

NAVIGATING TRANSDISCIPLINARITY

Session 1
02 Nov 2021

Course coordinators:
Patrizia – Patti – Costantin
patrizia.costantin@aalto.fi

Laura Beloff
laura.beloff@aalto.fi

TODAY

2 NOVEMBER

9:15-10:15 Introduction By Laura and Patti: general concepts/ideas around transdisciplinarity and intro to the course themes and speakers

10:15-10:30 break

10:30-12:00 introduction to assignments (15 minutes); group task exercise (5 groups) with books-page-line-word to begin develop ideas for task 3 (45 minutes); 5 minutes break and then discussion in pairs on task 1 to decide topic (25 minutes)

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-14:00 GUEST TALK David Jackson

14:00-14:15 break then make your way to...

15:00-17:00 SITE VISIT .

SITE VISIT



The museum collections represent the story of Finland from when it was an agrarian society to it becoming a leading developer and producer of high tech in the global market.

The museum is located by the rapids of the Vantaa river. The museum buildings were constructed as the first water agency in Finland nearly 150 years ago.

9 NOVEMBER

9:15-10:30 Laura's session

10:30-10:45 break

10:45-11:45 Task 2 and the Take Control Toolkit by Centre for Humane Technology (Patti)

11:45-13:00 lunch

13:00-15:00 students to present what they did for task 1 in pairs (max 5-6 mins)

15:00-17:00 work individually to organise your task 2

HOMEWORK: STUDENTS TO COMPLETE TASK 2 INDIVIDUALLY

16 NOVEMBER

9:15-10:30 Patti's session: Anti/Post/Trans-disciplinary? The non-discipline of curatorial practice.

10:30-10:45 break

10:45-12:00 students to present what they did for task 2 individually (2-3 mins each)

12:00-13:00 lunch

13:00-14:45 students to work in groups to develop and organise group task 3

14:45-15:00 break

15:00-16:00 GUEST TALK Minna Tarkka

HOMEWORK: STUDENTS TO KEEP WORKING ON TASK 3 IN GROUPS

23 NOVEMBER (Laura not here)

9:15-10:45 an introduction to the themes and work at the Humane Technology Institute

