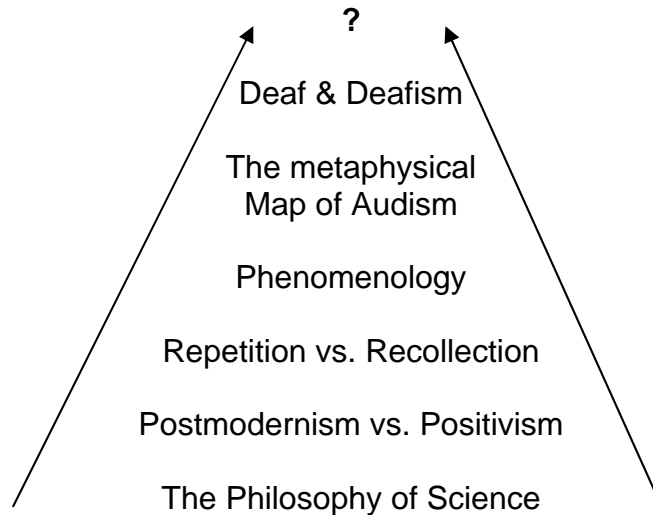




DEAFISM by Patrik Nordell

At his lecture, we learned many new scientific words. Firstly, he showed a diagram below –



The table starts from the bottom to top. We, at the moment, are on Deaf & Deafism.

Many doctors and the society think logically and forget about human. (**Kierkegaard**). He also developed the theory of Existentialism.

Nietzsche said “why should we listen to science?”

Foucault wrote about gay and minorities discrimination, many Deaf-related philosophers’ (Ladd, Hauland and Lane) theories came the closest with his theories.

The theory of Post structuralism is linked with Ladd and Hauland’s type, the theories are based on a group which influences each other instead of individual measurements.

Comte’s theory on the list of importance (from top to bottom)

1. Mathematics
2. Astronomy
3. Physics
4. Chemistry
5. Biology
6. Sociology

Looking at the list, Deaf/Deafism can be found in Sociology as a minority. Biology is where the unworkable ear is concerned. Therefore doctors automatically put it on the “priority” list of deafness.



Deaf people would never win in a battle against hearing society if we still follow Comte's theory.

Patrik gave us a task –

Empiricism

We are to think of questions which a group of hearing would ask a Deaf person. We are to think of questions which a group of DEAF would ask another Deaf person. See below.

Hearing	Deaf
Are you Deaf? Do you need some special help? How could you live? Can you speak? Can you marry? Can you read or/and write? Can you drive?	Which sign language skill level are you? Do you have Deaf parents? Can you marry a hearing person? What do you do in life? (Work)

It is obviously that a group of hearing would ask those kind of questions in which Deaf people would think differently.

Positivism relates with data strongly. Patrik explained an example with a hammer from the hardware store. One person is expert on carpentry and the other is not. The expert would take the hammer and feel the weight. The other would pick the lightest one and probably the cheapest.

The expert DOES not need data, but the other do. Therefore it is the same with Deafism with so-called hearing experts on deafness. Deaf people do not require data because they know, hearing do need data to understand deafness/Deafism.

Ready to head	Indirectly communication	Language directly	Logistics	Present to head

Deaf philosophers start from the Ready-to-head and work their way to Present-to-head. They do research on deafness and what is required to support them. Those so-called philosophers for the Deaf ignore Indirectly communication and Language directly, jumping to Logistics in which they focused on the unworkable ear. (Cochlear Implants) This had led to much confusion and misunderstanding within the Deaf community and the hearing society especially governments.

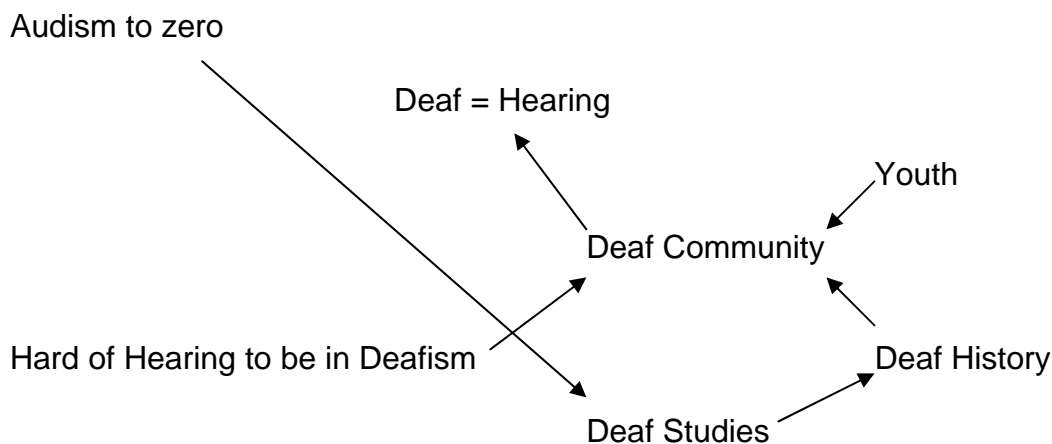
Audism was first used by Tom Humphries in 1975. It links with a discrimination of sign language and visual communication. Sometimes there is audism within Deaf people themselves who do not have enough belief.



