

# Marginalized youth's access to post-secondary education in British Columbia: Critical policy analysis

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# PSE Policies in BC

Since 2005, Government [policy](#) has limited tuition fee increases to 2% annually.

## Tuition Fees    Tuition Limit Policy    Graduate Debt

Government has taken action to limit tuition and mandatory fee increases to the rate of inflation.

### Limit

For 2014/15 and 2015/16, the limit for tuition and mandatory fees is 2%.

### Timing

The tuition limit policy took effect September 2005.

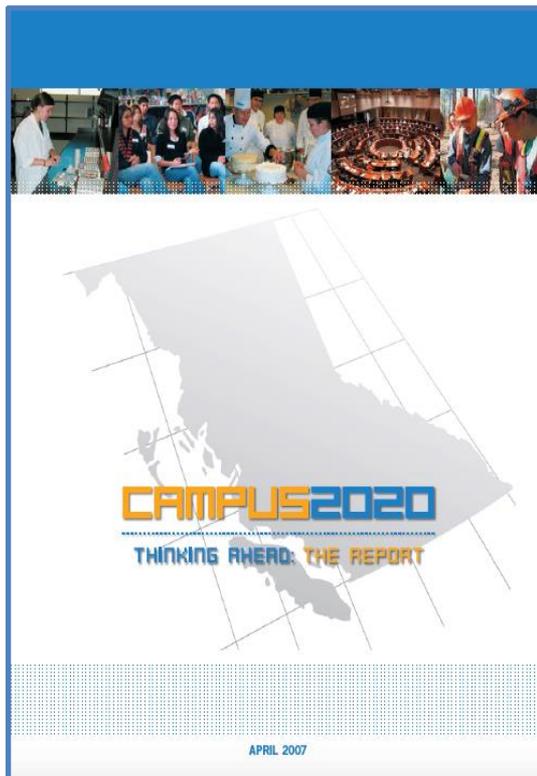
### Scope

#### The tuition limit applies to:

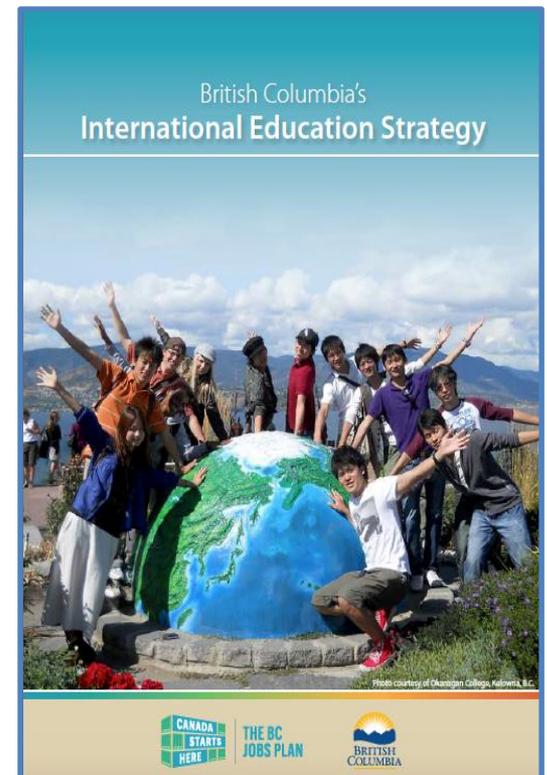
- Professional programs.
- Cost recovery/continuing education credentialed programs.
- All other credentialed and open enrolment programs.
- Mandatory fees, including capital construction support (e.g., building fees), consumable fees (e.g., fees charged for field trips and consumable supplies) and other mandatory fees (e.g., application fees and technology fees).

#### The tuition limit does not apply to:

- International student tuition and mandatory fees.
- Third-party contracts.
- New programming (first year). Institutions may set the initial tuition and mandatory fee rate for new instructional programs (not amendments to existing programs). After the first year, tuition and mandatory fees will be subject to the tuition limit policy.
- Community/continuing education non-credentialed courses. Most of these are short-term courses offered in the evening or on the weekend (e.g., first aid, photography).
- Mandatory fees for student association or society fees (collected on behalf of student associations).