10:45-11:00 break

11:00-12:45 screening of the Social Dilemma

12:45-14:00 lunch

14:00-15:00 GUEST TALK Lila-Lee Morrisons

15:00-15:15 break

15:15-17:00 discussion on the Social Dilemma

HOMEWORK: STUDENTS TO KEEP WORKING ON TASK 3 IN GROUPS

30 NOVEMBER

10:00-12:00 GUEST TALK Samir Bhrowmic

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-14:45

Group work on final presentation (task 3) for next week

14:45-15:00 break

15:00-16:00 Forensic Architecture Kishan San

HOMEWORK: STUDENTS TO COMPLETE PRESENTATION ON TASK 3 IN GROUPS

7 DECEMBER

Group presentations

9:15-10:00 Group 1

10:00-10:45 Group 2

10:45-11:00 break

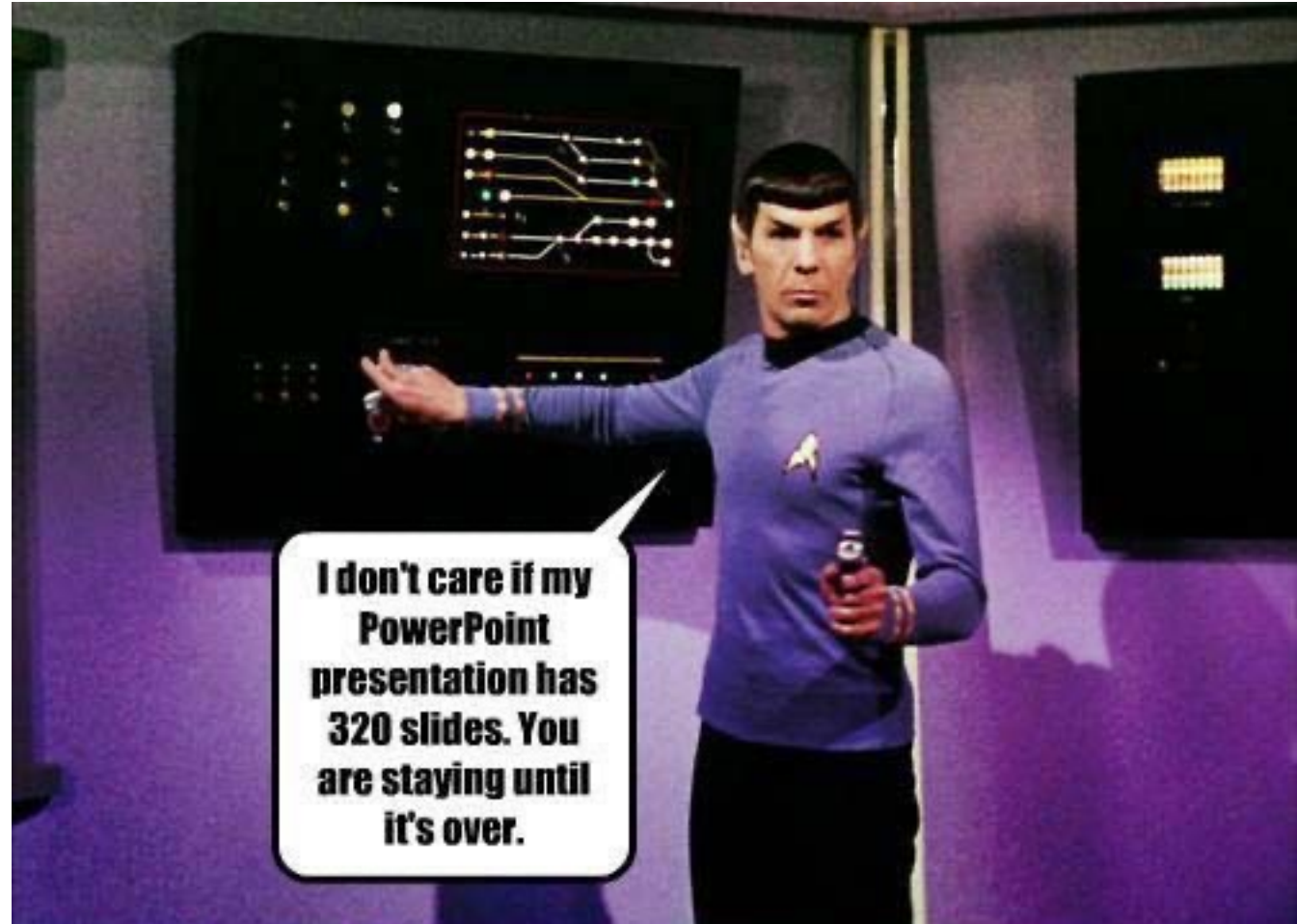
11:00-11:45 Group 3

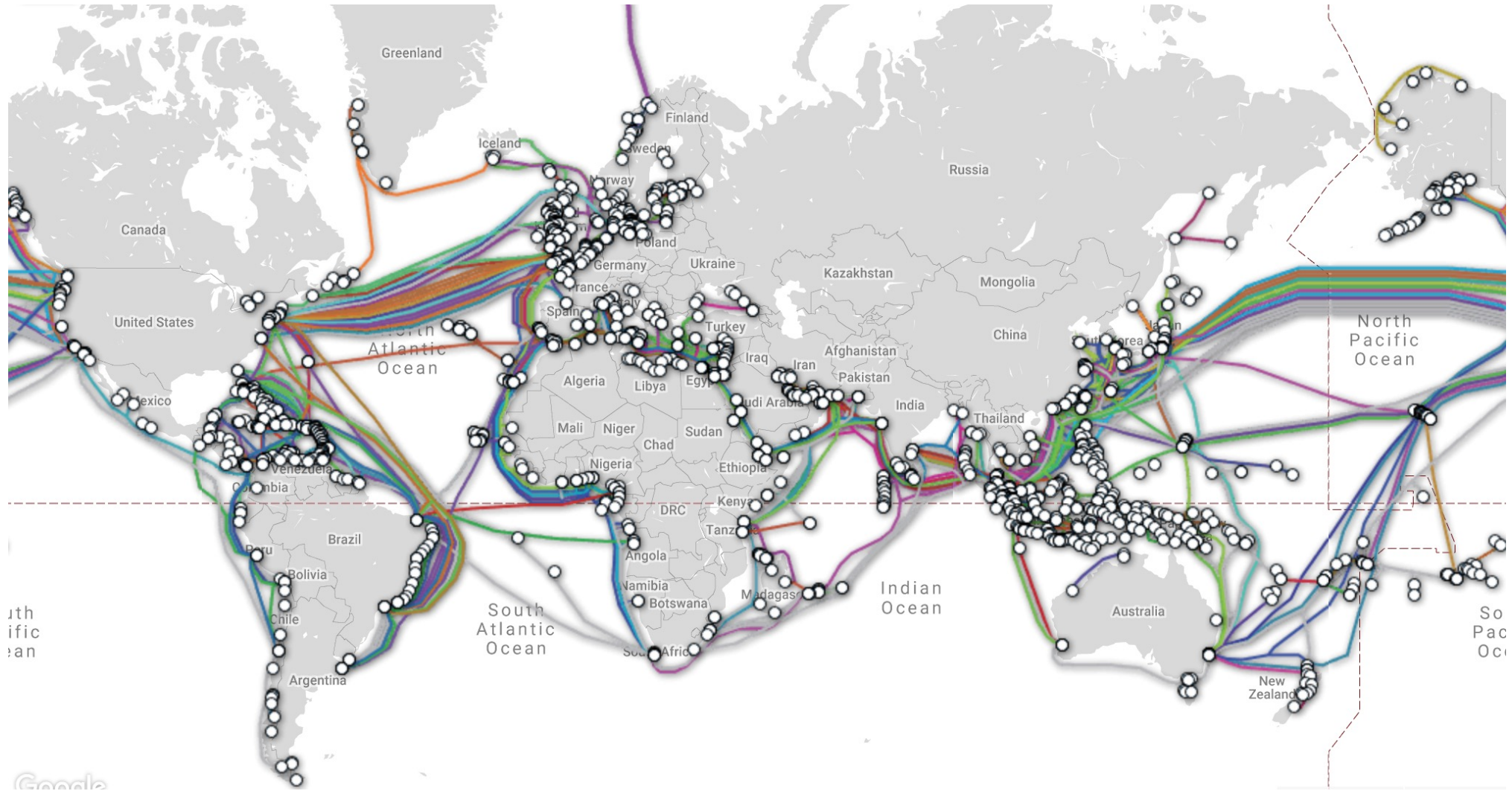
11:45-12:30 Group 4

12:30-13:30 lunch

13:30-14:15 Group 5

14:15-15:00 Group 6





PERVASIVE/PERSUASIVE TECHNOLOGY

pervasive

/pə'veɪsɪv/

adjective

adjective: **pervasive**

(especially of an unwelcome influence or physical effect) spreading widely throughout an area or a group of people.

