

(Un)Finnished: International art education between two continents

Presenter – David Anderson

Thank you for your interest in this presentation.

The proposal for this conference was submitted in advance of my travels to Finland; some components evolved as anticipated and others materialized as opportunities presented themselves. Throughout my travels I kept an online journal through my school's website. It was suggested to me by fellow colleagues to publish these entries through an online blogging forum. So, with enthusiasm and some trepidation I am in the process of transferring this information to a site and I hope to keep it updated on a fairly regular basis. There are simply too many areas to cover during the time allotted for this presentation, so I hope you will check out the site for further details about my travels, and on education in general – [\(Un\)Finnished Education](#). Cheers!

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Synopsis:

During a four-week stay in Finland, the following was accomplished:

- Presented to an Art Education class at the University of Lapland, Finland.
- Presented to three separate classes in the Art Department at Aalto University in Helsinki.
 - Dr. Kevin Tavin – Head of Art, Professor of International Art Education - Contact
 - Dr. Mira Kallio-Tavin - University Lecturer of International Art Education Curriculum - Contact
- Visited three Finnish schools:
 - [Viiki Teacher Training School](#)
 - [Pohjois-Haagan yhteiskoulu](#)
 - [Lauttasaaren yhteiskoulu](#) (multiple visits)
 - taught a seventh grade *English* class
 - taught a tenth grade *Culture* class
 - Taught and collaborated with the Art teacher - seventh grade *Art* class, a unit that involved creating art as a response to issues of social justice.

References

Oikarinen-Jabai, H. (2011). This is my home country or something in-between – Finish-Somali youth share experiences through performative narratives. *Journal of Arts and Communities*. Vol. 3, Number 2, pp. 151-166.

Rastas, A. (2009). Racism in the everyday life of Finnish children with transitional roots.
<http://www.uta.fi/yky/en/contact/personnel/annarastas/index/barn.pdf>

Additional Resources

Codes of Gender: Identity & Performance in Popular Culture, (2009). [Video] (Available from the Media Education Foundation, Northhampton, MA).

The Mean World Syndrome, (2007). [Video] (Available from Media Education Foundation, Northhampton, MA)

Tavin, K. & Anderson, D. (2002). Deconstructing disney: teaching (popular) visual culture in the elementary classroom. Art Education: The Journal of the National Art Education Association, 56 (3). 21-25.

Tavin, K. & Anderson, D. 2009. Teaching (Popular) Visual Culture in the Elementary Art Classroom: The Deconstruction of Disney. In *Visual culture and child education*. Edited by R. Martins. Goiania, Brasil: R. Martins. (Chapter in Book)

Tough Guise: violence, media, and the crisis in masculinity, (1999) [Video] (Available from Media Education Foundation, Northhampton, MA)

Tim Wise: On White Privilege. Racism, White Denial and the Costs of Inequality. (2008). [Video], (Available from Media Education Foundation, Northhampton, MA)

Wrestling With Manhood: Boys, Bullying & Battering (2003) [Video] (Available from Media Education Foundation, Northhampton, MA)