

Fall 2014

HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY ART 220 Z

Tuesday, 6:30-9:30, Hill 209

Instructor: Jeff Hurwitz
Office: Photo Studio

Office Hours: Tuesday 5:00-6:30 by appointment only. Make your appointment requests prior to the desired date in class or by email.

Phone: 610-861-1632 Art Office: 610-861-1680

Email: : jhurwitz@moravian.edu ***It's best to contact me by email

REQUIRED TEXT

SEIZING THE LIGHT: A SOCIAL HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROBERT HIRSCH

"A KNOWLEDGE OF PHOTOGRAPHY IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THAT OF THE ALPHABET. THE ILLITERATE OF THE FUTURE WILL BE IGNORANT OF THE USE OF CAMERA AND PEN ALIKE."

László Moholy-Nagy 1923
(1895-1946)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course explores the social, cultural, political, and artistic contexts surrounding the history of photography, from its invention to the present day. Lectures and discussions will highlight various photographic trends and photographers, both historical and contemporary, who have made major contributions to the art form.

GOALS:

- Become familiar with a broad overview of the history of photography and with major scientists, photographers, artists, and terminology associated with the history of photography, from the early 19th century to the present day.
- Become familiar with the fundamental language of photography and be able to formally and conceptually critique and analyze a photographic work of art.
- Be able to describe the significant people and events in the development of the photographic medium.
- Be able to identify the impact of photography on society, culture, and the art world.
- Analyze and evaluate the photographs of individuals who have set trends in the art of photography through its lifespan.
- Understand how photographic images are made and the theoretical and formal issues that shape the medium, especially as it pertains to the history of photography, fine art, and mass media production.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Come to class prepared by completing required readings from text to facilitate understanding of in class lectures and discussions, turning in essays, quizzes, etc. on the date due and bringing materials for class activities as required.
- Keeping a journal for this class. More discussion on this later.
- Actively participate and contribute to class discussion and hands on activities. This is an important factor in grading.
- Periodic take-home quizzes, Mid-semester Exam and Final Essay on course related topics selected by the student. **Topics must be approved before proceeding.**

- Group research presentations on a relevant topic in photography and presented to the class along with copies of a 3 page overview with bibliography to hand out to each member of the class and the instructor. **Topics must be approved before proceeding.**
- Attend required lectures and fieldtrips that may occur outside of class.
- Participate in group activities and semester installation project.

THE JOURNAL:

- An important component of this course is the keeping of a journal. This is a separate notebook intended to be a creative space to respond to a variety of questions, ideas and visual content concerning the photographic medium. Journal assignments may directly address a historic image covered. Other times students may be asked to deconstruct some aspect of the medium of photography, write reflections on our image culture, or make image-based entries.
- Check out the book: *THE JOURNEY IS THE DESTINATION: The journals of Dan Eldon*. San Francisco: Chronicle Books. Eldon, K. (1997) and the journals of PETER BEARD for inspiring journaling ideas.

ESTIMATE OF TOTAL TIME REQUIRED FOR THIS CLASS

- In-class (seat) time: 5x15= 35.5
- Reading and Class Preparation: 45
- Research Project Preparation time: 15
- Journal Projects: 20
- Group Project: 8
- Preparation for quiz: 6
- Museum/gallery field trips: 12
- Field Trip Response Paper: 6
- Payne Gallery and HUB openings: 10
- Final Exam: 10
- Prepare Journal for Final: 8

READING ASSIGNMENTS: Students will be assigned weekly readings and should always be prepared to discuss the material in class.

QUIZZES: Periodic take-home quizzes on material covered in class.

MIDTERM EXAM/FINAL EXAM: There will be one exam given around midterm and a final essay as described above. It is important that you take notes during class lectures, discussions, and slide presentations as well as doing independent research.

PAPER AND PRESENTATION:

Students will work in groups on a research paper and presentation on a topic of their choice, **but subject to prior approval.** Students will lead the class in discussion on this day. A group installation project will be constructed based on themes from these topics.

