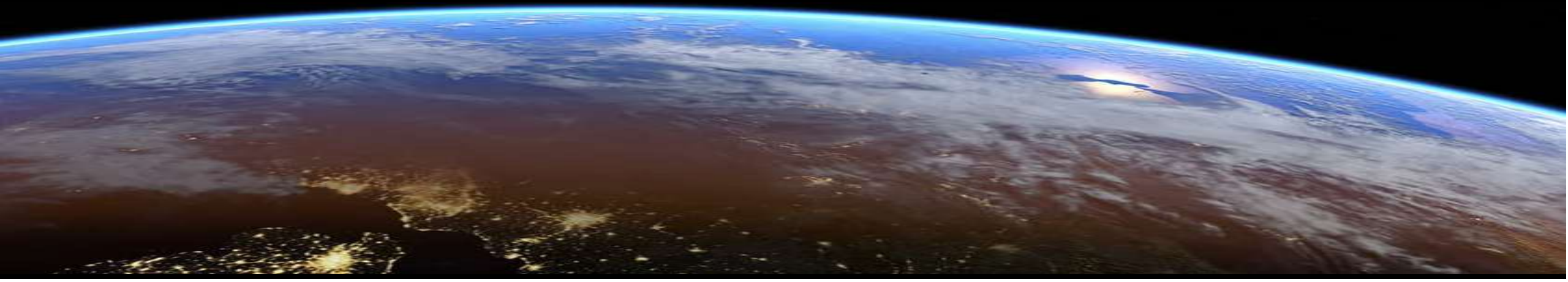
Imagining global scale and global agency

Simon Marginson / CGHE Oxford, 22 November 2021

“One morning I woke up and decided to look out the window to see where we were. We were flying over America and suddenly I saw snow, the first snow we ever saw from orbit. Light and powdery, it blended with the contours of the land, with the veins of the rivers. I thought autumn, snow - people are busy getting ready for winter. A few minutes later we were flying over the Atlantic, then Europe, and then Russia. I have never visited America, but I imagined that the arrival of autumn and winter is the same there as in other places, and the process of getting ready for them is the same.

“And then it struck me that we are all children of our Earth. It does not matter what country you look at. We are all Earth's children, and we should treat her as our mother.”

- attributed to Soviet cosmonaut Aleksandr Aleksandrov, Soyuz T-9 mission, 1983





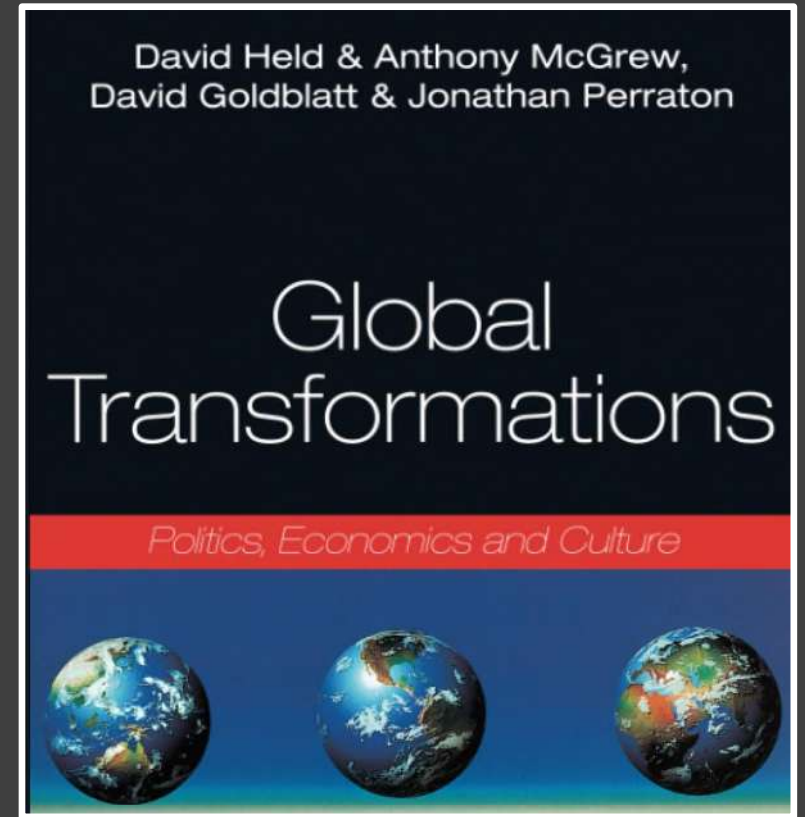
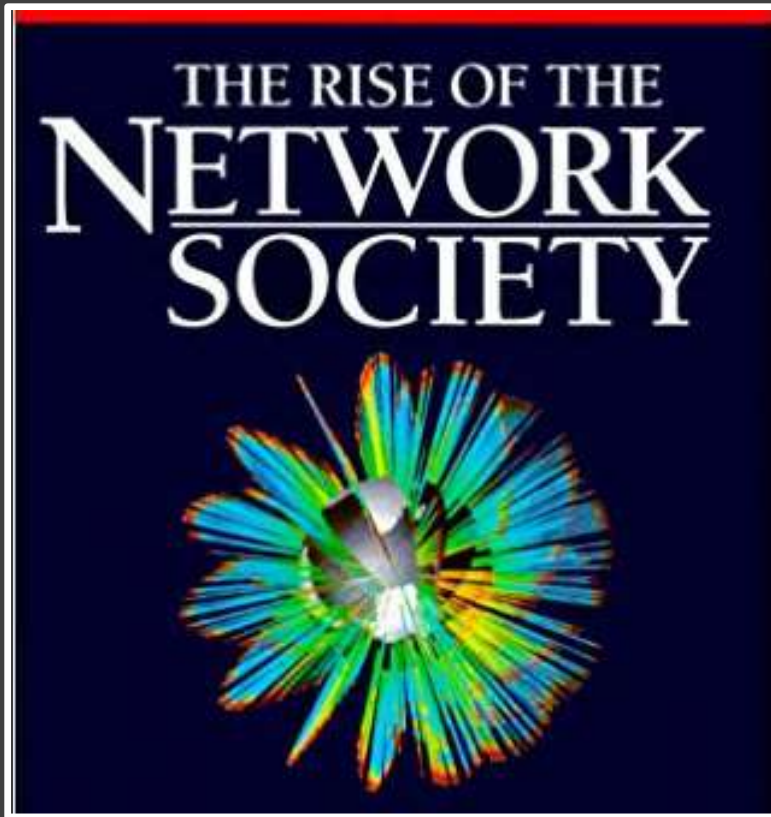
MONASH University

