

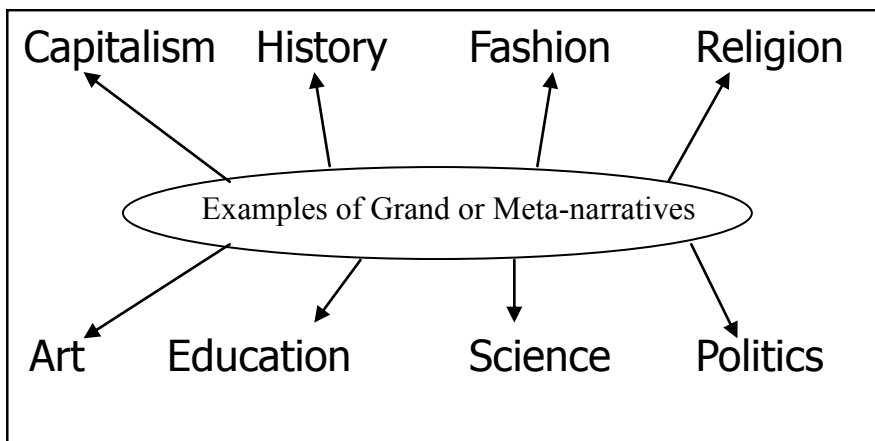
Lyotard, (he say...)

- *Knowledge is a type of power and is communicated through narratives.*

Lyotard felt that grand narratives pushed the smaller narratives aside. He was distrustful of any 'grand narrative' which claimed to have access to absolute truth .

In *La Condition Postmoderne: Rapport sur le savoir (The Postmodern Condition: A Report on Knowledge) (1979)*, he calls postmodernism, '**an incredulity towards meta-narratives**'. Meta-narratives, or sometimes called 'grand narratives' - are comprehensive explanations of experience or knowledge about the world, such as the progress of history, the know-ability of everything by science, and the possibility of absolute truth.

Grand narratives, such as...



I am deeply suspicious of grand (meta) narratives—science, interpretations of history, religion... as they lay claim to 'the truth'!



Lyotard believed that 'the truth' was different for different groups and a better way to describe the world was through **mini narratives**, each of which was valid and socially necessary on a small scale. This leads to **plurality**, many stories, many voices, many truths...

Postmodernism signals '...the destruction of the grand narrative'.

