



**QUESTIONING THE NOTION
OF NEUTRALITY**

LANGUAGE

WHO ARE WE

RECORDING CONSENT

CAMERAS

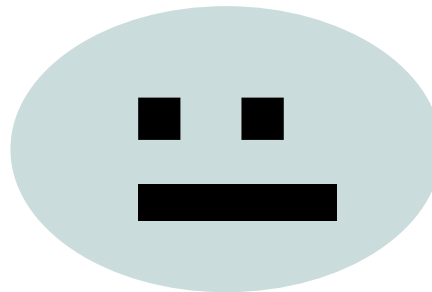
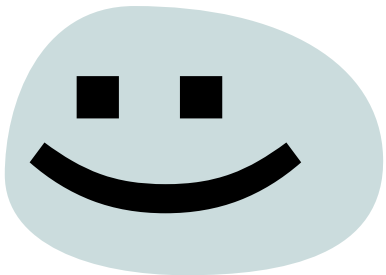
NAMES + PRONOUNS + MOOD



HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE WORD NEUTRALITY?

(do you view it in a positive or
negative way)?

Qu'est ce que le mot neutralité vous évoque ?
(le voyez vous d'un point de vu positif ou négatif) ?



WHAT DO YOU ASSOCIATE WITH THE WORD NEUTRALITY?



none of the
above



SHOULD A TEACHER BE NEUTRAL?

Est ce qu'un professeur devrais être neutre?

YES

NO

CAN A UNIVERSITY BE NEUTRAL?

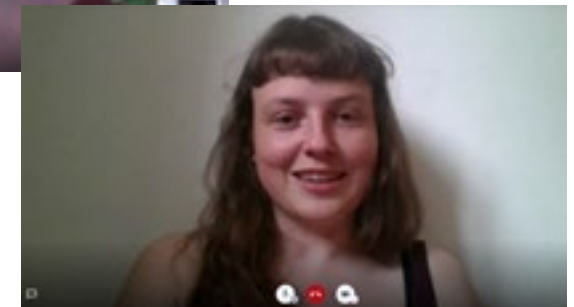
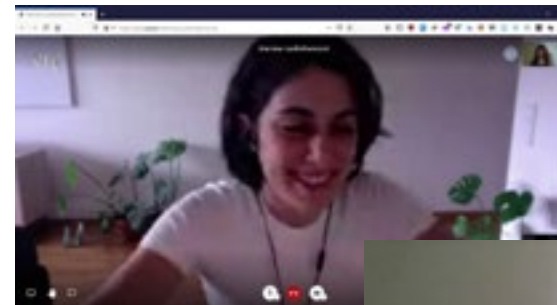
Est ce qu'une université peut être neutre

YES

NO



QUESTIONING THE NOTION OF NEUTRALITY



What does "neutral/neutrality" mean?

what is hiding behind "neutrality"?

What does neutral mean in English?

adjective, not taking part or giving assistance in a dispute or war between others: a neutral nation during World War II. not aligned with or supporting any side or position in a controversy: The arbitrator was absolutely neutral. of or belonging to a neutral state or party; neutral territory.

The institution body hire the teachers knowing their work and eventually their political position

colonial/western patriarchal norms

What material does a teacher uses?
What are their sources?
Where do they come from (what university, academia, work,...)?

equality= neutrality?
diversity
responsibility?

Neutrality as "true integration" OR

Neutrality = passivity in face of systems of power/oppression?

WHAT DOES NEUTRAL / NEUTRALITY MEAN?

NEUTRAL INSTITUTIONS

Who can afford to study?
for whom are university institutions (lecturers, students, access)...

Can't an institution show it's political position?

situated knowledges + pluri perspectives
lutas perspectives

NEUTRAL TEACHER

→ is it possible?
→ is it desirable?

Do university institutions reflect/represent their societies?
public funded
funded by the state,

Meritocracy (e.g. admissions) not accounting for inequities/inequalities

What are the criteria if there is an admission? Who decides?

university=universal?