"ageism is pervasive and entrenched in our society"

Similar: prevalent penetrating pervading permeating extensive ubiquitous ▼

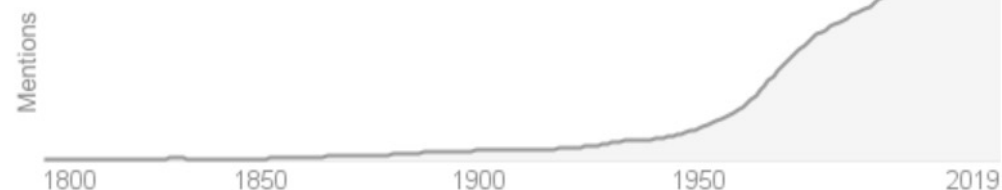
Origin



mid 18th century: from Latin *pervas-* 'passed through' (from the verb *pervadere*) + *-ive*.

Translate pervasive to

Use over time for: pervasive





persuasive

/pə'sweɪsɪv/

adjective

adjective: **persuasive**

good at persuading someone to do or believe something through reasoning or the use of temptation.
"an informative and persuasive speech"

Similar:

convincing

effective

cogent

compelling

potent

forceful

eloquent



Origin

late 15th century: from French *persuasif*, *-ive* or medieval Latin *persuasivus*, from *persuas-* 'convinced by reasoning', from the verb *persuadere* (see [persuade](#)).

Translate persuasive to

Choose language



Use over time for: persuasive



WHAT IS PERSUASIVE TECHNOLOGY?



BJ Fogg created this term while he was doing his graduate work at Stanford University.

