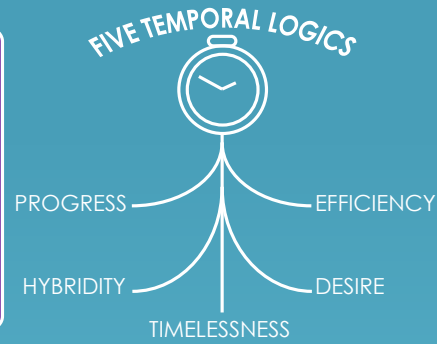


The Context of Social Justice in Technical Communication

By Jasmine Ross

The five temporal logics presented in Sano-Franchini's article about user experience design are progress, hybridity, efficiency, timelessness, and desire (2017). Time, in and of itself, is an abstract that is culturally situated and must be taken into account when communicating to users. The logic of progress refers to the idea that later is preferable to earlier when concerning time linearly. The logic of hybridity refers to the mixture of cultural influences. The logic of efficiency refers to the association of speed with superiority and productivity, as well as the demonization of lost time. The logic of timelessness refers to the assumption that cultural elements do not change over time. Finally, the logic of desire refers to the emphasis placed on making choices that propel an individual toward achieving a goal. These temporal logics are representative of an aspect of racial and cultural assumptions concerning the concept of time.



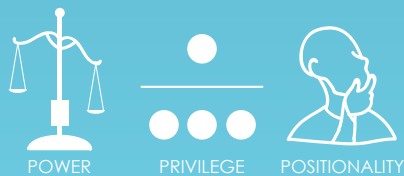
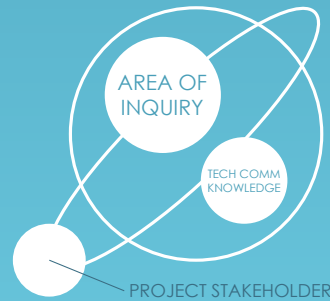
THREE DECOLONIAL RESEARCH PERSPECTIVES



The three decolonial research perspectives presented in Jones' article of advocacy for social justice are narratives, historical and archival research, and critical race theory (2016). Narratives allow individual voices to be heard. Historical and archival research allows researchers to understand the historic experiences of oppression. And critical race theory allows technical communicators to recognize race as a socially constructed concept. These perspectives are important to consider how established cultural beliefs have shaped our understanding of reality and how we are meant to deconstruct them for the purpose of improving equity in technical communication.

The atomic model for technical communication represented in Williamson and Kowalewski's article is meant to situate the technical communicator in the communication space (2017). This model uses the elements of (1) the area of inquiry, (2) technical communication knowledge, and (3) the project stakeholder as the proton, neutron, and electron in the conceptual "atom," respectively. These aspects help to visualize how each of these elements influence the technical communicator and take into account the needs and expectations of various stakeholders while also contextualizing the communicator in their available resources.

ATOMIC MODEL FOR TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION



3 P'S AND 4 R'S



The 3 Ps and 4 Rs presented in Jones, Moore, and Walton's book are two models that emphasize important elements that each technical communicator needs to take into consideration when implementing social justice advocacy (2019). The 3 Ps are power, privilege, and positionality, while the 4 Rs are realize, reveal, reject, and replace. When a technical communicator takes into account their 3 Ps, they are acknowledging their place in society and how it influences their communication. Meanwhile, the 4 Rs are used as the steps toward making adjustments in their problematic, or potentially problematic, behavior.

CONCLUSION

To present an in-depth look at the current state of social justice research in the field of technical communication, I have drawn upon four relevant and contemporary resources. These selections have presented opportunities for visual reference for today's technical communicators in order to emphasize the importance of incorporating social justice advocacy in research studies and other pursuits.

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