



**TERMINOLOGY,  
RESEARCH PARADIGMS,  
CRITICAL THEORY**

**SEPTEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**

# CLASS AGENDA

- Check-in: how's everyone doing?
- Overview of key terminology, research paradigms, and critical theory
- Discussion of assigned readings
- Small group learning activity
- Next steps...



# HOW ARE YOU?

ANY ISSUES, CONCERNS, CELEBRATIONS, QUESTIONS, PROVOCATIONS, DESIRES THAT WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT?

# KEY TERMINOLOGY USED IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

How would you define qualitative and quantitative research?

Qualitative Research	Quantitative Research
❖ An approach for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem	❖ An approach for testing objective theories by examining the relationship among variables

# BEYOND INTERNAL/EXTERNAL VALIDITY

Validity Type	Definition
<b>Construct</b>	To ensure that analyses recognize the impact of history and structures of injustice on individuals and communities
<b>Ecological</b>	To document the multiple levels of the “problem,” including macro, meso, and micro
<b>Expert</b>	To value and democratically bring together varied bases of knowledge including local, critical, professional, and outside perspectives
<b>Impact</b>	To ensure that the research is designed as action, for action, and in solidarity with movements for social change

Adapted from Torre et al., (2017)

# KEY TERMINOLOGY USED IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

Term	Definition
<b>Paradigm</b>	
<b>Ontology</b>	
<b>Epistemology</b>	
<b>Axiology</b>	

# KEY TERMINOLOGY USED IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

Term	Definition
<b>Paradigm</b>	A set of interrelated assumptions about the world; Researcher's worldview; Conceptual framework to organize the study
<b>Ontology</b>	
<b>Epistemology</b>	
<b>Axiology</b>	

# KEY TERMINOLOGY USED IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

Term	Definition
<b>Paradigm</b>	
<b>Ontology</b>	Concerned with the nature of reality and being: “what is the form and nature of reality, and what can be known about it?”
<b>Epistemology</b>	
<b>Axiology</b>	



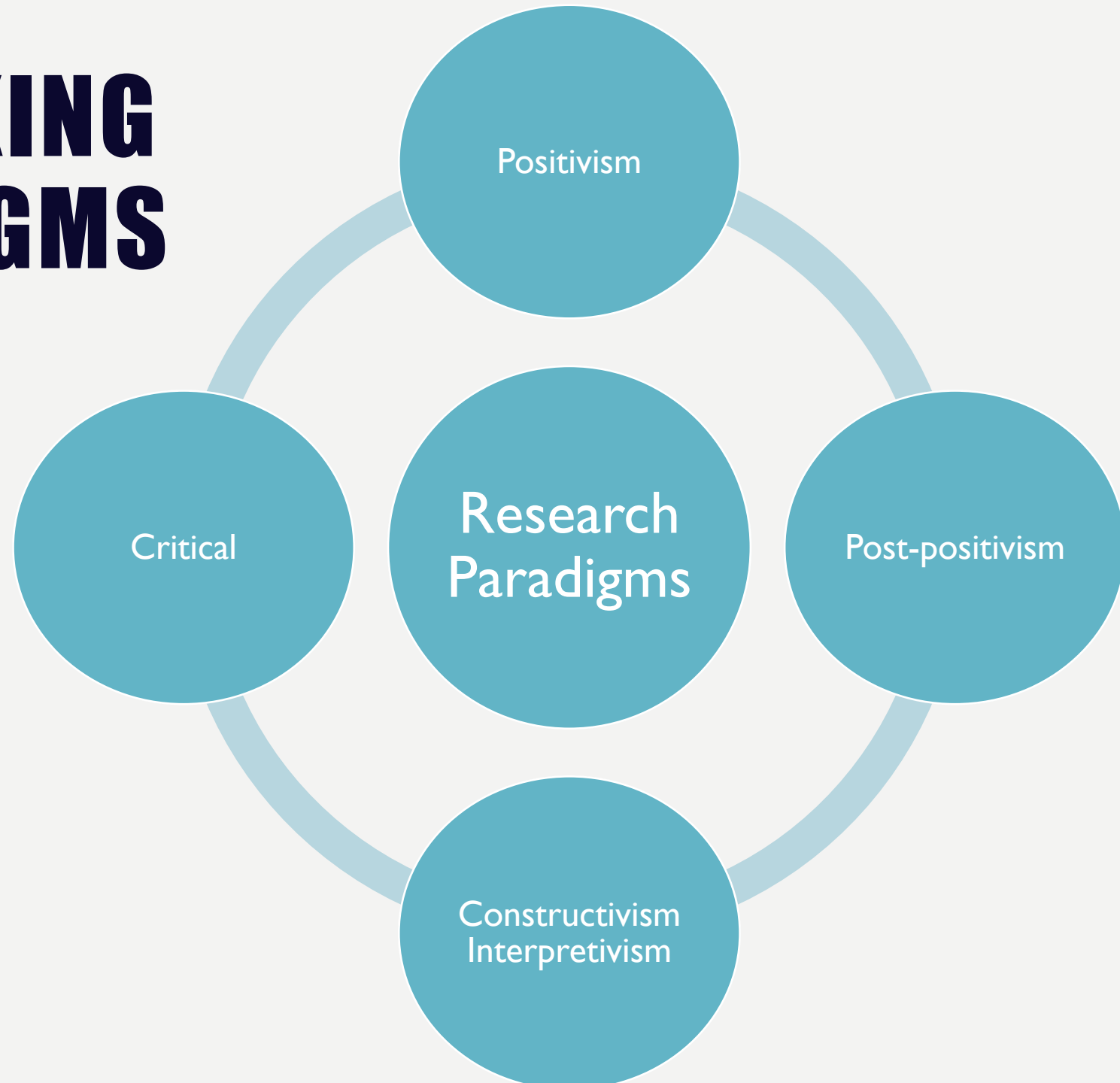
# KEY TERMINOLOGY USED IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

