

Glossary

Attitude: a general response consistency with regard to uncertainty, as evidenced in social interaction.

Authority: the ability to increase the experience of certainty in one's own life or that of another.

Authority-as-certitude: the provision of certitude for oneself or another.

Autopoiesis: literally 'self-production', autopoiesis, following Maturana and Varela (1987), refers to the property of systems whose components, first, participate recursively in the same network of productions that produced them, and, second, realise the network of productions as a unity in the space in which the components exist.

Certitude: the absence of doubt.

Constructivism: a family of interrelated theories that challenge realist and objectivist positions, placing emphasis instead on the active, participative role that humans have in the interpretive construal of their personal realities.

Disposition: a general response consistency with regard to uncertainty.

Ergodicity: a statistical concept, used to refer to a system in which conditions of a stochastic process are such that time and space averages will coincide for infinite realisations. Within economics, the term is sometimes used to refer to processes that are considered to be governed by timeless, immutable, and, hence, predictable relationships.

Expansion (characteristic of enclosure): the extension of authority-as-certitude.

Expectation: the constant and dynamic condition of consciousness constituted by our isomorphic experience of uncertainty and certainty.

Hegemony: the nesting of heavily-sedimented interlocking frames (authorities-as-certitude) around people whose negotiations of meaning subsequently achieve the legitimacy and status of authority-as-certitude.

Isomorphism: a mathematical term, referring to one-to-one correspondence between the elements of two sets such that the result of an operation on elements of one set corresponds to the result of the analogous operation on their images in the other set (Pickett, ed. 2000).

Legitimation: deferral to a source of authority-as-certitude other than oneself in the cause of representations of enclosure.

Negotiation: what we do.

Power: the ability to increase or decrease the experience of uncertainty or certainty in one's own life or that of another.

Reinforcement: the process of synaptic strengthening in the neural networks of the brain.

Representation: the articulation of one's own or another's negotiation of meaning.

Representation (characteristic of enclosure): the articulation of one's own or another's negotiation of meaning with a claim to authority-as-certitude.

Resistance: the constant and dynamic experience of encounter with expectational difference (vectoral incompatibility).

Sedimentation: the process of synaptic strengthening in the neural networks of the brain.

Social interaction: the constant and dynamic relational environment of negotiation.

Symbolic Interactionism: a field of study in which symbols are identified as the basis of social life. Individuals and society, it is proposed, develop in and through symbolic interaction, a process of reciprocal influencing mediated by symbols.

Vector: a unit of expectation, conceived as a directive force, constituted by the experience of uncertainty and certainty.