Monash University Centre for Research on International Education

- Australia: similar political culture to UK but no Empire
- European settler state on the edge of Asia
- New opportunities in more Asian and global world
- Long debate between neo-liberalism and social democratic equity agendas

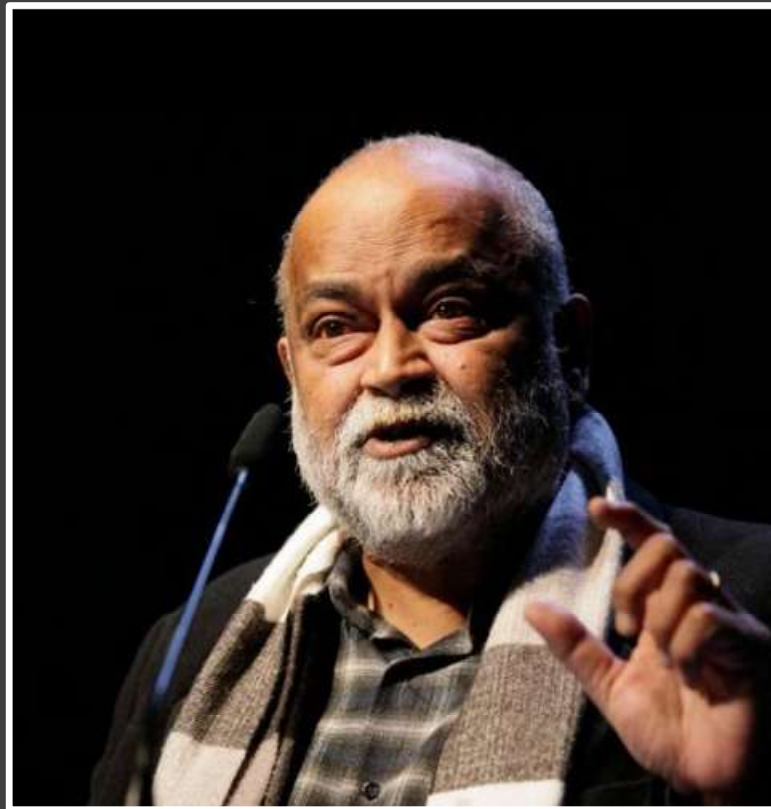
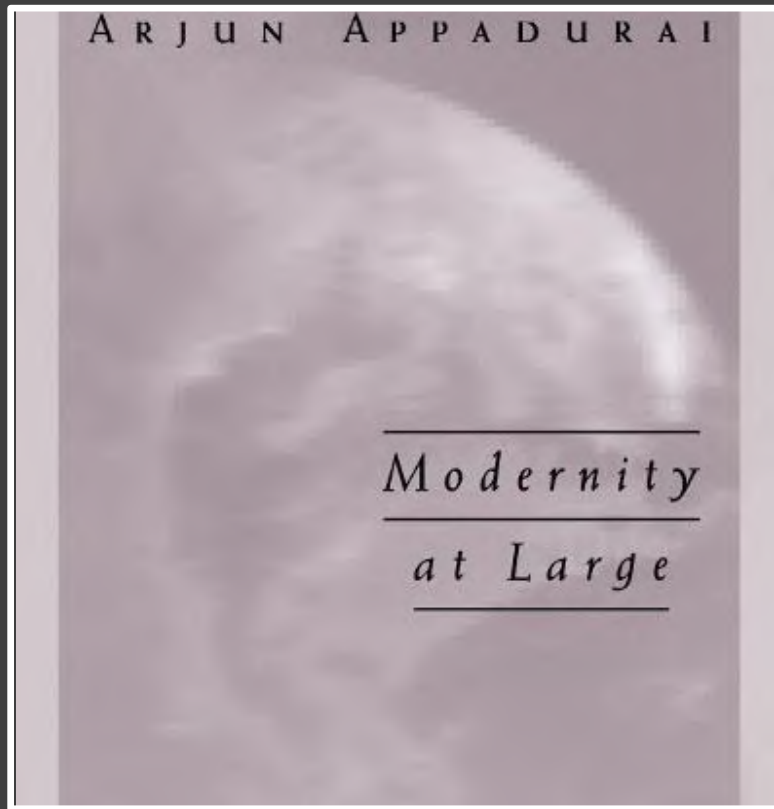
Thinking through
the world