Term	Definition
<b>Paradigm</b>	
<b>Ontology</b>	
<b>Epistemology</b>	Concerned with the knowledge building process and the relationship between the researcher and researched: “What is knowledge and how is it acquired?”
<b>Axiology</b>	

# KEY TERMINOLOGY USED IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

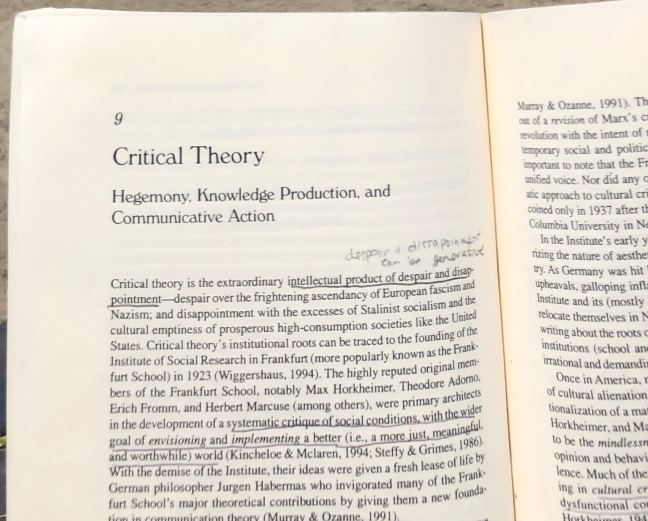
Term	Definition
<b>Paradigm</b>	
<b>Ontology</b>	
<b>Epistemology</b>	
<b>Axiology</b>	The role of researcher values throughout the scientific process

# UNPACKING PARADIGMS

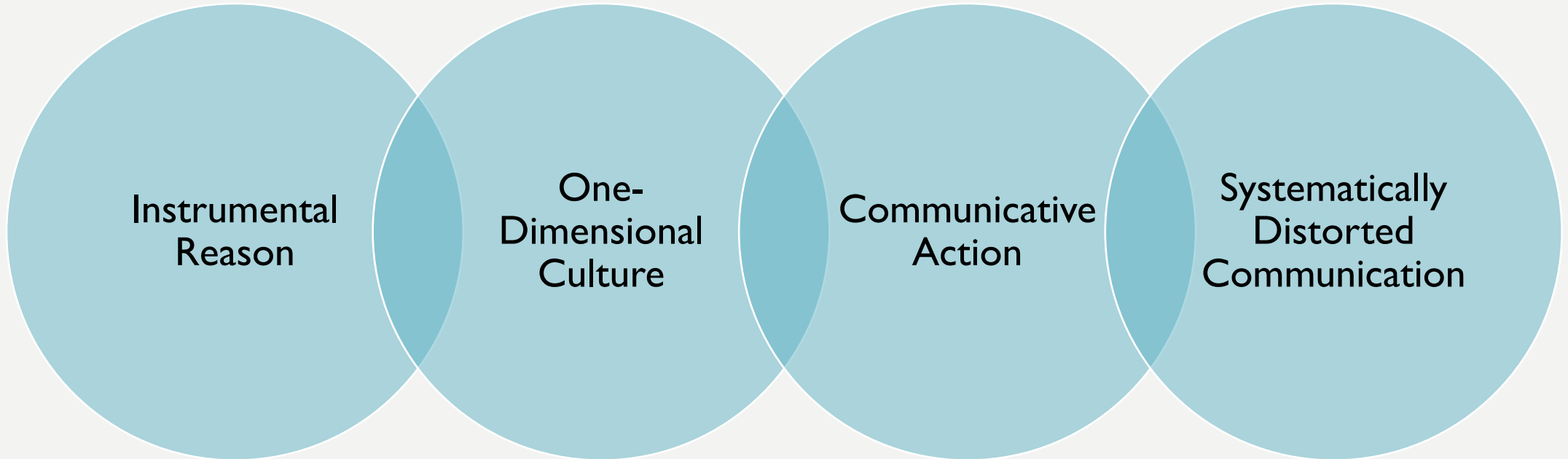


# CRITICAL THEORY

- Critical theory is committed to the goals of social justice (axiology – value laden science)
- There is no single way to “do” critical theory
- Ideology-critique: “the incessant and systematic critique of ideological forces in every aspect of social life”
- The goal is to enhance public awareness of the sources of domination and initiate changes



# CONCEPTS IN CRITICAL THEORY



# LEARNING ACTIVITY

- Qualitative versus quantitative terminology
  - Working in small groups, complete the handout talking through and jotting down your thoughts, rationales, disagreements, struggles, questions, embodiments...
  - Generate a list of questions inspired by this exercise (e.g., Can you give me an example of deductive analysis” “Does every study need to offer verisimilitude?” “What is the point of doing a study that is not generalizable?”)
  - Return to the large group to discuss the activity and unpack any questions that you may have

# NEXT WEEK

Session	Date	Topic	Assignments Due
3	9/15	Who am I? And Who am I Accountable to?	<i>Subjectivity statement due</i>