Neutral in regard of what authorities or government put in place?

universal western neutrality

NEUTRAL KNOWLEDGE

who creates the neutral knowledge?

→ hegemony

invisibilization of the oppressed party and unre-presented minorities.

"history is written by the winners"/those in power

Oral history excluded from academic body of knowledge

Excluding personal experiences if it is not recognised by the authorities (genocide, war etc.)

western universalism

knowledge that was destroyed by colonizers, cultural-hegemony etc (enslaved + colonized people being punished for speaking non-colonial languages or teaching to read + write; people being persecuted as "witches" for having knowledge about medicines; and so on

what is a non-neutral space?
non-neutral positions

personal structural

Who do we teach?
Who are the students?
Is the institution inclusive enough for anybody to be there?

NEUTRAL STUDENT

fellow students as threats to a neutral classroom? (reproducing discrimination)

different experiences + knowledges that students have & bring are valued differently
→ Neutral classroom?!

neutral [adjective]:
not taking part or giving
assistance in a dispute or war
between others

INSTITUTION

KNOWLEDGE

TEACHER

neutral [adjective]:
not taking part or giving
assistance in a dispute or war
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STUDENT

Who can afford to study?

For whom are the buildings and lectures (physically) accessible?

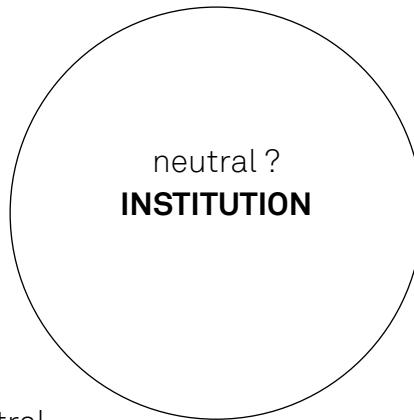
Does meritocracy give everyone the same chances?

Can neutrality protect critical discourse?

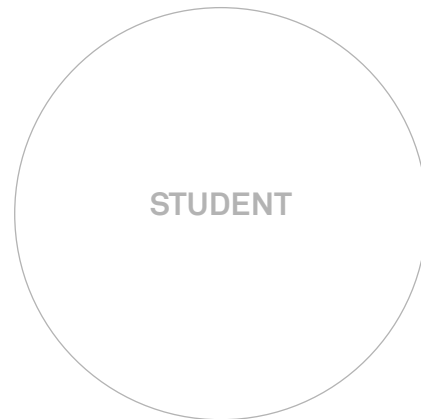
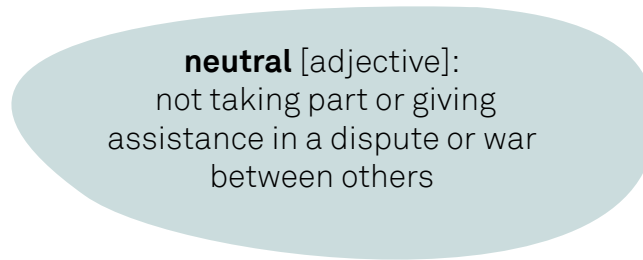
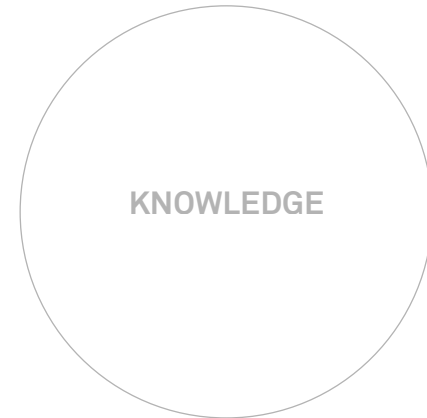
Can institutions take political positions? Is it wanted?

What are admission criteria and who decides?

Does it represent the society?



what is a neutral space?