Manuel Castells

Getting to grips with global transformations

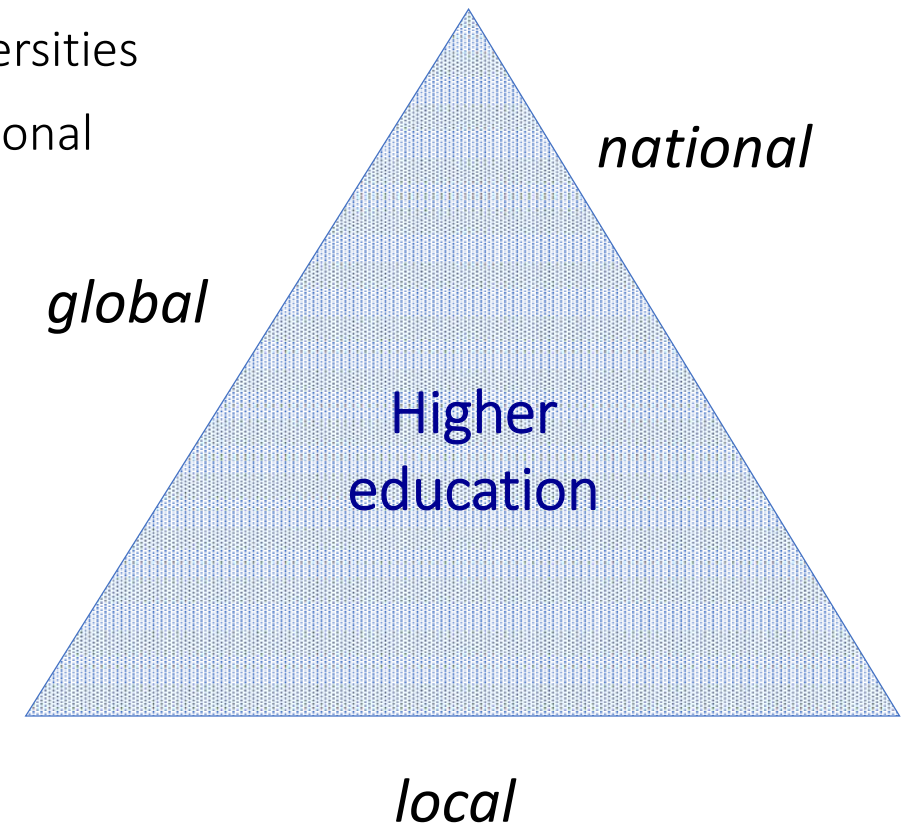


Arjun Appadurai and global 'scapes'

Glouacal positionality in higher education (*global, national, local* at the same time = *glouacal*)

