

Term Information

Effective Term Spring 2025

General Information

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area History of Art
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org History of Art - D0235
College/Academic Group Arts and Sciences
Level/Career Undergraduate
Course Number/Catalog 3610
Course Title History of Photography
Transcript Abbreviation History of Photo
Course Description This course is an overview of the history of photography from its invention in the early 19th century to the present. In this course, we will examine how photography as a form of art and communication, including its use as a mode of creative expression, documentation, advertising, and journalism.
Semester Credit Hours/Units Fixed: 3

Offering Information

Length Of Course 14 Week, 12 Week, 8 Week, 7 Week, 6 Week, 4 Week
Flexibly Scheduled Course Never
Does any section of this course have a distance education component? No
Grading Basis Letter Grade
Repeatable No
Course Components Lecture
Grade Roster Component Lecture
Credit Available by Exam No
Admission Condition Course No
Off Campus Never
Campus of Offering Columbus, Lima, Mansfield, Marion, Newark

Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites none
Exclusions
Electronically Enforced No

Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings

Subject/CIP Code

Subject/CIP Code 50.0703
Subsidy Level Baccalaureate Course
Intended Rank Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior

Requirement/Elective Designation

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

Course Details

Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes

- This course is an overview of the history of photography from its invention in the early 19th century to the present. In this course, we will examine how photography as a form of art and communication.

Content Topic List

- History of photography
- history of technology
- documentary photography
- photography in the 19th century
- theory of photography
- digital photography

Sought Concurrence

No

Attachments

- History of Photography Syllabus.pdf: History of Photography Syllabus
(Syllabus. Owner: Whittington, Karl Peter)
- Curriculum Map HA3610.docx: HistArt 3610 - Curriculum Map
(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Whittington, Karl Peter)

Comments

Workflow Information

| Status | User(s) | Date/Time | Step |
|------------------|--|---------------------|------------------------|
| Submitted | Whittington, Karl Peter | 06/04/2024 10:24 AM | Submitted for Approval |
| Approved | Whittington, Karl Peter | 06/04/2024 10:24 AM | Unit Approval |
| Approved | Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal | 08/26/2024 10:28 AM | College Approval |
| Pending Approval | Jenkins, Mary Ellen Bigler Hanlin, Deborah Kay Hilty, Michael Neff, Jennifer Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal Steele, Rachel Lea | 08/26/2024 10:28 AM | ASCCAO Approval |

DRAFT SYLLABUS: The History of Photography
HISTART 3610?

Spring 2025

3 Credits

Location: TBA

Time: W/F 12:45-2:05pm

Format of Instruction: In person

Instructor & Contact Info: Hannah Slater (.166)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an overview of the history of photography from its invention in the early 19th century to the present. In this course, we will examine how photography as a form of art and communication, including its use as a mode of creative expression, documentation, advertising, and journalism. Through lectures, readings, discussions, and research, students will learn about the key personalities, movements, technologies, and complexities surrounding both the practice and notions of photography. This course is designed to follow the history of photography as it developed chronologically and offers a global perspective of the medium as it has been used globally, raising questions about representation, gender, accessibility, and political gain, among others.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify major figures, movements, and technological developments in the history of photography.
- Apply the tools of formal analysis and critical thinking to photographs, both familiar and unknown (visual literacy).
- Critically evaluate textual analyses of photography in terms of their context, rhetoric, use of evidence, and interpretations (critical analysis).
- Assess and critique differing perspectives on key debates within photographic history, including the political and ideological uses of photography and how these have changed over time.
- Understand key terms related to photography, including technical vocabulary, artists' names, and movements.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

You must read the two books listed below in their entirety (available at the OSU bookstore). All other required readings on the Course Schedule will be available on Carmen.

- *Camera Lucida*, by Roland Barthes (1982)
- *On Photography* by Susan Sontag (1977)

GRADING POLICY

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Response Essays | 30% |
| Quizzes | 20% |
| Midterm Exam | 15% |
| Final Exam | 15% |
| Attendance and Participation | 20% |

GRADING SCALE

This course uses the OSU Standard Grading Scale:

93 - 100 (A)

90 - 92.9 (A-)

87 - 89.9 (B+)

83 - 86.9 (B)

80 - 82.9 (B-)

77 - 79.9 (C+)

73 - 76.9 (C)

70 - 72.9 (C-)

67 - 69.9 (D+)

60 - 66.9 (D)

Below 60 (E)

ASSIGNMENTS

In this course, you must write three response essays, each about 2 pages in length. See the Course Schedule for due dates. For every day an essay is late, the grade will drop by 1/3 of a letter grade. Essays will be checked using anti-plagiarism software.

QUIZZES AND EXAMS

In addition to the response essays, you must take two in-class quizzes related to a specific reading. See the Course Schedule for the date of these quizzes. You may not make up a missed quiz. Rather, you may have the opportunity to earn extra credit to offset the missed points.

