



# Cultural Difference and Social Solidarity

## A CULTURAL DIFFERENCE AND SOCIAL SOLIDARITY NETWORK WORKSHOP

### CRITICAL PEDAGOGIES, POWER & POSSIBILITIES:

#### STRATEGIES FOR DIFFERENCE AND SOLIDARITY IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETIES

In partnership with & hosted by  
University Centre Blackburn College,  
Blackburn, Lancashire, UK



**18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

The last four decades has seen a resurgence of interest in pedagogies and pedagogic forms, strategies and practices. Traditionally, whilst associated more directly with schooling, the ‘pedagogic turn’ in social theory, headed by Foucault’s critical analysis of the constitution of normativities and orthodoxies and Illich, Friere, Giroux and hooks engagement with emancipatory pedagogies, has encouraged a broader understanding of pedagogy in society. In this wider context *pedagogy* not only encapsulates the reproduction and sustenance of the ‘status quo’, with knowledge subjected to political, cultural and discursive strategies and hegemonies; but also, more subversive developments, associated with creative and democratising oppositions to the rigidities and control of existing orthodoxies, in pursuit of ethical, political and practical change.

Whilst traditional pedagogic strategies continue to construct mechanisms of exclusion, marginalisation and pathology, the potential and radical facets of pedagogy can trigger a renewed focus, geared towards embracing and promoting the possibilities of change and transformation. Through discursive politics and ethical debate, the promotion of participation, innovation and democratic exchange, can refocus the possibility of seeking new theory, practice and solidarities, whilst maintaining space for the recognition and appreciations of difference.

This workshop invites papers from both within and across the humanities, social sciences, and other disciplinary boundaries, with a view to extending analyses of pedagogic forms, strategies and practices. Contributors are free to explore and contribute to the making, breaking and remaking of notions of pedagogy, solidarity and difference in contemporary societies. Papers might focus on the following, although the list is not exclusive:

- Explorations of the scope and limitations to theories of critical pedagogy in shaping societies of difference and solidarity
- Analyses of the scope and limits of pedagogic practices within educational contexts – from infant through to universities – which address issues of difference and solidarity
- Evaluations of pedagogic strategies by political parties, movements and interests in propagating their ideological positions and political programmes
- Evaluations of dissident and oppositional pedagogies and pedagogies of authority and oppression
- Situationist theory and liberatory pedagogies
- Critical Theory, pedagogical developments and/or pedagogical practice
- Utopian theory, pedagogy and possibility
- Analyses of the pedagogic practices of professionals and authorities in constituting the representation of solidarity and difference in everyday life
- Explorations of pedagogies constituted in language, discourse and culture and their influence on the constitution of difference and solidarity in everyday life.
- Explorations of inter-cultural pedagogies, language and discourse and the issues they raise for difference and solidarity in societies

**Other related topics discussing cultural difference and social solidarity are welcome.**

Panel suggestions, alternate forms of intellectual presentation and papers (both polished and in progress), which should be aimed at 20 minutes maximum presentation; shorter presentations and contributions are also welcomed.

The workshop will be organised around paper presentations that allow for discussion as well as exposition and roundtable plenaries; CDSS believe that open discussion serves to consolidate presenters' papers, themes and emerging ideas. It is anticipated that publishing opportunities, for selected articles, will emerge from the workshop.

Cultural Difference and Social Solidarity Network (CDSS) is an international organisation focused broadly on fostering collaboration and debate around the

broad issues of difference and solidarity in human societies. The network organizes an annual conference, as well as periodic seminars and collaborative projects – see [www.differenceandsolidarity.org](http://www.differenceandsolidarity.org). It has a particular interest in supporting international research collaboration and younger researchers entering the international stage. The network works towards the development of trans-disciplinary and trans-national understandings of, and, interventions in, questions of solidarity and difference. This event is the first collaboration between the CDSS network and the University Centre Blackburn College.

Prospective participants should submit an abstract of no more than 200 words via the online form at [www.differenceandsolidarity.org](http://www.differenceandsolidarity.org). The deadline for abstract submissions is **Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2016**. We operate a rolling programme of considering and accepting paper proposals, as they are submitted, so as to facilitate those who need to apply for funding. Questions should be directed to Craig Hammond at the following address: [craig.hammond@blackburn.ac.uk](mailto:craig.hammond@blackburn.ac.uk).

The workshop fees (below) include workshop packs, administration, refreshments, 2 lunches and an evening meal reception on the evening of the 19<sup>th</sup>

Waged/Full time Faculty – £80.00

Postgraduates/Part-time Faculty – £40.00

Accommodation for the event can be booked by delegates via the following suppliers:

Chimneys Guest House: B&B from £28.00 per night <http://www.chimneys-guesthouse.co.uk/> (this location is 600 meters walking distance to UCBC)

Premier Inn, Blackburn, Cathedral Quarter, room from £72.00 per night <http://www.premierinn.com/en/hotel/BLABUR/blackburn-town-centre> (this location is 900 meters walking distance to UCBC)

Workshop organisers:

Craig Hammond, Research & Scholarship Leader, University Centre Blackburn College, Blackburn, UK

Paul Reynolds, Reader in Sociology and Social Philosophy, Edge Hill University, UK (and co-director, CDSS)

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