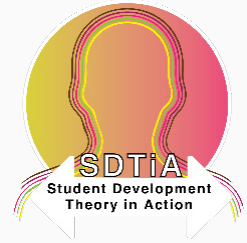
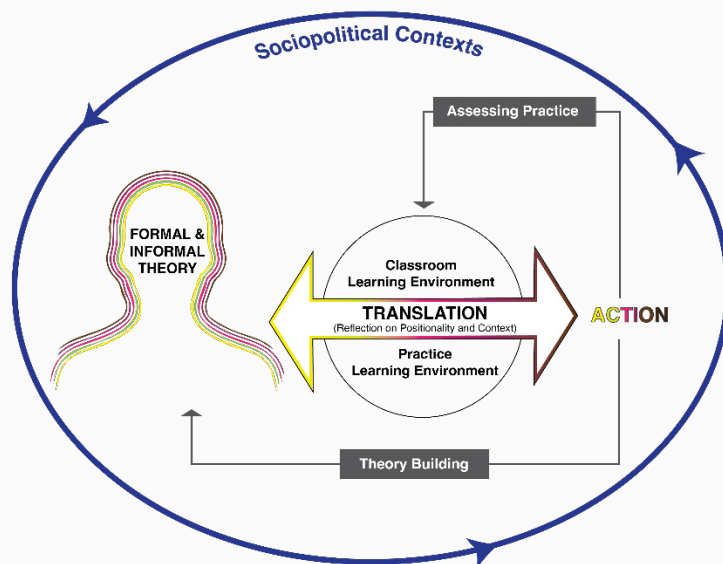


Theory Work Groups



Assignment Rationale

Theory Work-Groups is a learning activity that supports students' engagement with each of the *Student Development Theory in Action* (SDTiA) framework's four interconnected components - i.e., (1) the sociopolitical contexts' influence, (2) translation of formal/informal theory into action, (3) classroom and practice learning environmental considerations, and (4) theory building and practice assessments. At times, the formal theories/theoretical concepts introduced in this course can seem abstract or disconnected from lived experience. This interactive assignment is designed to help students think more concretely about Student Development Theory (SDT) by applying it to real-world examples. It emphasizes both critical engagement with theory and thoughtful representation of student lives.



Assignment Overview

Students will work in pairs to explore a selected SDT in depth. In addition to course readings, each pair will review two supplementary articles related to their chosen theory. Based on their research, pairs will identify an exemplar—a person, situation, event, or media artifact—that illustrates the theory or one of its components. The goal is not simply to match a theory to an example, but to complicate and critically explore how the theory interacts with real student experiences. Avoid exemplars that tokenize or oversimplify identities and narratives.

Assignment Requirements

a. Theory Work-Up (Written Submission)

Each pair will upload a written "Theory Work-Up" and their exemplar prior to their presentation. The Theory Work-Up should be no more than one single-spaced page (excluding cover page and references), using the template provided by the instructor. In the Theory Work-Up, pairs will engage student development theory through a critical, reflective lens by:

- Briefly outline the key assumptions or premises of the theory.
- Critically reflect on the theory:
 - What aspects ring true? (reflecting on positionality/lived experiences)
 - What does not resonate? (reflecting on positionality/lived experiences)
 - What's missing? (engaging in theory building)
 - Whose interests does the theory serve? (critiques of sociopolitical contexts)
- To explain the connections between the theory and their chosen exemplar, students must grapple with the considerations below, posed by Duran et al., 2024:
 - *Who Are College Students? How Do We Situate Their Journeys Within and Beyond College?*
 - *How Does Development Occur Within Larger Systems of Power and Oppression?*
 - *How Do Multiple Environments Influence College Students?*
 - *How Do We Challenge and Reimagine Developmental Trajectories?*

Duran, A., Abes, E. S., Stewart, D. L., & Jones, S. R. (2024). Looking back, moving forward, and everything in between: Revisiting student development's relevance and enduring concepts. *Journal of College Student Development*, 65(2), 121-136.

b. Presentation (In-Class Activity)

Each pair will be given **15 minutes** during class to:

- Share their exemplar
- Explain its connection to the theory
- Facilitate a brief discussion or reflection, if time permits

Schedule and Sign-Up

Each pair will present times during the semester. A schedule of Theories/Concepts is offered below. Some Theories/Concepts are presented multiple times across theory groups (e.g., Yosso's Community Cultural Wealth Framework), providing students the opportunity to showcase how theory can be applied across identity dimensions and classroom/practice learning environments. The forming of pairs and sign-up will be facilitated by the instructor.

