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Spaces and Places of Cultural Studies

The multi-, cross-, post- or anti-disciplinary project of cultural studies that came famously into existence outside the universities has for 40 years sought its place inside academia. Establishing cultural studies projects, programmes, centres and like, has in the last decades primarily taken place in academic contexts. There has been some discussion on how cultural studies changes the academic contexts it works in, but not that much debate on how academic contexts and modern disciplinarity have produced various pressures on the forms cultural studies has assumed.

In the conjuncture of neo-liberal university policies new weight is given to multidisciplinary as an instrument for reshaping universities in favor of cost-effectiveness and quick-fix applications. In this new situation cultural studies has to defend purposeful and enduring diversity in and of universities. In order to be able to do this it has to think of itself not only as a critical space but also as such place where universities could critically reflect themselves and their place in the world.