

Intersection of the three mega-stories: the Sciences, the Humanities, the Indigenous

Science



Humanities



“thick description”



***Burnt Face and the Little People?
Water from a Tree?***

Embedded in the act of re-telling of the stories of Coyote and Salmon, of Changing Woman and Spider Grandmother, of Raven and Sedna

***Hnkhwelkhwlnet* “our ways of life in the world,”
and often referred to by elders as “Heart Knowledge”
(in contrast with “Head Knowledge”)**

Summary

Sciences:

discrete material objects
thick glass pane
logical reasoning (deductive methods)
standardized empiricism (inductive method)
tests of validity and reliability
skepticism

Humanities:

holistic (not compartmentalized and reductionist)
interpretive (not analytical)
narrative (not formal, objective)
wisdom (not knowledge per se)
“thick description”
cracks and holes in thick glass pane

Indigenous:

transitory intersection of those participating - human, animal, ancestor, spirit - all anchored to place-based oral traditions, to the *miyp* teachings
spiritual origination and perpetuation of the physical world
a participant, a part of, not apart from, no glass pane separations

Sciences: seeks to formulate precise descriptions of physical reality to generate new knowledge. $A^2=B^2=C^2$

Humanities: seeks to suspend disbelief, and through the experiential imagination, identify and describe “wisdom truths.”

Indigenous: in the act of oral tradition storytelling, reality is brought forth and perpetuated, its “teachings” revealed.

**Not a suspending of disbelief, but a renewing of reality.
Stories are not a descriptive of reality, but reality itself.**