PERFORMANCE THEORY

Thursday 12:50-3:50

Instructor: Jack Kugelmass;

Office Hours: Wednesday 1:00-3:00, or by appointment

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The seminar is intended to introduce anthropology graduate students (and others) to a number of seminal works within the area of performance theory and expressive behavior. Seminar participants are required to 1. come to class 2. be prepared having a one page response/summary to be handed in during each class.

Participation and the response papers constitute 20% of the grade. An additional 30% of the grade will be based on in class presentations related to the readings. 50% of the grade will be based on a final paper of 20-25 pages, double spaced. The paper should cover a body of theory or group of theorists, or should be an application of a theoretical approach to a body of data.

Students in this seminar will become familiar with a very broad set of theories and analytical tools connected to performance and expressive behavior. Students will learn to use them as hermeneutic devices and to consider how to apply them in subjects of their own interest.

8/23 Introduction

8/30 Erving Goffman, Presentation of Self in Everyday Life

9/06 Vladimir Propp, Morphology of the Folktale

9/13 Victor Turner, From Ritual to Theater

9/20 Mikhail Bakhtin, Rabelais and His World

9/27 Norbert Elias, The Civilizing Process

10/04 Dick Hebdige, Subculture: The Meaning of Style

10/11 Pierre Bourdieu, Distinction

10/18 Mary Douglas, Purity and Danger

10/25 Richard Schechner Between Theater and Anthropology

11/01 Steven Mullaney, The Place of the Stage

11/08 Stephen Greenblatt, Renaissance Self-Fashioning

11/15 TBA

11/29 George Mosse, The Image of Man