The midterm and final exams will be taken in-class. Please let me know if you need any special accommodations to take either the midterm or final (such as taking the exams at the testing center). The exams will consist of a combination of image identifications, short answer questions, vocabulary definitions, and an essay question. See the Course Schedule for the dates of each exam.

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION

Attendance: Regular attendance to class is required to be successful in this class. You are expected to be at every class for the duration of the class meeting time. Showing up more than 10 minutes late or leaving 10 minutes early will be counted as late. Being late 3 times counts as an unexcused absence. Showing up halfway through class will be counted as an

unexcused absence. You are allowed 3 unexcused absences in the course before your grade is affected.

1-3 unexcused absences = you will earn 100/100 in attendance

4 unexcused absences = you will earn 80/100 in attendance

5 unexcused absences = you will earn 50/100 in attendance

More than 5 unexcused absences = 0/100 in attendance

Participation: In addition to attending class, it is also important to participate in class. This means that you are expected to ask questions, contribute comments, participate in small group and class discussions, and taking notes. Depending on the instructor's evaluation of your participation, your grade will fall into the following categories:

Participates Often = 100/100

Participates Sometimes = 75/100

Rarely Participates = 50/100

Has Never Participated = 0/100

COURSE POLICIES/UNIVERSITY POLICIES

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>.

ACCESSIBILITY & DISABILITY SERVICES:

The university strives to maintain a healthy and accessible environment to support student learning in and out of the classroom. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic, or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion.

If you are isolating while waiting for a COVID-19 test result, please let me know immediately. Those testing positive for COVID-19 should refer to the [Safe and Healthy Buckeyes site](#) for resources. Beyond five days of the required COVID-19 isolation period, I may rely on Student Life Disability Services to establish further reasonable accommodations. You can connect with them at slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; or slds.osu.edu.

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS:

Ohio State has had a longstanding practice of making reasonable academic accommodations for students' religious beliefs and practices in accordance with applicable law. In 2023, Ohio State updated its practice to align with new state legislation. Under this new provision, students must be in early communication with their instructors regarding any known accommodation requests for religious beliefs and practices, providing notice of specific dates for which they request alternative accommodations within 14 days after the first instructional day of the course. Instructors in turn shall not question the sincerity of a student's religious or spiritual belief system in reviewing such requests and shall keep requests for accommodations confidential.

With sufficient notice, instructors will provide students with reasonable alternative accommodations with regard to examinations and other academic requirements with respect to students' sincerely held religious beliefs and practices by allowing up to three absences each semester for the student to attend or participate in religious activities. Examples of religious accommodations can include, but are not limited to, rescheduling an exam, altering the time of a student's presentation, allowing make-up assignments to substitute for missed class work, or flexibility in due dates or research responsibilities. If concerns arise about a requested accommodation, instructors are to consult their tenure initiating unit head for assistance.

A student's request for time off shall be provided if the student's sincerely held religious belief or practice severely affects the student's ability to take an exam or meet an academic requirement and the student has notified their instructor, in writing during the first 14 days after the course begins, of the date of each absence. Although students are required to provide notice within the first 14 days after a course begins, instructors are strongly encouraged to work with the student to provide a reasonable accommodation if a request is made outside the notice period. A student may not be penalized for an absence approved under this policy.

If students have questions or disputes related to academic accommodations, they should contact their course instructor, and then their department or college office. For questions

or to report discrimination or harassment based on religion, individuals should contact the [Office of Institutional Equity](#).

Policy: [Religious Holidays, Holy Days and Observances](#)

HEALTH & SAFETY

Mental Health:

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling 614--292--5766. CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on call counselor when CCS is closed at 614--292--5766 and 24 hour emergency help is also available 24/7 by dialing 988 to reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

Sexual Misconduct/Relationship Violence:

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories (e.g., race). If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleix.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at titleix@osu.edu.

Diversity:

The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity in the student body. Our programs and curricula reflect our multicultural society and global economy and seek to provide opportunities for students to learn more about persons who are different from them. We are committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding, and mutual

respect among each member of our community; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

COURSE SCHEDULE (subject to change)

Week 1: Course Introduction: What is Photography?

Readings:

Alan Trachtenberg, "Photography and Social Knowledge" (Carmen)
Andrew Szegedy-Maszak, "Picturing the Past" (Carmen)

Week 2: Invention or Discovery: Early Writing on Photography

Readings:

William Henry Fox Talbot, *The Pencil of Nature* (online)
Louis Jacques Mande Daguerre, "Daguerreotype" in *Classic Essays on Photography*, ed. Alan Trachtenberg (1980), 11-13 (Carmen)

Week 3: The Visible and the Invisible

*Response Essay 1: Read and respond to *Camera Lucida* (1980) by Roland Barthes

Week 4: Natural and/or Cultural Specimens

Readings:

Larry J. Schaaf, "Anna Atkin's Cyanotypes: An Experiment in Photographic Publishing," (Carmen)
Malcolm Daniel, "Mission Heliographique, 1851" on the Heilbrunn Timeline Of Art History: [Mission Héliographique, 1851 | Essay | The Metropolitan Museum of Art | Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History \(metmuseum.org\)](#)

Week 5: Tourism and Photography: 19th – 20th century "Armchair Traveling"

Readings:

Roslyn Poignant, "The Making of Professional 'Savages': from P.T. Barnum to the Sunday Times" from *Photography's Other Histories* (Carmen)
Oliver Wendell Holmes, "The Stereoscope and the Stereograph" (Carmen)

*Quiz #1 (in-class): Quiz will be on content included in Weeks 1-5.

