Panel: Investigating discipline matters, by collecting and publishing of data on doctoral dissertations


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"No map replaces the mapped region, but at the same time (...) a well-drawn map simplifies the way."

- "Ningúin mapa sustituye a la región cartografiada, pero al mismo tiempo (...) una carta bien trazada simplifica el recorrido"
- Tomas Granados Salinas. Director of collection of books about books of Fondo de Cultura Económica.

What have we already done?
What are we doing?
What are we going to do?

• This is an ongoing project. We are not going to present final results.

What have we already done?

• Two articles from different perspectives.

• FIRST:
• A research about doctoral theses that satisfied two criteria:
  • To have an educational subject
  • During the Franco’s dictatorship
Historiographical review of Doctoral thesis about the history of education in Franco’s dictatorship

http://hdl.handle.net/10630/6569

257/126 Theses

- Two basic variables:
- The period studied
  - 1936-1959
  - 1959-1975
  - 1936-1975
- and the field from which the thesis was made:
  - History (Faculties of Arts, History, Philosophy,...)
  - History of Education (Faculty of Education, Pedagogy...)
CUADRO I: LECTURA DE TESIS POR PERÍodos

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERÍODOS</th>
<th>1er franquismo</th>
<th>2º franquismo</th>
<th>1º y 2º franquismo</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1976-1985</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986-1995</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-2005</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-2013</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GRÁFICO I: LECTURA DE TESIS POR PERÍODOS

CUADRO II: TESIS POR CAMPOS Y PERÍODOS ESTUDIADOS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAMPO</th>
<th>1er franquismo Hasta 1959</th>
<th>2º franquismo Desde 1959</th>
<th>1º y 2º franquismo</th>
<th>2º</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hª Educación</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hª Contemporánea y otros</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>126</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TESEO**

- **TESEO database**, published by the Spanish General University Board, provides information on approved doctoral theses in Spain since 1976.

- The information is provided by the Spanish PhD Thesis Board, which sends the thesis’ file to the General University Board.
UNESCO, International Standard Nomenclature for fields of science and technology (1988) It could be considered as a MAP
55 History
5506 Specialized Histories
550607 History of Education

Gráfico 1. Tesis en TESEO que incluyen el descriptor «Historia de la educación»

Temporal delimitation:
Temporality (long, intermediate, short, present)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extensión</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Larga</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>26,51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermedia</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>37,35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corta</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>36,14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total tesis</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>100,00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Larga: ≥ 70 años // Intermedia: Entre 30 y 70 años // Corta: 30 ó menos años ≤

Gráfico 2. Extensión del período estudiado
Centuries covered: Before 18th, 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st

Tabla 2: Siglos estudiados en las tesis de Historia de la Educación

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Siglos</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antes XVIII</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3,77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XVIII</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIX</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>26,41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XX</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>63,21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXI</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4,72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>100,00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gráfico 3: Siglos estudiados en las tesis

Spacial delimitation

Spain, National or local

Other countries, National or local

Tabla 3: Delimitación espacial anual (valor absoluto y porcentajes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Espacio</th>
<th>2000 % anual</th>
<th>2005 % anual</th>
<th>2010 % anual</th>
<th>Total %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>España Nacional</td>
<td>17 39,5</td>
<td>4 22,2</td>
<td>10 45,4</td>
<td>31 37,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>15 34,9</td>
<td>9 50,0</td>
<td>6 27,3</td>
<td>30 36,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otros países Nacional</td>
<td>7 16,3</td>
<td>3 16,7</td>
<td>2 9,1</td>
<td>12 14,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>4 9,3</td>
<td>2 11,1</td>
<td>4 18,2</td>
<td>10 12,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>43 100,0</td>
<td>18 100,0</td>
<td>22 100,0</td>
<td>83 100,0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gráfico 4: Delimitación espacial de las tesis por año
• We study theses included in the TESEO data base which have among their descriptors «History of education» in 2000, 2005 and 2010.

• In the 83 doctoral theses localized, we have analyzed variables such as national or local character, the study period and the duration (following works already presented about the thesis in ISCHE 2014 and 2015)

• As they have all in common that descriptor, we have also considered the situation of that one in relation to the other descriptors for each thesis as a possible indicator of the concept that the authors have about this discipline.

• The results are disaggregated by year. Significant changes can be appreciated.

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**What are we doing?**

• The TESEO database, with certain limitations, is an indispensable source in these studies.

• Searches cannot be limited to the most obvious descriptors and must include keywords in the title and the summary.

• Some confusion about the very concept of discipline is clearly observed. A careful fill in of the form of this database in needed to improve its effectiveness.
At this stage of our study, we will focus on the years 2000, 2005 and 2010.

We intend to analyze the doctoral theses presented in Spanish universities over a decade but **without focusing either on a particular subject or on a specific database.**

Thus the main difference with our earlier research is the **criteria:**

- a) **We** (not TESEO) have decided if a doctoral thesis belongs or not to “our” field,
- b) We have used more than one database

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### As times goes by, the data are closer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>TESEO Descriptor: History of Education</th>
<th>Teseo, Dialnet, TDX, Journals..... TWO CRITERIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• We have already collected 106 theses from 2000, 2005 and 2010.
• The grid is completed.
• We are using the previous categories (temporal and spatial delimitations) and the object of study (using the 9 categories included in the grid on doctoral dissertations.)
• In September we will start the analyse.

What are we going to do?

• We intend to include the intermediate years and to expand this frame because the (eventual) aim is to study the doctoral thesis on History of Education defended in Spain (1990-2015)
• Following the guidelines suggested by those responsible for this SWG, we assume that comparison should be the aim of this project. Therefore, we intend to collect data in the standardized format, using the grid and having a web site for the project.
• After these studies, we decided that further studies including the content of the doctoral thesis may refine these results.
  – Theoretical assumptions
  – Methodological choices
  – Sources
  – Bibliography
  – ................
  – It is not possible to read all the thesis, but at least the abstracts are very useful to decide to decide to which category each thesis belongs.
  – Abstracts are mainly in Spanish. When the doctoral thesis is not in TESEO, we are collecting the abstracts in one word document

Current debates:

Doctoral Thesis as Grey Literature: Is the Doctoral thesis obsolete?

New formats

• “An awful lot of theses will be unused and unread.” Is this true in our field?
• Some results simply are not published anywhere else.
• Have these authors done further contributions? Articles, books, Conference papers, posters…
• Writing a doctoral thesis can be seen as a way of socialisation in a field.
• Did the authors of these thesis stay in our field?
“Cheshire Puss, ... Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?”

“That depends a good deal on where you want to get to,” said the Cat.

“I don’t much care where -” said Alice.

“Then it doesn’t matter which way you go,” said the Cat.

- Lewis Carroll

THANK YOU
VERY MUCH
FOR YOUR ATTENTION