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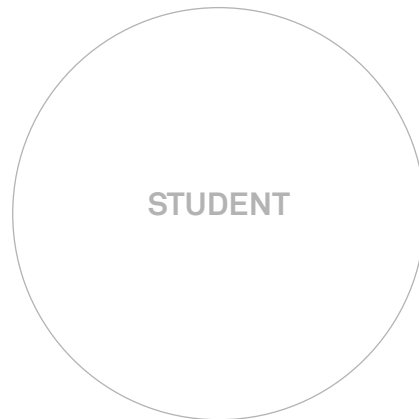
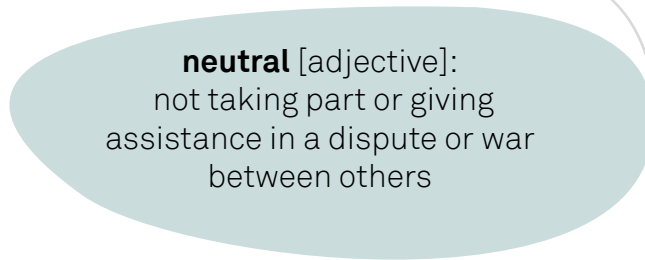
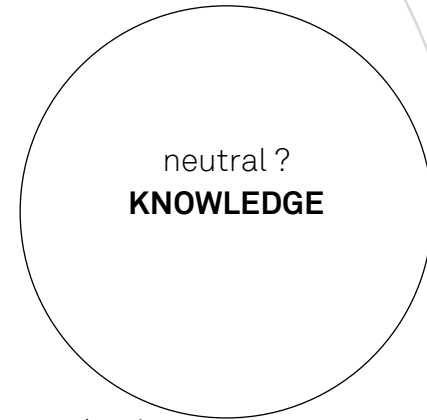
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academic referencing system

who creates the "neutral" knowledge? neutral in regard of what authorities?

"neutrality" = universalism?

excluded knowledge(s)

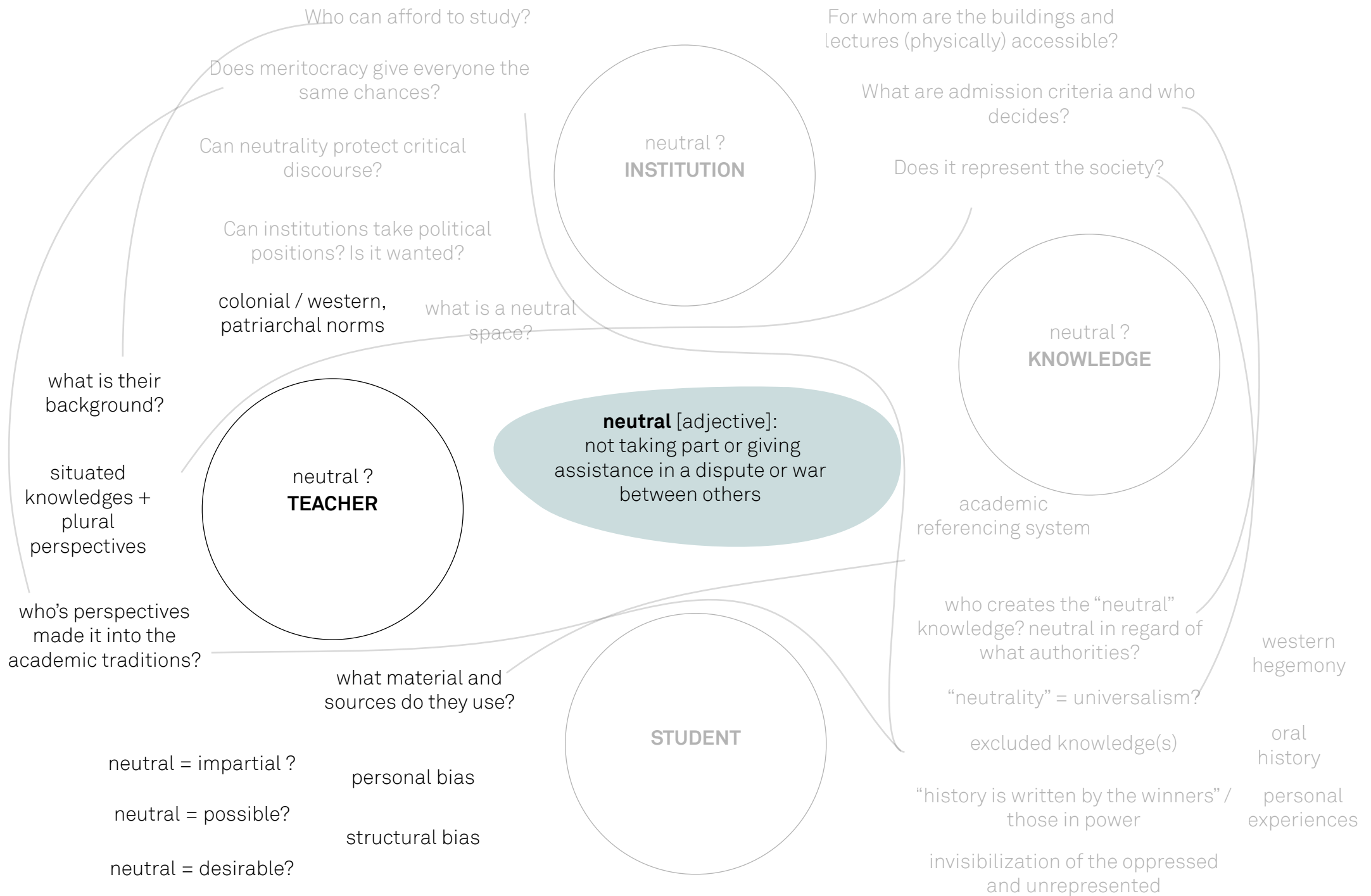
"history is written by the winners" / those in power

