

# Areas of inquiry



Student transformation



The academic worker

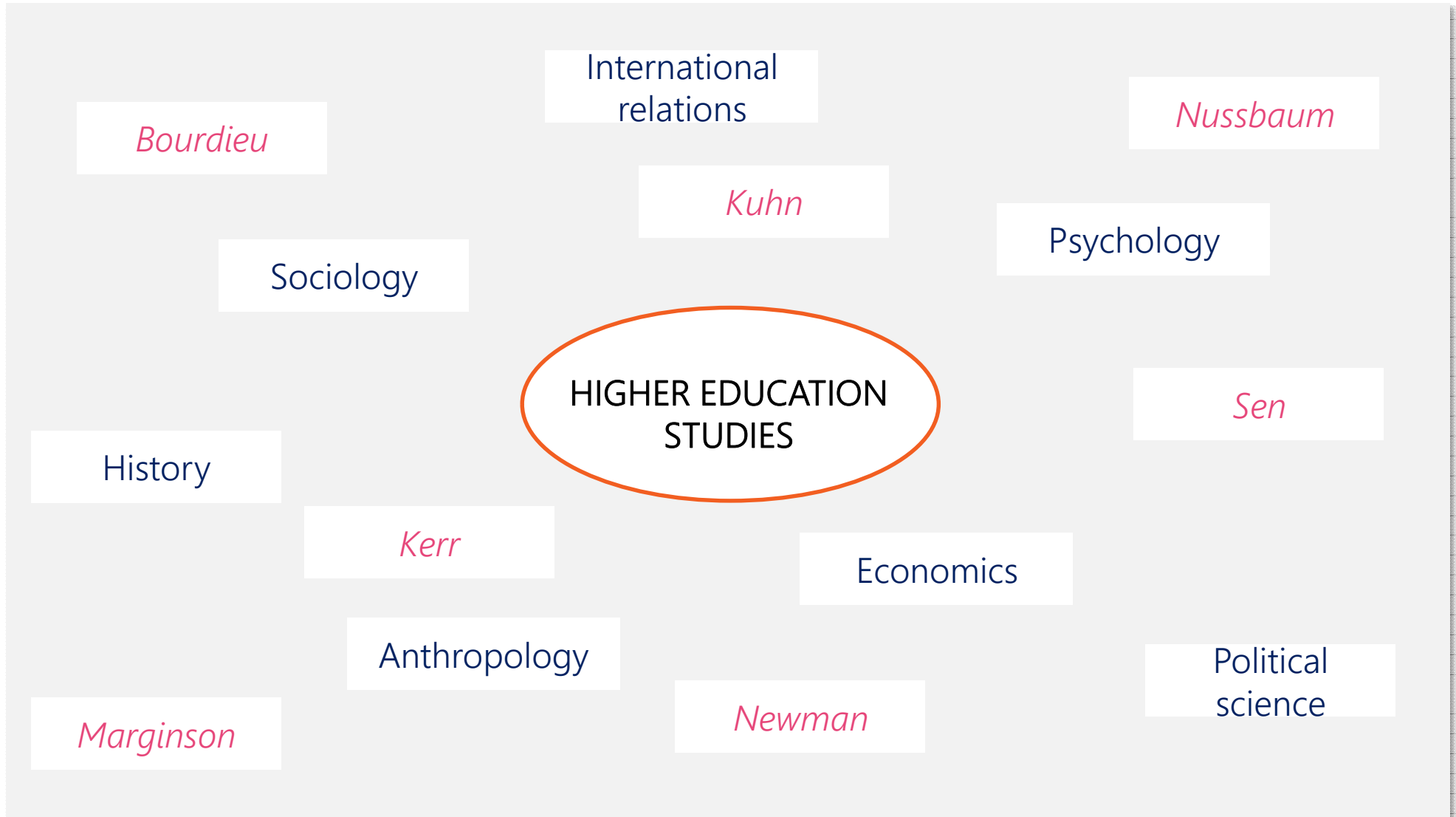


National development and innovation



Global relations in higher education

Diverse disciplinary perspectives, methodologies and voices are key strengths of higher education studies. Tackling the burning questions requires a plurality of approaches.





# What is ‘higher education studies’ and what are its uses?



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Image by: Xin Xu

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## The multiverse / Pluriverse of Higher Education Studies

- **Multiple identifiers**

- Spaces: Global, regional, national, institutional containers (e.g. Shahjahan & Kezar, 2013)
- Agents: Disciplinary, epistemic, theoretical, methodological, practical, language, culture matrix
- Temporal dimensions
- ...
- See for example, a national case of the development of higher education studies in China (Hu, 2018)