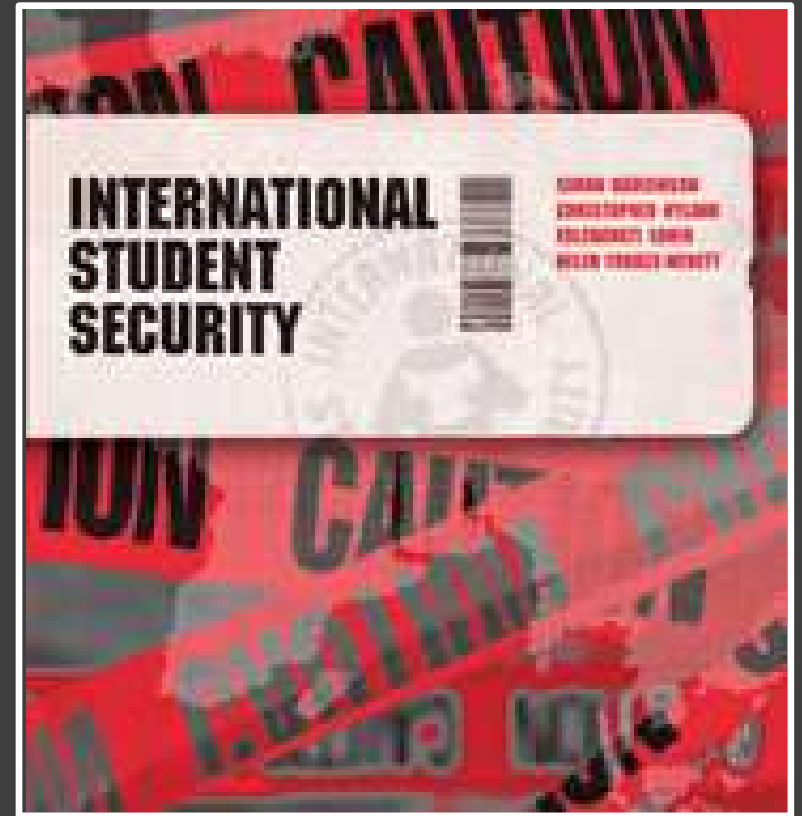
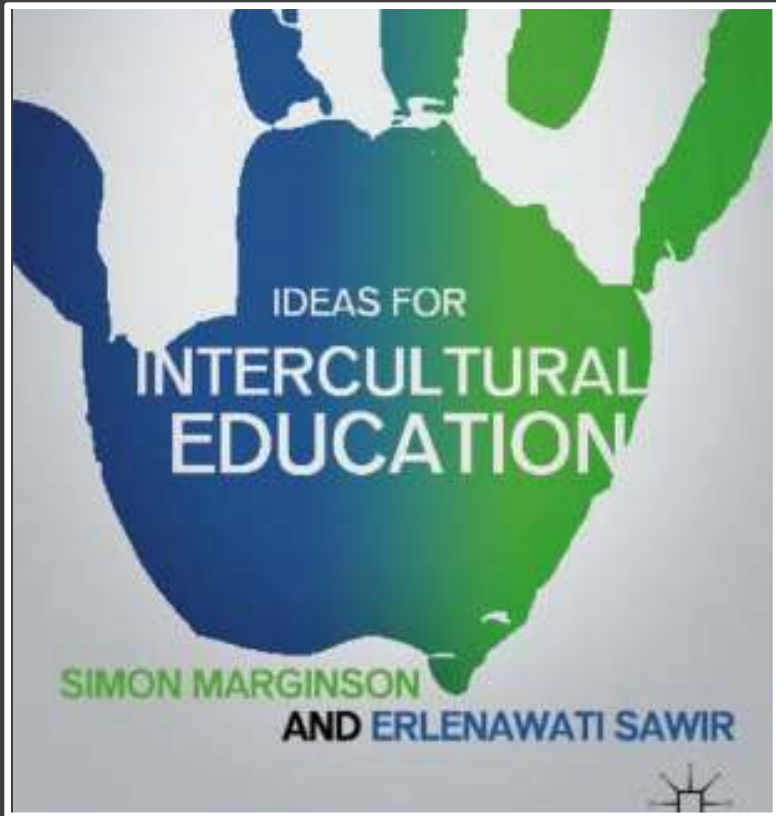
- Higher education is formed, regulated and practiced in *national* (and in Europe and to some extent elsewhere, pan-national regional) systems
- *Local* activities and agents are important to all institutions
- *Global* activities and agents are especially obvious in research universities
- Institutions vary in emphasis and over time, in the mix of local, national and global