Websites, social media platforms and all other online platforms are becoming more 'persuading' by design

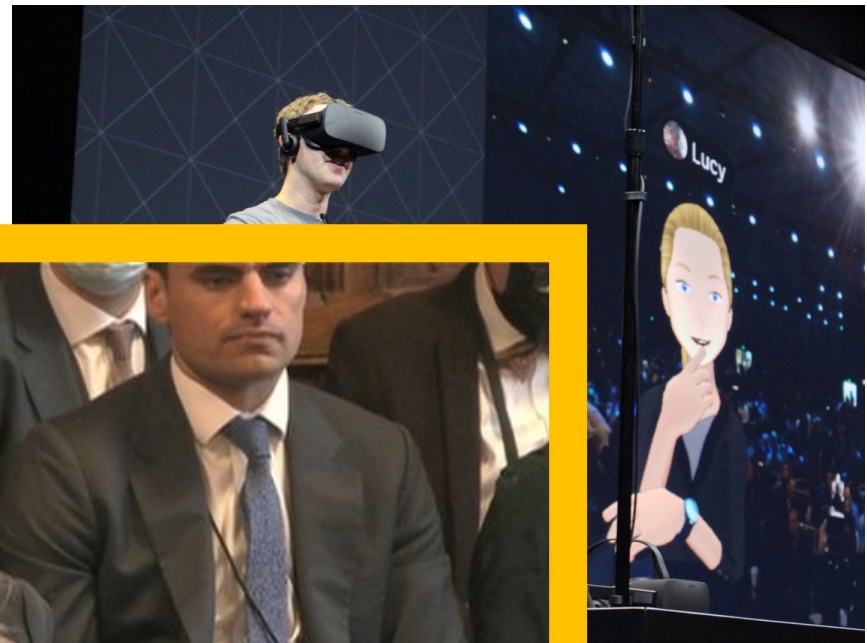


'Persuasive technology' is gently nudging the user to do things that they normally wouldn't be doing

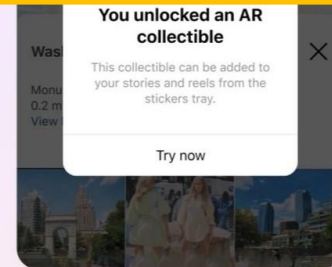
Persuasive technology is influencing a user so that they change their attitude and behavior.



'Persuasive technology' makes the user get addicted to technology - but is it ethical to do it?

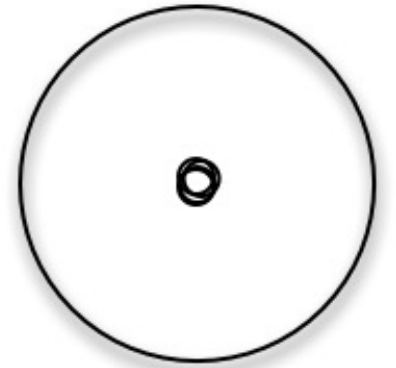
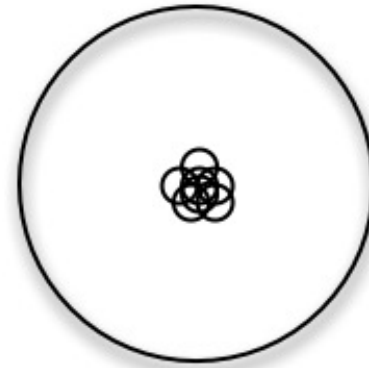
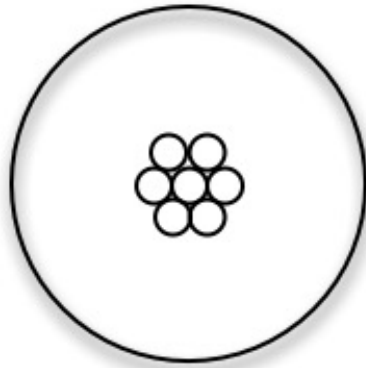
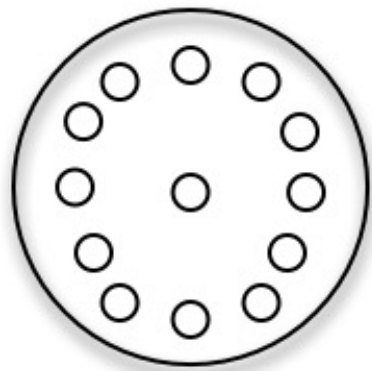
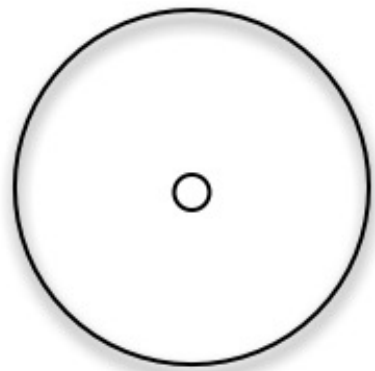


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WHAT DOES TRANSDISCIPLINARITY MEAN?





