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A new way to think


First-Person Phenomenological Tourist Experiences

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Presentation overview

- Why phenomenology and tourism?
- What is phenomenology?
- What are the different types of phenomenology?
- How is phenomenology ‘reliable’ as a research method?
- Example of first-person linguistic-hermeneutic phenomenology

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Why phenomenology and tourism?

- ‘Meanings inspired only by remote, confused, inauthentic intuitions – if by any intuitions at all – are not enough: we must go back to the “things themselves” - *Wir wollen auf die “Sachen selbst” zurückgehen*’ (Husserl, 2001 [1913], p. 88)
- Positivist research – written from a disengaged third-person perspective – hypocritical attempt to make the account sound more scientific than it is

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What is phenomenology?

- ‘*Ego Cogito Cogitatum (qua Cogitatum)*’ (Husserl, 1977, p. 36) – *I think something*
- The Phenomenological triad:
 - (A) *introspection (retrospection) or phenomenological intuiting;*
 - (B) *bracketing, epoché or phenomenological reduction and,*
 - (C) *naming essential themes or phenomenological disclosure*
- ***Dasein; Being-towards-death; Thrownness***

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What are the different types of phenomenology?

- Transcendental - Husserl
- Existential – Heidegger, Merleau-Ponty, Sartre
- Hermeneutic – Heidegger, Gadamer, van Manen
- Linguistic – Merleau-Ponty, Gadamer, Derrida
- Ethical – Levinas, Arendt
- Experiential – Phenomenology of practice
- Sociological – Meanings in society
- Dialectic – Phenomenology and Marxism

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How is phenomenology ‘reliable’ as a research method?

- Diversity of approaches – easy target for criticism
- ‘*Vividness, accuracy, richness, and elegance*’ (Polkinghorne, 1983)
- *Systematic, explicit, self-critical, and intersubjective* (van Manen, 1990)
- *Dialogic, deconstructive, contextualist validities* (Saukko, 2003)

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