Simon Marginson and Gary Rhoades (2002). Beyond national states, markets, and systems of higher education: A glouacal agency heuristic. *Higher Education*, 43 (3), pp. 281-309





Commercial international education



Intercultural education and student agency

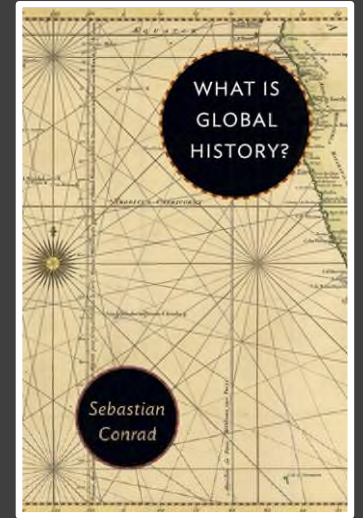
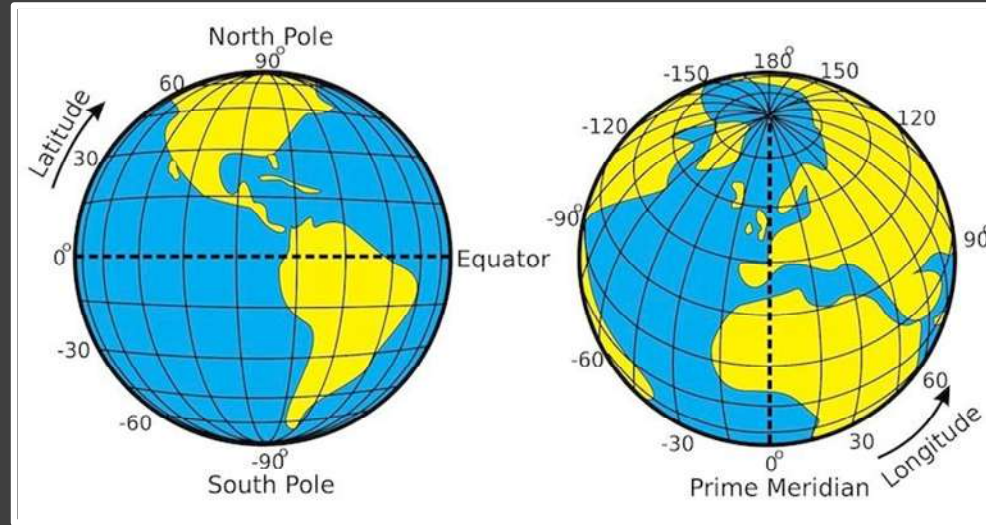
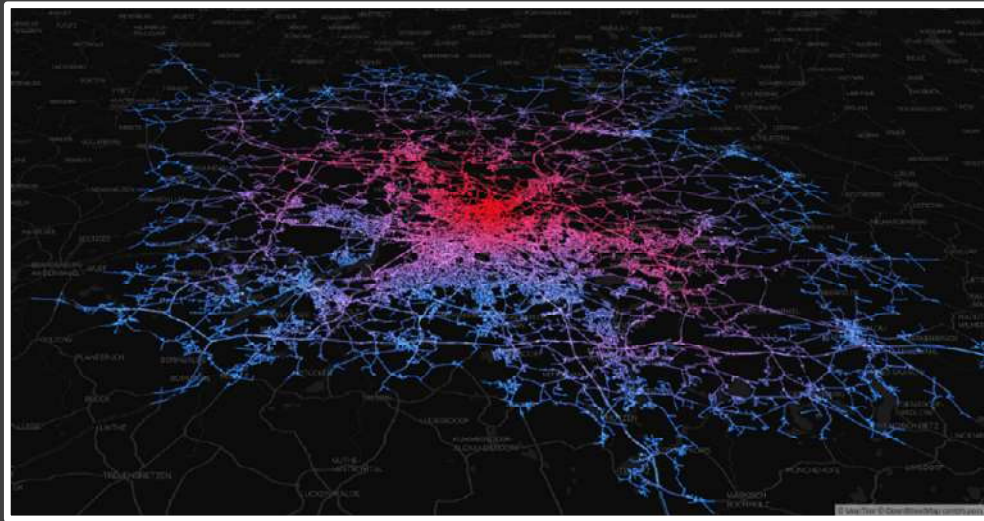
White
Supremacy in
the education
provider
countries



Riyad Shahjahan

‘Internationalisation’ vs.
‘globalisation’ –
a battle between good
and evil???





Geo-spatial terms without ideological baggage



The global, like the national, as a 'space of possibles'