

Introduction to Performance Studies

Summer 2026

Instructor	Melissa Foulger	Class	LMC-2600
Email	melissa.foulger@lmc.gatech.edu	Pre-req	ENGL 1102
Office		Satisfies	
Office Hours	Tuesday: 11:00-12:00	Class Time	8:00 – 9:55 am
	Or by appointment/email me	Location	TBD

Description

The premise of Performance Studies, an academic discipline that has grown exponentially since the late 1960s, is that performance is a fundamental category of human (and perhaps not just human) activity not limited to the performing arts. One of the projects of Performance Studies has been to develop a general theory of performance by considering what the many things we may call performance have in common. This iteration of LMC 2600 will follow this path by identifying fundamental characteristics of performance and performing.

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Arts, Humanities & Ethics area.

Core IMPACTS refer to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I interpret the human experience through creative, linguistic, and philosophical works?

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this class, students will be able to:

- Effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance, and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts in English or other languages, or of works in the visual/performing arts

Additional Learning Outcomes Per LMC & BOR

Students will also be able to:

- Cultivate awareness of the traditions and conventions of literature, film, and other forms of narrative art, analyze those traditions and conventions in specific cultural contexts; and
- Describe relationships among languages, philosophies, cultures, literature, ethics, or the arts.

Required Materials

- Richard Schechner, Performance Studies: An Introduction, 4th Edition (2020) available through Perusall.
- Assorted resources, as needed. (These will be available in Canvas, as hand-outs, and/or as links.)
- Something to write with or on.