Week 6: American Landscape Photography

Readings:

Rosalind Krauss, "Photography's Discursive Spaces: Landscape/View" (Carmen)

Martin A. Berger, "Overexposed: Whiteness and the Landscape Photography of Carl Watkins" (Carmen)

Week 7: Studios & Portraiture

*Response Essay 2: Read and respond to "Gesture, Pose, Mimesis: Seydou Keita's Portraits" by Okwui Enwezor (Carmen)

Week 8: Pictorialism and The Snapshot

Readings:

Alfred Stieglitz, *Pictorial Photography* (Carmen)

Christina Kotchemidova, "Why We Say 'Cheese': Producing the Smile in Snapshot Photography" (Carmen)

Douglas R. Nickel "The Snapshot: Some Notes" (Carmen)

Week 9: *Midterm Exam* (in-class)

The Midterm exam covers content included in Weeks 1-8

Week 10: Social Networks and Types

Readings:

Katherine Hoffman, "The Family of Man: An Introduction" (Carmen)

Graham Clark, "Public Faces, Private Lives: August Sander and the Social Typology of the Portrait Photograph (Carmen)

Week 11: Documentary Photography

Readings:

Lewis W. Hine, "Social Photography" in *Classic Essays on Photography* 109-113 (Carmen)

Susan Sontag, *On Photography*

*Quiz #2 (in-class): Quiz will cover content included in Weeks 6-11.

Week 12: Visit to OSU Special Collections

Week 13: The FSA and Picture Magazines

*Response Essay 3: Read and respond to:

"Case Study: Image Analysis: The Example of Migrant Mother by Liz Wells (Carmen)

"The Great Depression: The Economics of Photography" by Robert Hirsch (Carmen)

Week 14: The Ethics of Photographing War and Trauma

Readings:

Susan Sontag, *Regarding the Pain of Others*, excerpts (Carmen)

Errol Morris, "Which Came First, the Chicken of the Egg?" *The New York Times*,
(Carmen)
Michael L. Sand, "Latent Image: W. Eugene Smith Controversial Minamata
Photograph"

Week 15: Photography in the Expanded Field

Readings:

Tom Gunning, "The Cinema of Attraction: Early Film, Its Spectator and the
Avant-Garde" (Carmen)

Marta Braun, "Marey, Muybridge, and Motion Pictures" (Carmen)

Week 16: *Final Exam* (in-person)

The final exam covers content included in Weeks 10-16

History of Art BA Curricular Map

Program Learning Goals:

Goal 1: Students gain a general familiarity with and knowledge of major art historical monuments

Goal 2: Students acquire a basic understanding of current approaches in art history as well as an acquaintance with the history of the discipline

Goal 3: Students acquire a fundamental knowledge of the materials and techniques of art making and an understanding of the relevance of this knowledge for art historical interpretation

Goal 4: Students learn to look, read, and think critically as well as to articulate and support sustained arguments

Goal 5: Students acquire the fundamental writing and research skills necessary to produce art historical scholarship

| | Goal 1 | Goal 2 | Goal 3 | Goal 4 | Goal 5 |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Required Courses Offered by Unit | | | | | |
| Group A | | | | | |
| HA 4001 | Beginning/ Intermediate | Beginning/ Intermediate | Beginning/ Intermediate | Intermediate | Intermediate |
| HA 4005 (may be substituted for a studio art course) | Beginning/ Intermediate | Beginning/ Intermediate | Intermediate/ Advanced | Beginning/ Intermediate | Beginning/ Intermediate |
| HA 4010 | Intermediate | Intermediate/ Advanced | Beginning/ Intermediate | Intermediate | Intermediate |
| HA 4016 | Advanced | Advanced | Advanced | Advanced | Advanced |
| Group B (6 courses) * | | | | | |
| 2000- and 3000- Level Courses (max of 2) | Beginning | Beginning | Beginning | Beginning | Beginning |
| 4000-level | Advanced | Intermediate/ Advanced | Intermediate/ Advanced | Intermediate/ Advanced | Intermediate/ Advanced |
| 5000-level | Advanced | Advanced | Advanced | Advanced | Advanced |
| Group C (2 courses) | | | | | |
| 4000-level | Advanced | Intermediate/ Advanced | Intermediate/ Advanced | Intermediate/ Advanced | Intermediate/ Advanced |
| 5000-level | Advanced | Advanced | Advanced | Advanced | Advanced |

* Undergraduates would take HA 3610 in Group B of the major, as an elective