Campus 2020 (2007)



International Strategy (2012)

Tuition Limit (2005)

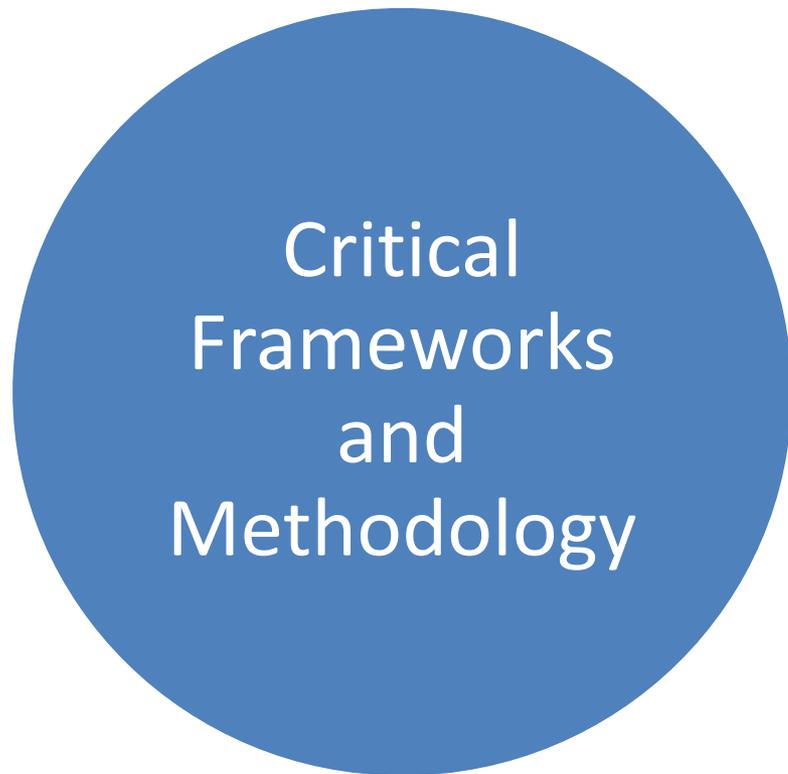
## Policy Sociology

“The broad definition [of policy] requires that we understand it in its political, social and economic contexts, so that they also require study because of the ways in which they shape education policy.  
(Ozga, 2000, p. 113)

Policy as an Authoritative Allocation  
of Values: Whose values? What  
values? Who benefits? Who loses?  
Analysis of the political and value-  
laden nature of policy

“Racial justice in the age  
of market-based freedoms  
and financially driven-  
values  
loses its ethical imperative  
to a neoliberalism that  
embraces commercial  
rather than  
civic values” (Giroux,  
2003,p.195)

Global Neoliberal  
Agenda: OECD  
Neoliberalism and the  
reconfiguration of PSE  
*Standardization*  
*Marketization*  
*Vocationalization*  
*Deregulation*