 **discipline** *noun*

/ˈdɪsəplən/ 

- 1 [uncountable] the practice of training people to obey rules and orders and punishing them if they do not; the controlled behavior or situation that results from this training
- *The school has a reputation for high standards of discipline.*
 - *Strict discipline is imposed on army recruits.*
 - *She keeps good discipline in class.*
 - *Lack of discipline at home meant that many students found it difficult to settle in to the ordered environment of the school.*

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- 2 [countable] a method of training your mind or body or of controlling your behavior; an area of activity where this is necessary
- *Yoga is a good discipline for learning to relax.*
- 3 [uncountable] the ability to control your behavior or the way you live, work, etc.
- *He'll never get anywhere working for himself—he's got no discipline.*
 - *Her determination and discipline were admirable.*
- SEE SELF-DISCIPLINE
- 4 [countable] an area of knowledge; a subject that people study or are taught, especially in a university
- *The candidates were drawn from a range of academic disciplines.*



transdisciplinary

/ˌtranzdɪsɪˈplɪnəri/

adjective

adjective: **transdisciplinary**; adjective: **trans-disciplinary**

relating to more than one branch of knowledge; interdisciplinary.
"our transdisciplinary approach to research and education"

Translate transdisciplinary to

Choose language

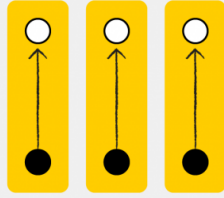
Use over time for: TRANSDISCIPLINARY



Definitions from Oxford Languages

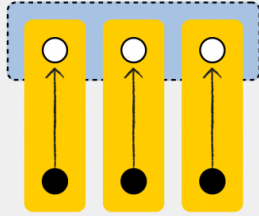
[Feedback](#)

- Goal, shared knowledge
- Discipline
- ⊙ Stakeholder participants
- Academic knowlegde
- Conventional knowlegde
- ▭ Thematic umbrella



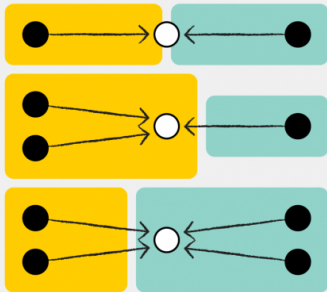
DISCIPLINARY

- Within one academic discipline
- Disciplinary goal setting
- Develops new disciplinary knowledge



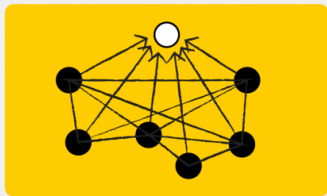
MULTIDISCIPLINARY

- Multiple disciplines
- Multiple disciplinary goals set under one thematic umbrella



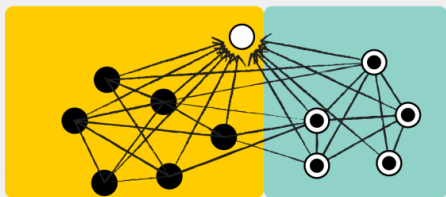
PARTICIPATORY

- Academic and non academic participants
- Knowledge exchange without integration



INTERDISCIPLINARY

- Crosses disciplinary boundaries
- Develops integrated knowledge
- Draws from and contributes to 'inderdisciplines'