FIELDTRIP/ ART DEPT. EVENTS:

- Students are required to attend the department field trip to New York City, Friday, November 7. All art students are also required to attend the Rudy Ackerman Visiting Artist Lecture each semester, date TBA.

PARTICIPATION:

Students are expected to come to class ready for discussion. Students should take notes, mark points of interests, and form questions based on the assigned texts or subject of research. I believe in setting up a classroom community that encourages a healthy, open exchange of ideas.

Learning is a collaborative process and every student's input is a valuable contribution. Students will be graded on participation in class discussions and group projects. (Participation is worth 20% of your final grade) **Also note: Your participation grade includes your attendance record.**

CAMERA:

Students should have a camera of some kind for use in their journals and class activities. This will only be used to record ideas that apply to course topics, not on technique and skill. Even your camera phone is acceptable.

ATTENDANCE

The Art Department has established a department-wide attendance policy to apply to students in all art classes.

- For classes that meet once a week (half-unit studio courses, seminars, evening art history courses): **After the first unexcused absence, final grade will be dropped by one full letter. After the third unexcused absence, student will receive a failing final grade.**
- An excused absence is one confirmed by a note from the Dean's Office, Student Services, the Learning Center, or verified with a doctor's note (within 24 hours of illness).
- Death in family should be confirmed with Student Services.
- Documentation is required for sports. Coach should email a note to instructor confirming matches, meets, departure time for away games, or anything that would require absence from class. Practice is not an excused absence.
- Job interviews or doctor's/dentist's appointments are not to be scheduled during class.
- **Missing Portions of Class: The following count as unexcused absences**
- More than 15 minutes late for class
- Failure to bring supplies to class
- Failure to return from break
- Leaving class half an hour or more early
- Being late more than 3 times. Late = being 5 to 15 minutes late for class
- *Students: If you are late or absent, it is your responsibility (not the professor's) to find out what you missed and to catch up in a timely manner.*
- ***** IMPORTANT: YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ASKING A FELLOW CLASS MEMBER WHAT YOU MISSED IN CLASS AND BE PREPARED WHEN YOU RETURN. Please refer to the syllabus if you are absent.**

NOTE: IF YOU ARE LATE OR ABSENT, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY (NOT THE PROFESSOR'S) TO FIND OUT WHAT YOU MISSED AND TO CATCH UP IN A TIMELY MANNER.

GRADING

Students will be assessed through classroom projects, papers, presentations, homework assignments, and a quiz and final exam. Again, it is important to note that students will be graded on class participation, especially during class discussions. Students will be made aware of the expectations for each assignment in terms of grading

Mid-term Exam	20%
Quizzes	15%
Journal	10%
Class Participation & Attendance	15%
Research Presentation	25%
Final Essay	20%
TOTAL	100%

GRADING SCALE

A	94-100
A -	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B -	80-83
C +	77-79
C	74-76
C -	70-73
D +	67-69
D	64-66
D -	60-63
F	below 60

LATE ASSIGNMENTS:

Late projects will be marked down one letter grade for each class period they are late unless you give me a satisfactory reason (in my estimation) for their lateness.

CELL PHONES AND EMAIL:

All phones must be turned off. NO texting in class! Students that abuse this rule will be marked down on "participation" grade.

DISABILITY STATEMENT:

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Elaine Mara, assistant director of learning services for academic and disability support, lower level of Monocacy Hall, or by calling 610-861-1401. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade. Cheating on exams or quizzes is not tolerated and will result in a failing grade. Written assignments are designed to engage students with material covered in class through personal reaction. Papers must be your own thoughts, ideas, impressions, or reflections. The Internet can provide valuable source material, but remember that not all published sites are legitimate. Be aware that I read student papers on this subject every semester and I am very familiar with a variety of information published on the web. Students who violate the standards of academic honesty face serious disciplinary consequences, including referral before the honor council and/or immediate course failure. For further information, please refer to the Moravian College policy in the Student Handbook.

RESOURCES:

The Library- Reeves Library has an expanding collection of photography and art books, periodicals, and catalogues. The Art Department also has a selection of periodicals that you may browse through.