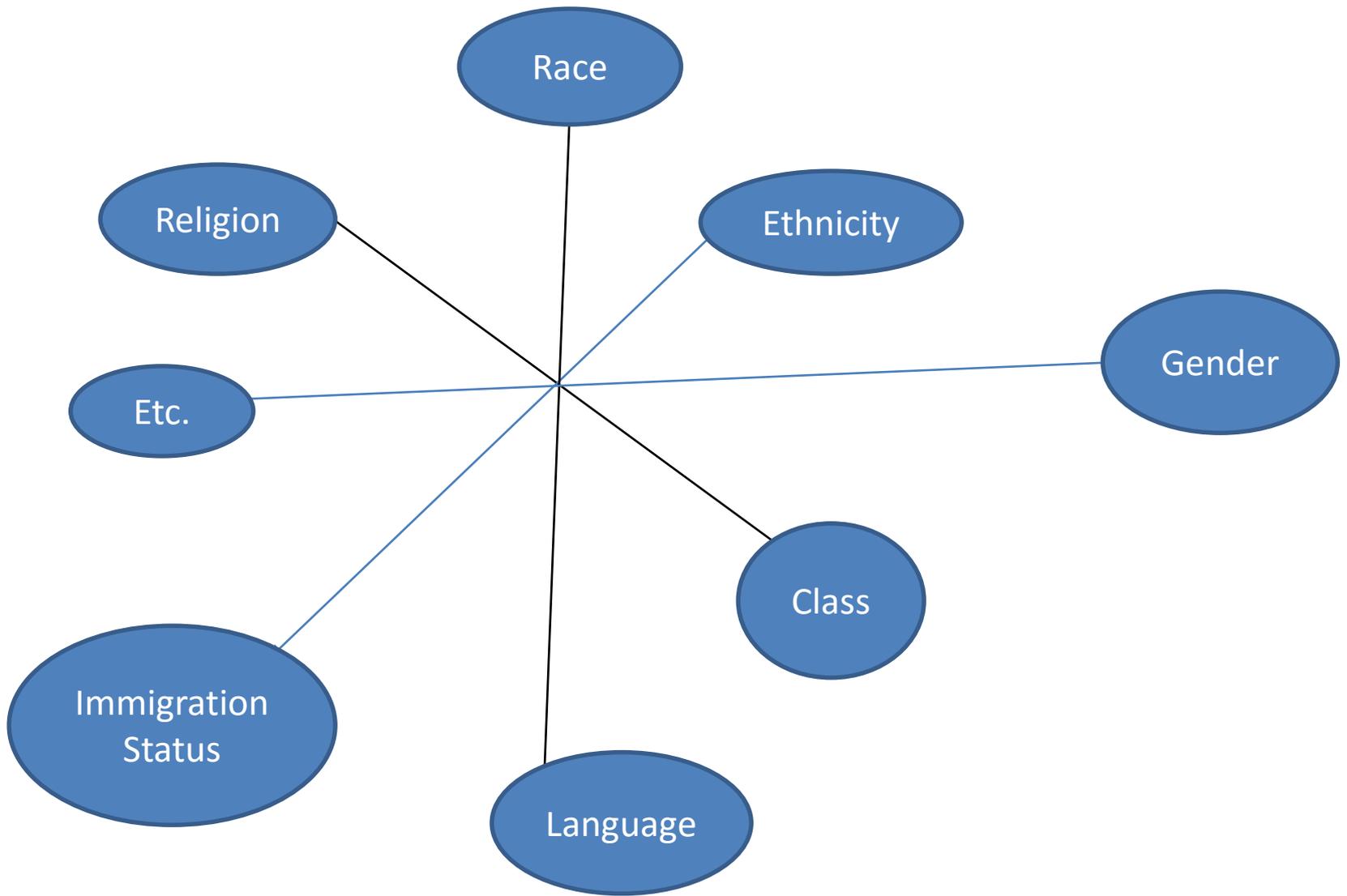
Critical Policy Analysis

Theories of  
Intersectionality

Critical Race Studies

Textual Analysis/Content  
Analysis





# Intersectionality

# Mismatch policymaking and demographic realities

1. Race not mentioned yet is ubiquitous . In fact, students are not described in any intersectional terms (race, gender, immigrant status, class).
2. Racialized students are either invisible or seen as “international”
3. Race only never mentioned, when drawing upon American literature.
4. Ethnicity mentioned regarding aboriginal students (See Aboriginal policy)
5. Rurality and low SES are acknowledged as possible places of marginality

# International Education Strategy

- “Partnerships between educational institutions in B .C . and those in other countries are also helping to create pathways for B .C . businesses into international markets. B .C . “
- “ strengthen B .C .’s position in an innovation-driven, globally competitive economy .”



Diasporic and transnational realities are ignored. (e.g., “international student”, sites of intersectionality where contradictory realities are experienced (Brah and Phoenix, 2004)

# Tuition Limit Policy

“Paying tuition helps ensure that enrolling in a course – making a choice to pursue higher learning – is seen for what it is: a serious commitment to a demanding undertaking. “

Campus 2020 p.82-83

- Affordability

- Mandatory fees downloaded on students.
- Inapplicable to international students, new programs

