

PARTY AS FORM



Ox Bow Summer Session 2018

Instructors:

Ben Fain & Shannon Stratton

TA: Etta Sandry

“Party as Form” is a two-week experience where students will explore the event of the party through readings in sociology and cultural theory while designing, enacting and participating in a variety of party forms.

Instructor contact info (prior to class):

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Course materials

Readings

Readings will be in a dropbox folder, shared with you by May 15th, 2018.

Download and print in advance!

Equipment and Supplies

Please bring a laptop and a variety of supplies through which you will create the accoutrements of the party, this might include, but is not limited to:

a sewing machine, various fabrics and trims, paper & card stocks, glue, scissors, poster paint, markers and other embellishments, especially sparkly stuff like glitter, snacks, donkeys, candy, serving ware, costumes, screen-printing supplies, cameras, projection equipment, drums, mixed tapes, board games, water guns, sporting equipment or gear, gift wrap, magicians, portable lighting, disco balls, goody bags, piñatas, prom dresses, shopping carts, dancing shoes, bunting, hats (big ones, pointy ones, other), string, clothes pins, garland, confetti, silly string, sparkling beverages, mini-bake oven, patterned tights, false eyelashes, masks & wigs, lace, corsages, cake icing, fancy ice cube trays, glow-in-the-dark stuff, party streamers, kool-aid, jello, pom-poms, cupcakes, pick-up trucks, popcorn machines, hot wings, novelty straws, recliners, tuxedos, 5-piece string bands, inflatable stuff, puppies, wading pools, foam, sub-woofer, mega-phone, air-horn, napkins, etc.

There are also number of shops in town that can be visited for party supplies during the run of the class.

Projects

Students will complete the following work for full credit:

1. Complete all readings assigned in class and participate in discussion at allotted times
2. Research, design and present one event in an assigned group (handout will be discussed in class)
3. Write a short review for: i) one of the student hosted events participated in class, ii) the first Friday night party, iii) the final project Friday night party, and iv) another event or party that the student participates in over the

course of the 2-weeks and frames as such, (i.e. some party your roommates have one night in their studios)

4. Work, with the group, on designing and throwing the best Friday night party in the history of Ox Bow on Friday, June 29th. No pressure. Details on all assignments will be covered in class on the 1st day.

Class is split between readings, meetings/discussions, studio time/event prep and event hosting. This class, while FUN, is also an “all-in” work load. Come prepared to eat/sleep/breathe/talk/walk the *party as form*.

Reading syllabus will be circulated to registered students prior to class.