LING 1235/2235: Language, Gender, and Society

Homework 2

Due Friday, September 2

- 1. Make up your own example of someone doing gender (it need not be linguistic). Explain what gender they are doing, as well as what they are doing.
- 2. How might someone claim that your example of doing gender is based in biology?
- 3. How might this doing of gender learned?
- 4. What are the most compelling three arguments (to you) that gender performance is primarily learned behavior?
- 5. On page 31, EMG discuss some of the ways that gender is different from other social categories, and how it interacts with them. Choose a social identities of your own in addition to your gender (e.g., race, ethnicity, class, age, region, nationality, urban/rural, etc.). Explain how this other aspect of your identity impacts your social practices differently from gender, and how it affects the kind of woman or man you are.
- 6. What are the fundamental principles EMG claim are raised by the developmental narrative?
- 7. Summarize EMG's outline of gender ideology. Do you agree? Would you add anything?
- 8. Explain one way in which one community of practice you are a member of is structured by gender. How does this structure relate to the ideologies you outlined in #7?

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9. Be sure you understand the following terms (in roughly the order of their appearance):

(social) practice heterosexual market desire/cathexis gender order convention ideology, gender ideology essentialism habitus discourse naturalization hegemony gender regime erasure

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