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Deconstructing and reconstructing the future: Predictive, cultural and critical epistemologies

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Abstract

In this article the various epistemological premises embedded in planning and futures studies¹ are examined. While many planners and futurists might locate themselves in separate discursive spaces, from the perspective developed in this article the similarities in their epistemic basis are more similar than different. Thus, the focus of this effort is on planning and futures studies generally; and specifically, the various perspectives on how the future is planned for: namely, the predictive-empirical, the cultural“interpretative, and the critical“post-structural are articulated.



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