

PA Theory Group Brownbag Discussion

February 21, 2012

Noon—1:00 pm

CPACS Room 208

The ethics and aesthetics of authenticity and sincerity in American Folklore (and PA)

Discussion with:

Todd Richardson

Assistant Professor, UNO Goodrich Program



Dr. Richardson's primary research interest has been the construction and consumption of authenticity in American folklore and folklore studies. He has argued that authenticity is a haunted value; that is, a presence that signifies an absence. For instance, "authentic" folklore is constructed as a response to the supposed emptiness of modernity. He has also started looking into the affiliated value of sincerity and is eager to discuss what role both it and authenticity play in public administration.

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