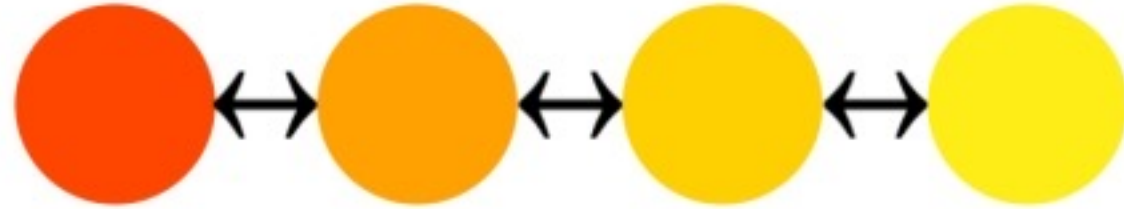


TRANSDISCIPLINARY

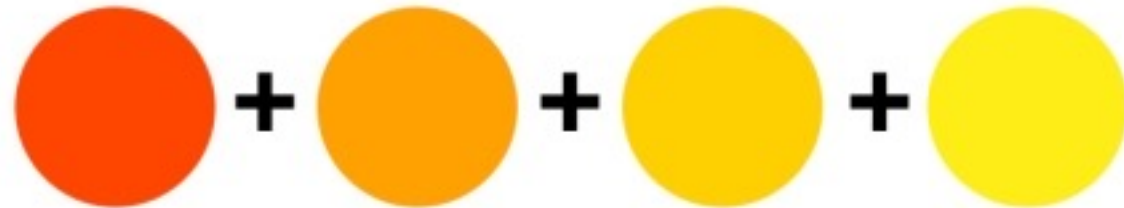
- Crosses disciplinary and sectorial boundaries
- Common goal setting
- Develops integrated knowlegde for science and society
- Draws from and contributes to 'inderdisciplines'



Trans-Disciplinary - Higher Level Synthesis



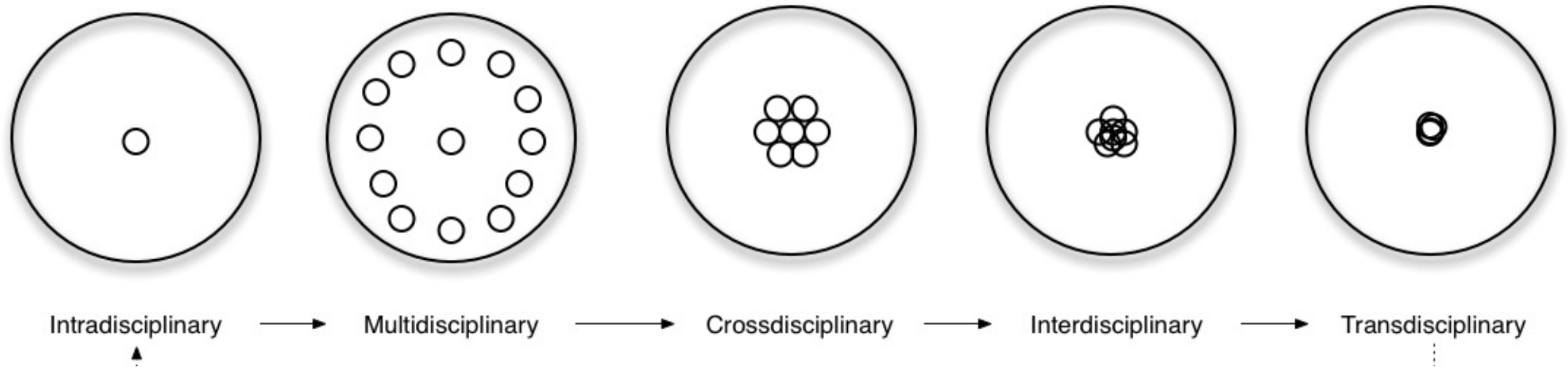
Inter-Disciplinary - Interactive



Multi-Disciplinary - Additive



Disciplinary - Silos



‘Transdisciplinarity combines interdisciplinarity with a participatory approach. The research paradigms involve non-academic participants as (equal) participants in the process to reach a common goal — usually a solution to a problem of society at large. ’

Image: Jenseniu (2012)