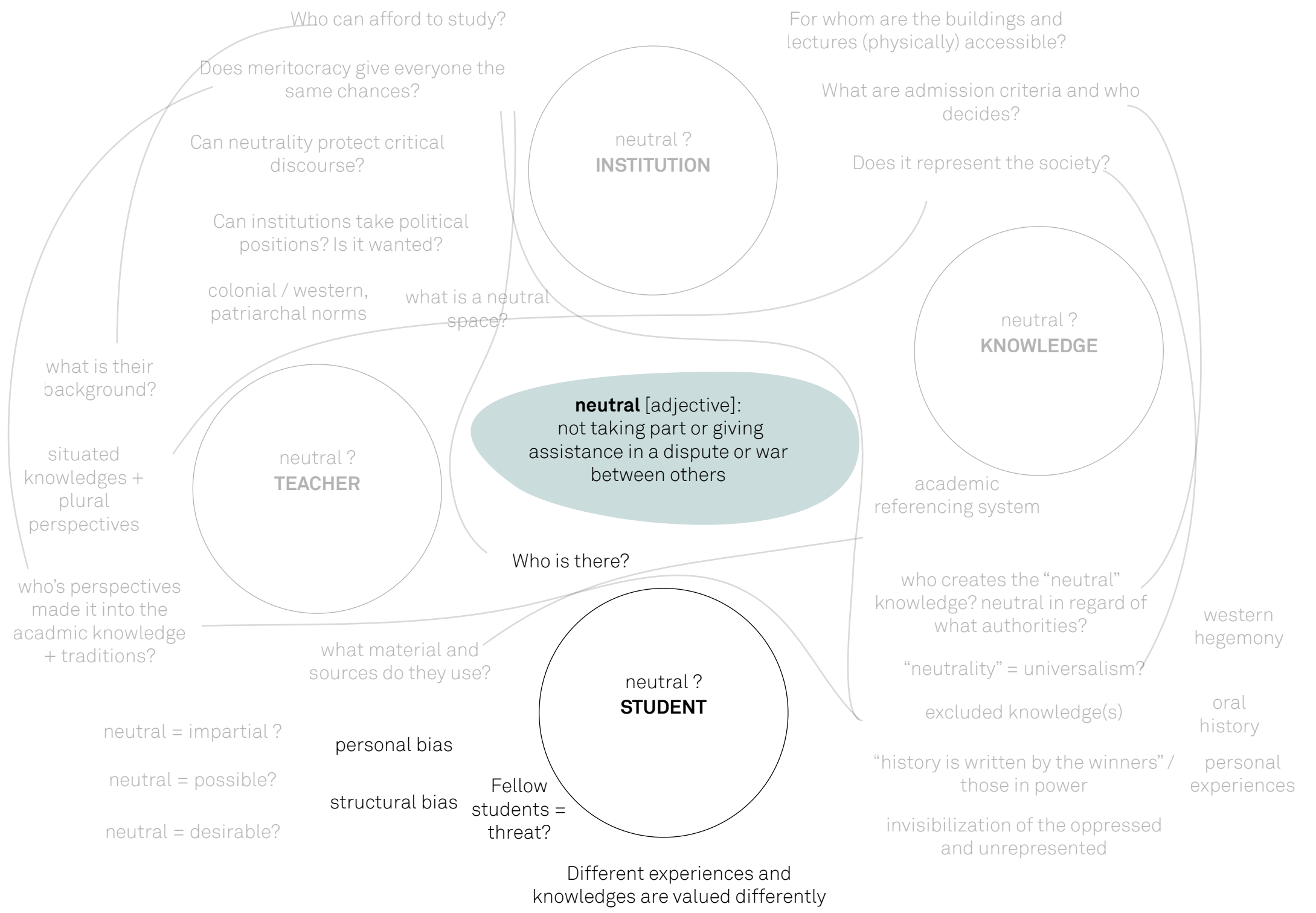
invisibilization of the oppressed and unrepresented