Patrik again gave us a task about discrimination within Deaf Education (one group)

Individual	Group
Teachers' attitude to children, splitting them depending on their "receiving" ability. A child with poor verbal communication was told that he/she has a good speech. It often led them in wrong way in life.	Teachers do not believe that children could achieve higher. (links to examinations' levels)
Teachers focus on skilled or rather, "gifted" child (Gifted – skilled speech and writing), ignoring others in class.	

To summarize his lecture, he asked us what are important within Deafism. We replied, with the diagram below –



The arrows shows how each can be achieved through. For example, Deaf Studies can be used to raise Deaf Awareness, thus reducing Audism. From the diagram, we see Deaf Community as a major role in advocating Deafism.

DEAF IN THE UK by Mette Sommer

Mette Sommer is a Sociology student in Denmark; she attended the Centre of Deaf Studies at University of Bristol for 6 months. She learnt a lot from Deaf in the United Kingdom.

She talked about the culture difference between Denmark and the UK. The UK tend to have a strong oral environment, they do use sign language, but with many lip reading and movements unlike some countries. Mette also commented on the way Deaf British dress, she thought they wore sexy outfits; it is a possible that an



oral education may have influenced them to wear what “normal” (hearing) people wear.

She explained about the modules available at the Centre of Deaf Studies in the MSc course.

Mandatory Units

DEAFM1001 Deaf Studies in Perspective
DEAFM1003 Sign Linguistics
DEAFM1004 Research Methods in the Study of Deaf People
DEAFM1005 Deaf History and Deafhood
DEAFM1007 British Sign Language for Postgraduates

Optional Units

DEAFM2001 Assessment of Deaf Children in Educational Settings
DEAFM2003 Advances in Deaf Studies
DEAFM2004 Health and Mental Health in the Deaf Community
DEAFM2006 Multilingual Environment of the Deaf Schoolchild
DEAFM2007 Social Issues in the Deaf Community in Contact with Hearing Society
DEAFM2008 Deaf Culture and Deafhood
DEAFM2009 Sociolinguistics of Signed Languages
DEAFM2011 BSL Literature and Performance

Detailed of each module can be found at http://www.bris.ac.uk/deaf/enquiries/msc_info/msc-content

University of Bristol has more modules for those who are interested in studying in BSc or Interpreting course.

Furthermore, she showed a video which was produced many years ago, to show that Sign Language is an important part of our life rather than oral. Dr. Paddy Ladd was the actor with Douglas Alker as the magician. Alker is the currently the Chairman of the Sign Community, better known as the British Deaf Association.

We learnt how British Deaf people live their life and how they advocated for their rights long time ago.

Poul Hansen

Last Friday Ole told us about a Poul Hansen who was a Danish pastor for the Deaf.

Ole discussed whether he was a good man for Danish Deaf people or not? It was noted that he has a good heart, but did he make some steps too far?



For example he visited regularly in people' houses and asked "how are you, how about your children and so on". Poul knew all names of all of them and their children's names too in the Jylland region.

Sometimes he was so irritating because he also butt in other's lives. "He loves to hate". He once interference a man's life by saying he owes his ex-girlfriend money. But is it right? The debate never ended, but we always know there are ALWAYS be people like Poul Hansen.

And Ole told us about rules for employers of Castberggård which is the Sign Policy. He presented a paper about Deaf and hearing employees working in the Deaf-related environment.

He also showed Castberggård, the British Deaf Association and Gallaudet University's Sign Language Policy. Each of them has different difentions, and we discussed on how we could follow the policy because in all associations the policies were not followed properly. It was discussed that hearing people (interpreters) needed a break, which they could speak freely. But in break times, there are Deaf people around, so should hearing people speak? It is their rights to use their mother's tongue language. The debate never ended, because there are too many issues to be covered and most of those clashed with each other.