<https://medium.com/we-learn-we-grow/what-is-transdisciplinary-13c16eacf57d>

TO RECAP

What is Transdisciplinarity

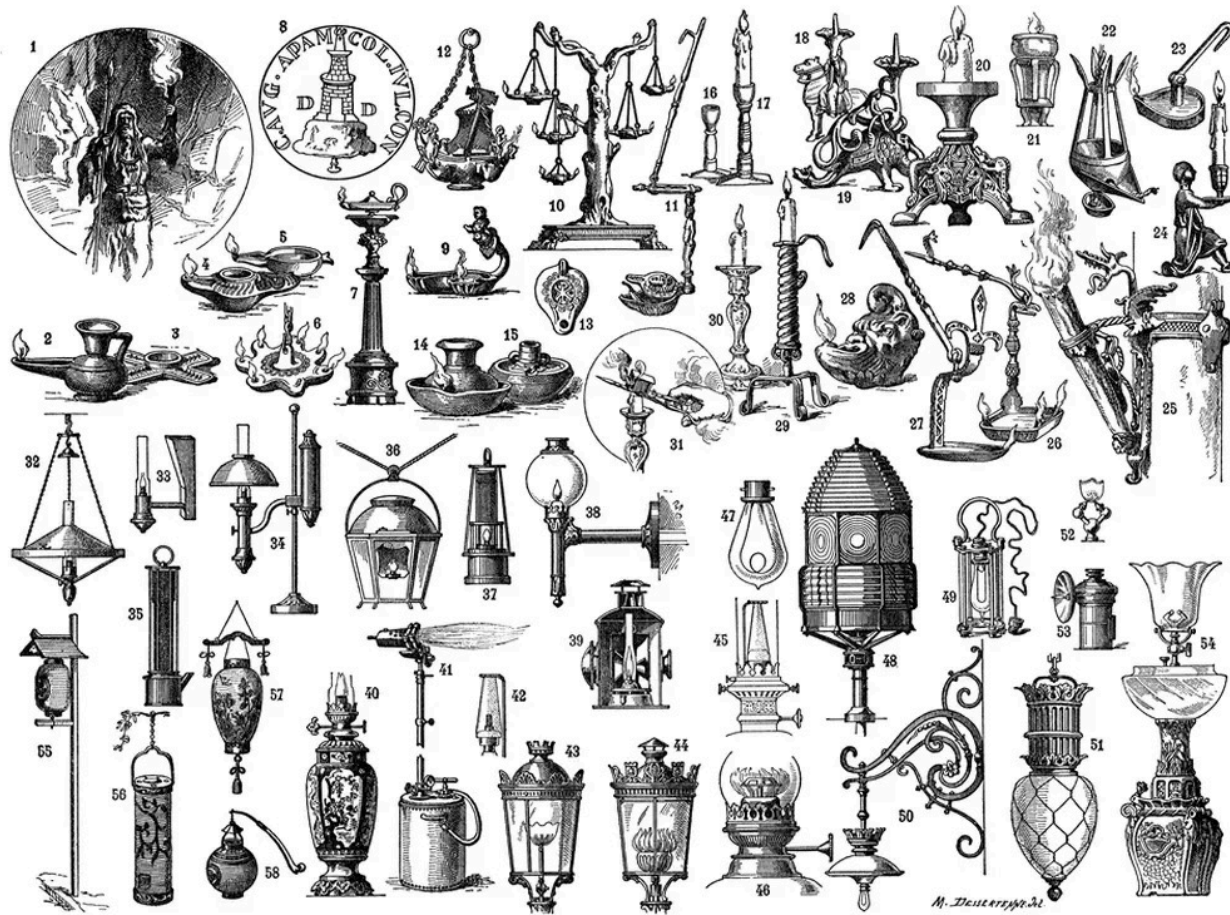
1. **A fusing of theories, methods and expertise across disciplinary boundaries** in which each discipline merges with the others in the formation of a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts. **New disciplines may emerge** as in the case of the “New Biology” which is the result of collaborative efforts on behalf of traditional biology, physical and chemical sciences, computational science, mathematics, and engineering. Transdisciplinarity may also include perspectives and methods from such disciplines as social science, economics, and public administration as well as from civil society and a wide range of stakeholders.

2. A way of thinking that proposes crossing traditional disciplines and modifying the **classical notion of science, including binary logic** and underlying values. Learn more in: Possibilities and Challenges for Intercultural Research in Global Urbanism

3. This indicates the broadening concern of different views by engaging different disciplines to come up with more **comprehensive and reliable solutions**.

4. Transdisciplinarity connotes a research strategy that crosses many disciplinary boundaries to create a **holistic approach**. It applies to research efforts focused on problems that cross the boundaries of two or more disciplines.

6. A research process wherein interdisciplinary collaboration between researchers extends to developing collaboration with **participants and stakeholders outside of academia**, so that researchers located in academia work alongside them in the knowing endeavor.



