

Storytelling as Methodology: Anti-oppression in teaching and research

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Anti-oppressive teaching is not simply more representation of marginalized groups or more inclusive understandings of identity. Anti-oppressive research cannot be only the study of oppression and its impacts or new ways to combat it. Just as being “not racist” is *not* the opposite of racism, anti-oppressive teaching and research, like anti-racist work, is about more than oppression: it unearths and resists systems, policies, pedagogy, and the colonial roots of academia. Teaching and research are rooted in colonialism, and this fact should be uncomfortable. But what can we do with this discomfort?

What can anti-oppression in teaching and research look, sound, and feel like?

In this session we will explore anti-oppression in teaching and research beyond inclusion. We will interrogate some barriers to letting go of what is commonly viewed as the only acceptable and rigorous approach to research and writing. We will let go of either/or, quantitative or qualitative, reason or emotion, and scaffolded explanation or storytelling approaches and embrace a “yes and” approach to doing and expressing research.

If you have not interrogated your research methodologies for oppression, join us to engage in this vulnerable act. If you have done this work but wonder about other possibilities, come with courage and a willingness to let go.

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Websites:

<https://native-land.ca/> - on whose territories do you live, work, and play?

<https://decolonialfutures.net/> - Gesturing toward decolonial futures is an arts/research collective

<https://www.fnesc.ca/first-peoples-principles-of-learning/> - First People's Principals of Learning