Exhibitions- In addition to the Bethlehem/Easton area, there are countless galleries and museums in New York and Philadelphia that are well worth visiting. At least two field trips will potentially be scheduled for this class. Nothing can beat seeing a work of art up close, in the real as opposed to a published version.

Internet- The web is a fantastic resource for finding the works of the old master photographers and newer, emerging artists as well as useful information about materials, techniques, and equipment. Again, be aware that not all published sites are legitimate recourses such as Wikipedia.

The Media- Pay attention to articles in newspapers and magazines. Photographic images are EVERYWHERE. Be observant and critical of what you see. Bring to class any interesting finds!

HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY ART 220 Z

TIME TABLE AND READINGS (actual dates & readings subject to change)

UNIT ONE: WEEKS 1 - 5 - THE INVENTOR'S LEGACY Part 1

READING - CHAPTERS 1& 2

WEEK 1 - 8/26

- Introductory Remarks & Syllabus
- What is Photography?
- Read Chap. 1 for next Week

WEEK 2 - 9/2

- Pre-Photography
- Origins of Photography: Camera Obscura, Work of Schulze, Wedgewood, Niepce and Daguerre.
- Video: The Genius of Photography 1
Journal Entry #1: THE ELUSIVE PERSONA OF PHOTOGRAPHY: Art, Science, Document or Magic?
- Read Chap. 2 for next class

Sept 2 - Tues - last day for drop-adds

Sept 3 - Wed - Aron Johnston's HUB show opening at 4:30

WEEK 3 - 9/9

- THE DAGUERREOTYPE (also the Heliograph, Travel Views, Portraits, American Work - Brady, Southworth and Hawes).
- Video: Louis Jacque Mande Daguerre
- Read Chap. 3 for next class

WEEK 4 - 9/16

- THE CALOTYPE (Talbot - The Pencil of Nature, Hershel, Hill and Adamson, Albumen paper, Negre and Bayard.)
- Video: William Henry Fox Talbot
- Read Chap 4 for next class

WEEK 5 - 9/23

- THE WET PLATE PROCESS (Collodian process, Ambrotypes, tintypes, cartes-de-viste, Albumen plates, work of Nadar, Disderi, Sarony)
- Video: The Genius of Photography 2
- Journal Entry #2: TBA
- Read Chap 5 for next class

UNIT TWO: WEEKS 6 - 9 COMMUNICATION AND PRACTICE

WEEK 6 - 9/30

New Domains for Photographic Subjects in the 19th Century (soft focus and allegorical work of Rejlander, Robinson & Cameron.)

- Advances in Technology
- Portraiture
- Read Chap 6 for next class
- Video: TBA
- Read Chap 6 for next class
- Oct 3 - Fri - Mid-Semester

WEEK 7 - 10/7

The New Form of Communication: Fenton and Brady, Expeditionary Photographs, Gardner, O'Sullivan, Jackson and Frith

- War Photography
- EXAM REVIEW
- Mid-Term Quiz
- Read Chap 7 & 8 for next class
- Video: TBA
- Oct 13 and 14 -- Mon and Tues - Fall Break

WEEK 8 - 10/14 - **FALL BREAK!**

WEEK 9 - 10/21

TIME & SPACE: Muybridge, Marey, Eakins, Eastman, Early motion pictures - Edison and Lumiere

- Video: Edward Muybridge
- Read Chap 9 for next class
- Journal Entry #3: TBA

UNIT THREE: WEEKS 10 - 12 ART, SCIENCE AND COMMERCE

WEEK 10 - 10/28

Emerson - Naturalistic Photography & Stieglitz - Secession and "291" Gallery

- STUDENT PRESENTATIONS
- Video: TBA
- Read Chap 10 for next class
- Oct 31 -- Fri - Last day to withdraw passing

WEEK 11 - 11/4

MODERNISM: Stieglitz, Strand, Steeler, Steichen, Weston. Group f/64 & Adams.