western hegemony

oral history

personal experiences





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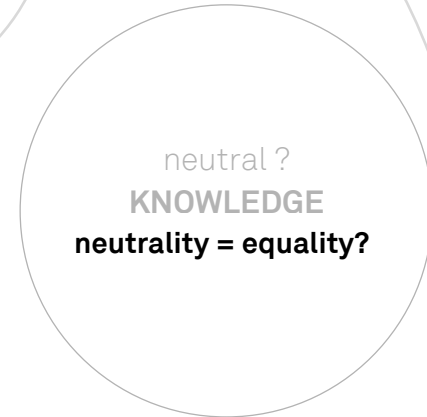
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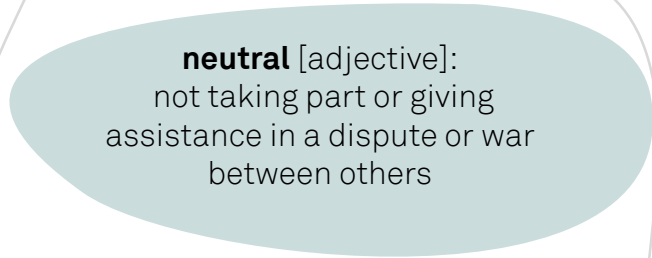


colonial / western, patriarchal norms

what is a neutral space?



what is their background?



academic referencing system

situated knowledges + plural perspectives



Who is there?

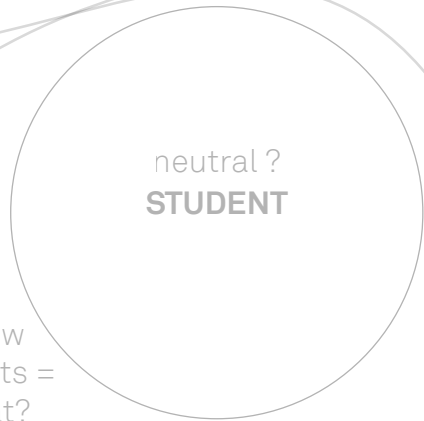
who creates the "neutral" knowledge? neutral in regard of what authorities?

who's perspectives made it into the academic knowledge + traditions?

what material and sources do they use?

"neutrality" = universalism?

western hegemony



excluded knowledge(s)

oral history

neutral = impartial ?

personal bias

"history is written by the winners" / those in power

personal experiences

neutral = possible?

structural bias

invisibilization of the oppressed and unrepresented

neutral = desirable?

Fellow students = threat?

Different experiences and knowledges are valued differently