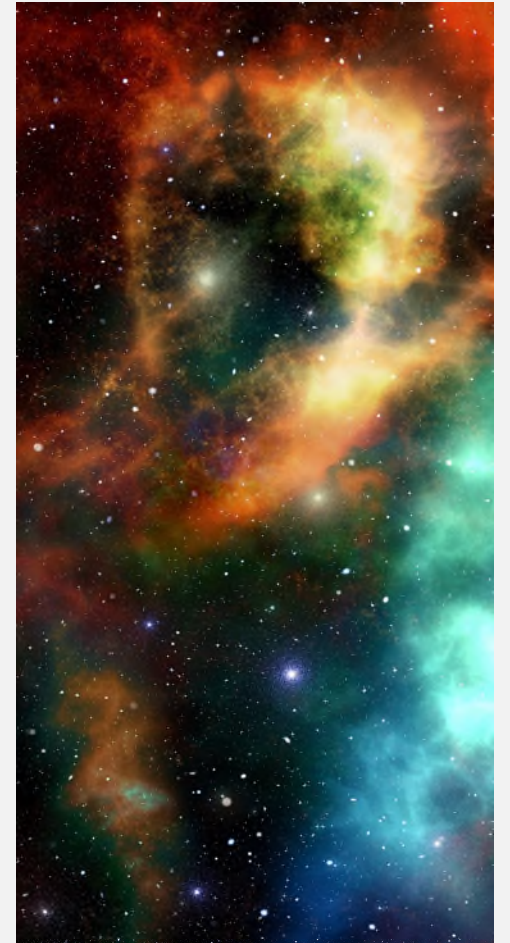
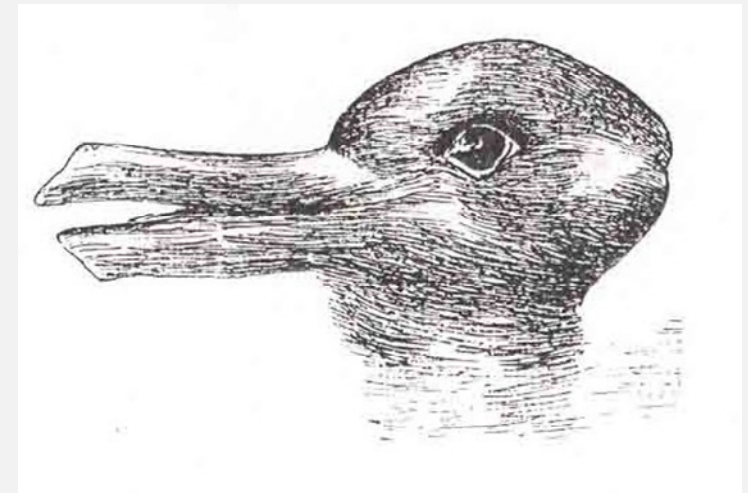


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- **Characteristics of the Multiverse / Pluriverse**

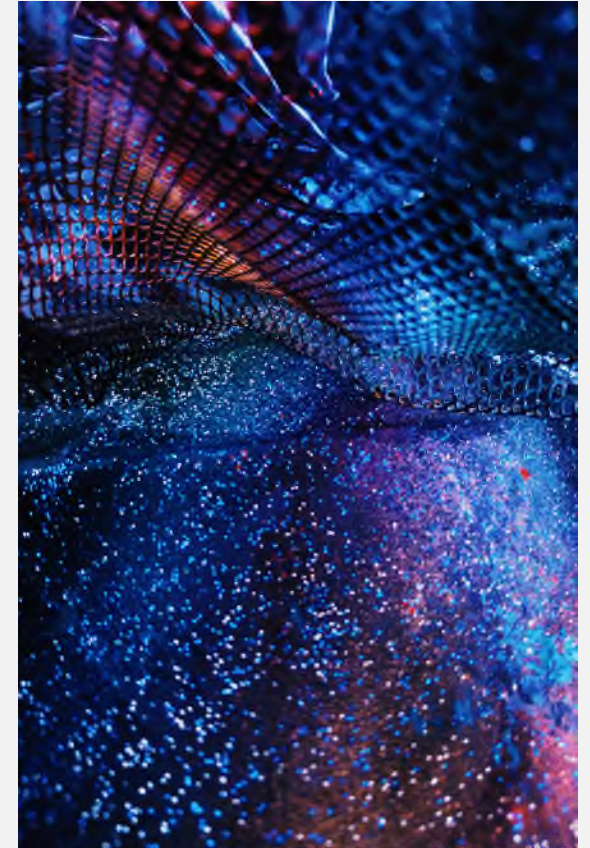
- Multiplex, multi-dimensional, open and infinite
  - Diversified, dynamic, possibility of intersection/connection
  - Unequal, hegemonical, othering
- See for example, Calma & Davies (2017), Horta & Jung (2014), Rumbley, et al. (2014), Tight (2019), among other meta-analysis/scientometric analysis of higher education research and publications, in different contexts but often rely on Euro-American/English-dominated Scopus/Web of Science databases.



Source: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=667017>



- **The unseen, silenced, and marginalised:**
  - Who can produce, legitimise, codify, engage with or even replace whose knowledge, value, agenda, and reality?
  - See for example, Connell (2014), Guzmán-Valenzuela & Gómez (2019), Posholi (2020), among other critiques on the monoculture and hegemony in global social sciences / higher education research; and their calls for the pluralisation and decolonisation of knowledge and cognitive/epistemic justice and democratisation, which often come from post-colonial/non-English speaking/non-Euro-American perspectives.





## Thank you!



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