

The readings for this class are given. I've kept them (readings) short because of the project you are currently working on.

In Ramachandran, read chapter 9, "God and the Limbic System."

Read the Victor Turner's "Body, Brain & Culture."

Please read the Preface and Chap. 1 of Kuriyama's *Expressiveness of the Body*. (If you are inspired by the book, Chap. 5 "Blood and Life" should be read next.)

I was happy with our discussion of the texts last week. Please read these three texts and answer the following questions.

For Turner & Ramachandran:

- 1) What is the main thesis or theory of the author? How is it framed? With what metaphors?
- 2) Would you say the author uses "culture" to help explain brain findings, or brain findings to help explain "culture"? Or both? In any case, please write out the author's definition of culture as best you can make it out. Be prepared to cite a sentence or paragraph that backs up your claim.
- 3) What is another area where you think culture or civilization matters for the brain or brain science? What kind of experiment would you be interested in seeing carried out? Why?

For Kuriyama:

- 1) What is his definition of "culture"? Does he use it in a very different way than Turner or Ramachandran?
- 2) He doesn't write directly about the brain. Imagine he did: what sorts of questions would he raise? Write down one specific one and sketch out how one might go about investigating it.