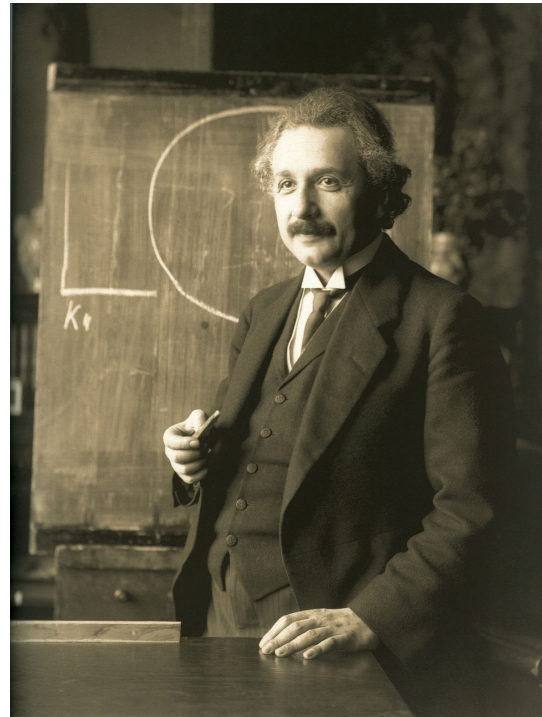
L'Encyclopédie ou Dictionnaire raisonné des sciences, des arts et des métiers, sous la direction de Denis Diderot et de Jean d'Alembert (1751-1772)

For Jean Piaget (developmental psychologist and philosopher):
Transdisciplinarity is interrelated knowledge with no boundaries between disciplines similar to the encyclopedia

For Rosi Braidotti '**Postanthropocentric posthuman scholarship** engenders a transdisciplinary cluster of philosophy, history, cultural studies, science and technology studies, new media and digital culture, environmentalism and earth sciences, biogenetics, neuroscience and robotics, evolutionary theory, legal theory, primatology, animal rights and science fiction.'

“Bacon, embodying the Enlightenment values, believed in a sort of unity among all branches of learning, considering it crucial to improving the “human condition.” The Enlightenment, therefore, was the distinct historical time in which all branches of learning, all modes of inquiry, were considered equally important in that each kept the others in perspective, and each helped the others to stay whole.”

Julia Buntaine



1905



1907

“While science will always be our primary method of investigating the universe, it is naïve to think that science can solve everything by itself... We now know enough to know that we will never know everything. This is why we need art: it teaches us how to live with mystery. Only the artist can explore the ineffable without offering us an answer, for sometimes there is no answer.” Lehrer in Buntaine

For an overview of the relationship between the arts and humanities, see Towards a Transdisciplinary Culture: Bridging the Gulf between Art and Science By Julia Buntaine.

https://www.sciartmagazine.com/uploads/6/0/8/9/6089526/towards_a_transdisciplinary_culture_by_julia_buntaine.pdf

BREAK

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

TASK 1

IN PAIRS: Before starting to work as a group, you split into pairs within the same group and one pair will choose an aspect of pervasive technology and the other pair will work with an aspect of persuasive technology.

Trigger: each pair completes a keyword exercise in session 1. This will be the starting point for your work in pairs and will help you start the discussion as a group for task 3.

TASK 2

INDIVIDUALLY: Students are challenged to avoid social media (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Tik Tok, and others - set borders) completely for 24-48 hours, keep a diary of emotions/feelings and reflect on how they found this challenge afterwards. Post 2-3 photos + diary notes and your name on the ViCCA Instagram channel. Title the post Navigating Transdisciplinarity + Name's diary (number of total hours spent in social media - exclusion. (Ex: Navigating Transdisciplinarity + Patti + 36h + 'diary notes' + 'photos')

TASK 3



GROUP PRESENTATION

IN GROUPS: Students will begin working on task 3 as pairs (task 1), the results of which will form the beginning of the discussion for the group work (task 3). Students are encouraged to approach an aspect of pervasive/persuasive technology in a transdisciplinary way and may develop their own exercise as part of an experimental and situated knowledge-building process.

TRIGGER EXERCISE

1. RANDOMLY SELECT A BOOK
2. GO TO PAGE 27
3. GO TO LINE 4
4. SELECT WORD NUMBER 11 (if not useful, look to left until you find a suitable word (verb, noun, adjective))
5. IN PAIRS - compare your words and see if you can find a topic related to the words and the theme of pervasive/persuasive technology. If there is really no way, repeat the exercise with another book (however, we encourage not to and we would like to maintain an element of randomness in the exercise). 1 smaller group look at persuasive, the other at pervasive.
6. IN GROUPS all pairs/small groups to present their findings and a decision on the theme of the final presentation will begin to form. To encourage a transdisciplinary discussion, we suggest that members of the group take on different roles as representatives from different disciplines that concur to explore a topic (don't worry if all of the transdisciplinary traits we look at before are not present, it's the reflection on the process that is the most important think here!)

QUESTIONS?