Sample Theory Work Group Schedule

Module: Key Process of Student Development Theories/Concepts (poems/lyrics)

1. Astin's Theory of Student Involvement
2. Tillapaugh's Critical Praxis of Student Involvement And Engagement
3. Marcia's Ego Identity Statues

Module: Cognitive Development Theories/Concepts (case study/news clipping)

1. Perry's Theory on Intellectual and Ethical Development
2. Belenky et al.'s Women's Ways of Knowing
3. Black Feminist Thought
4. Chicana Feminist Thought
5. Kiyama's Funds of Knowledge

6. Yosso's Community Cultural Wealth Framework
7. Edward et al.' Theory of Lifelong Learning

Module: Moral and Ethical Development Theories/Concepts (you create the diagram)

1. Kohlberg's Theory of Moral Development
2. Rest's Theory of Moral Development
3. Rest's Four Components of Morality
4. Gilligan's Theory of Women's Moral Development

Module: Intercultural Maturity Theories/Concepts (portraiture or photo solicitation)

1. King and Baxter's Intercultural Maturity Model
2. Perez's Model Refined Developmental Model of Intercultural Maturity
3. Freire's Critical Consciousness
4. Watt's Privileged Identity Exploration Model

Module: Adult learning Theories/Concepts (group choice)

1. Knowles and the Foundations of Andragogy
2. Merriam's Three Pillars of Adult Learning
3. Mezirow's Transformative Learning Theory
4. Kolb's Experiential Learning Theory
5. Kiely and the Four- Lens Model of Transformative Learning for Social Justice
6. Critical Andragogy, including intersectionality & decoloniality

Module: Self-Authorship Theories/Concepts (poems/lyrics)

1. Kegan's Self-Evolution Theory
2. Baxter Magolda's Self-Authorship Theory
3. Okello's Self-Definition Theory

Module: Racial, Ethnic and Nationality Identity Development Theories/Concepts

1. Kim's Asian American Racial Identity Development (AARID) Model (video clip)
2. Cross's Nigrescence Theory (program or service idea)
3. Horse's American Indian Racial Identity (video clip)
4. Brayboy's Tribal Critical Race Theory (program or service idea)
5. Gallegos and Ferdman's Model of Latina and Latino Ethnoracial Orientations (video clip)
6. Torres et al.'s Lifespan Model of Latinx Ethnic Identity Development (program or service idea)
7. Southwest Asian and North African American (SWANAA) Identities (video clip)
8. Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) Identities (program or service idea)
9. Renn's Mixed Race Student Identity Development (video clip)
10. Wijeyesinghe's Factor Model of Multiracial Identity (program or service idea)
11. Harris' Critical Mixed Race Theory (or Multicrit) (video clip)
12. Helms' Model of White Identity Development (program or service idea)
13. Tajfel's Social Identity Theory (video clip)

Module: Gender Identity Development Theories/Concepts (case study/news clipping)

1. Josselson's Women's Identity Statuses
2. Helms's Model of Womanist Identity Development
3. Edwards & Jones's College Men's Gender Identity Development
4. Transgender Men & Trans Masculinities

5. Men of Color, Gender Identity, and Masculinities
6. Gay Men's Gender Identity
7. Sengupta & Upton's Identity Development in College Women
8. Ashton's Self-Authored Gender Outside the Binary
9. Dolan & Garvey's Emergent Model of Nonbinary Gender Identity Development
10. Lange's Model of Transgender College Students' Identity Exploration Processes

Module: Sexual Orientation Identity Development Theories/Concepts (you create the diagram)

1. D'Augelli's Lifespan Model of Identity Development
2. Dillon et al.'s Unifying Model of Sexual Identity Development

Module: Disability and Social Class Identity Development (group choice)

1. Gibson's Three- Stage Model of Disability Identity Development
2. Forber- Pratt and Zape's Psychosocial Disability Identity Development Model
3. Abes et al.'s Revised Model of Multiple Dimensions of Identity
4. Liu et al.'s Social Class Worldview Model
5. Raferty et al.'s Maximally Maintained Inequality (MMI)
6. Bettencourt's Research on Social Class Identity Development of Working- Class Students
7. Social Class & Rural Students
8. Social Class & College Student Athletes
9. Social Class & Student Debt

Module: First Gen and Spiritual, Religious and Secular Identity Development Theories/Concepts (portraiture or photo solicitation)

1. Bandura's Self-Efficacy Theory
2. Yosso's Community Cultural Wealth Framework
3. Kiyama's Funds of Knowledge
4. Fowler's Stages of Faith Model
5. Jones's Reimagined Model
6. Parks' Theory of Faith Development in Young Adulthood
7. Jewish College Student Identity
8. Tajfel & Turner's Social Identity Theory and Muslim Students
9. Berry's Acculturation Model and Muslim Students
10. Peek's Stage Model of Muslim Identity Development in College Students
11. Secular Identity Development in College Students
12. Smith's Atheist Identity Development Model

Module: Multiple and Intersecting Dimensions of Identity Development Theories/Concepts (group choice)

1. Jones & McEwen's Model of Multiple Dimensions of Identity
2. Abes et al.'s Reconceptualized Model of Multiple Dimensions of Identity
3. Jones & Abes's Intersectional Model of Multiple Dimensions of Identity
4. Porter's Model of Identity Development of Black Undergraduate Women
5. Linder's Antiracist, White Feminist Identity Development
6. Duran & Jones's Intersectional Model of Identity Exploration for Queer Students of Color