- Read Chap 11 for next class
- Journal Entry #4: A visual and written response to your visit to NYC
- Video: Steiglitz
- Nov 4 -- Tues -- HUB reception and artist talk for Invision Photo Show, alum Lindsay (Sampson) Woodruff, curated by Kris Kotsch, 4:30
- Nov 7 -- Fri - NY Trip (there will be alternate trips to be announced)

WEEK 12 - 11/11

Science and Photography - A Survey

- Video: Harold Edgerton
- Read Chap 12 for next class

UNIT FOUR: WEEKS 13 - 15 CULTURE, SOCIAL DOCUMENTS AND CHANGING REALITIES

WEEK 13 - 11/18

Development of small cameras. Salomon, Brassai, Cartier-Bresson, Kertesz Lartigue.

- Distribution of Take-Home final exam discussed
- Family and the Snap Shot
- Brainstorm for group project
- Video: Jacque Lartigue
- Read Chaps 13 - 16 for next class
- Journal Entry #5: Re-evaluation of what Photography is.- Art, Science, Document, etc? - Journal Entry

WEEK 14 - 11/25

ABSTRACTIONS & CHANGING REALITIES: cameraless photos, distorted images, scientific work -Coburn, Man-Ray, Moholy-Nagy, Morgan. Klein, Davidson, Friedlander, Crane, Sheridan, Arbus, Uelsmann, Michaels, Decarava.

- VIDEO: TBA

Nov 26 thru 30 - Wed thru Sun - Thanksgiving Break

WEEK 15 - 12/2

- Photography in The Digital Age: Imaging and Pixels or The Past as Prologue
- Take-Home Final Exam
- Journal Entry #6 : TBA
- Dec 5 - Fri - Classes end
- Dec 8 to 12 - Mon thru Fri - exams and critiques

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE IN THE EVENT OF ILLNESS,
CLASS CANCELLATION DUE TO WEATHER, OR OTHER
UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES.

HOURS

Tuesday - Sunday noon - 4 a.m. Closed: Mondays, major holidays, and college breaks.

All openings are 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. on the opening night of the show

<http://home.moravian.edu/public/art/gallery/>

All other questions: David Leidich, Director, 610-653-5555 dleidich@moravian.edu

Billing Information: Jan Ciganick, 610-861-1680 jciganick@moravian.edu Fax: 610-861-1682

4 September - 5 October Hung Liu: Once Upon a Time

Hung Liu is a Chinese born artist currently working in California. While she has roots in both Chinese and American cultures, her art retains its heritage of traditional Chinese art education. This exhibition features a collection of her narrative portrait paintings.

9 October - 9 November Pennsylvania Impressionism: Past & Present

Paired with Moravian College's collection of important Pennsylvania Impressionist paintings, works by a group of contemporary painters using similar vantage points brings new life to this genre of painting.

13 November - 14 December Meli Melo: Contemporary Art of Haiti

Contemporary Haitian art is deep and wide, ranging from impressionist landscapes, to realist portraits, to the unique Saint Soleil voodoo movement—from images of everyday life to earthquake's upheaval. This landmark exhibition brings together the works of revered mentors and younger professional artists they inspired--linked by Promart Haiti and its founder Patrick Cauvin.

22 January - 6 March 2015 War, Peace Building and the Just Society

This exhibition supports Moravian College's In Focus thematic programming for the academic year. The exhibition will include a group of photographs from Bethlehem, Palestine with photographs taken by Moravian's own veterans of war.

19 March - 12 April Lehigh Art Alliance

Founded by Professor Garth Howland of Lehigh University, the Lehigh Art Alliance is an organization of amateur and professional artists in the Lehigh Valley. They serve the artists and the community by holding juried exhibitions and hosting programs as well as featuring art-related speakers. This exhibit features juried art of various mediums.

19 April - 17 May Senior Thesis Exhibition

The Moravian College Senior Thesis Exhibition is always one of the highlights of our annual exhibition program. An eclectic mix of disciplines offered at Moravian College, the exhibition represents four years of hard and productive work. (Closing reception: May 16th, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.)