



Graciela Iturbide, *Mujer Ángel, Desierto de Sonora*, 1979

Monday and Wednesday 4 to 5:15 PM
Moulton Center 167
Prerequisite: none
3 credits

Instructor: Denise Johnson
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Office: Moulton Center 217 A
Office Hours by appointment:
Tuesday 1 - 3:30 PM
Wednesday 1 to 2 PM
Thursday 1 - 3:30 PM

AH 331 - History of Photography offers a survey of photography from 1839 to the present. Emphasis will be placed on the relationship of photography to other arts and current critical issues in the field.

Photography is so much a part of our private and public lives, and it plays such an influential role in our environment that we often forget to examine its aesthetics, meanings, and histories. Considering fine art and mass media practices, the class will examine the works of individual practitioners as well as the emergence of technologies, aesthetic directions, markets, and critical theories. During our investigations, a conversational approach will be prioritized during class discussions. Students will be encouraged through assignments and readings to bring a critical eye that is actively engaged in questioning through a shared learning experience.

Objectives & Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete the course will:

1. Learn major artists and photographic movements from its invention to the present;
2. Be able to identify and compare the aesthetic and philosophical characteristics associated with the major movements of fine art photography;
3. Become familiar with the resources in fine art photography that are available to be directly experienced in Southern California;
4. Analyze and evaluate the social, political, and technological developments of art photography;
5. Learn the predominant theoretical ideologies influencing photographic movements and be able to recognize and apply them when looking at photographic works;
6. and Synthesize strategies in critical theory to write analyses of photographic works.

Program Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete the course will:

1. Develop the writing competencies used in the discipline of art history;
2. Locate works of art and visual culture within the context of world art history and articulate the relationship between intended meaning/function and audience response in specific cultural and historical contexts;
3. Conduct advanced art historical research using the full range of scholarly resources;
4. Recognize the theoretical concerns of art history and its allied disciplines, and discuss and apply specific theoretical perspectives to a given art historical context and to their own research projects.

General Education Learning Outcomes

7AI Artistic Inquiry: students compose critical or creative works that embody or analyze conceptually an artistic form at a baccalaureate/pre-professional level.

7SI Social Inquiry: Student identifies, frames and analyzes social and/or historical structures and institutions in the world today.



Lee Miller, *Portrait of Space, Near Siwa, Egypt, 1937.*

Materials

Instructional Websites

This class will be taught from the instructional website The Slide Projector at, www.theslideprojector.com. Lecture presentations, assignments, and other course materials will be available for you at this site and you will need to access it regularly.

Additional essays will be posted to the AH 331 Assignments page at www.theslideprojector.com and exams will be taken outside of class on Blackboard at blackboard.chapman.edu.

Required Textbook

Mary Warner Marien, *Photography: A Cultural History* (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2015). ISBN 978-0205988945

Recommended Texts

Sylvan Barnet, *A Short Guide to Writing About Art*, any edition, 10th or 11th preferred (Boston: Pearson Education Inc.). ISBN 978-0205708253

Roland Barthes, *Camera Lucida: Reflections on Photography* (New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1989).

Richard Bolton, ed. *The Contest of Meaning: Critical Histories of Photography* (Massachusetts: MIT Press, 1993).

Naomi Rosenblum, *A History of Women Photographers* (New York: Abbeville Press, 2010).

Rebecca Solnit, *River of Shadows: Eadward Muybridge and the Technological Wild West* (New York: Penguin Books, 2003).

Susan Sontag, *On Photography* (New York: Anchor Books, 1990). ISBN 978-0312420093



Marvin E. Newman, *Halloween, South Side*, 1951.

Instructional Strategies

Students will work toward course objectives through: lecture presentations; student reports on readings, active participation in class discussions; in class partner exercises; reading assignments; writing assignments; exams; viewing images, videos, and audio representations of photographic works; and viewing of an off-campus exhibition that will require a commute, and may entail a parking fee, and/or entrance fee.

Major Study Units

- Writing with light
 - Victorian optical amusements
 - Chemical experiments
- The Daguerrotype
- The Calotype
- Wet-Plate Collodion
- New Images
- The Question of art
- Imaging The Other
- Amateur practices
 - Theory of sacrifices
 - Kodak
 - Snapshot
- Pictorialism
 - Photo Secession
 - Camera Work
- New Vision
 - Straight photography
 - Modernism and the avant-garde
- Healing the Madness
 - Dada
 - Photomontage
 - Surrealism
- Documentary
 - Social reform movements
 - Photojournalism
 - FSA and FAP
 - Halftone printing
 - Life Magazine
- Decisive Moment
 - The Photographer's Eye
- Group f/64
 - Previsualization
 - Zone System
- The Family of Man
- The Americans
 - Street photography
- Vietnam War
- Postmodernism
 - Appropriation
 - Culture Wars
 - Identity Politics
 - Body Politics
- Death of photography
 - Digital vs. analog
 - Market for photography



Methods of Evaluation

Students will be evaluated on the presentation of evidence that they have achieved the course objectives; the frequency and quality of their contributions to in-class discussion; on their ability to make oral and written critical observations about the artists, movements, and concepts presented in the course; on the quality of the writing they present in written assignments; and on their ability to demonstrate growth in their understanding and application of the history and theory of photographic works from its invention to the present.

There are 500 points possible, which will be earned through the following components:

Class Participation 15%

Students may earn up to 75 participation points through the following activities:

- Actively and consistently contributing to in-class discussions and applying theoretical ideas to works to earn up to 25 participation points;
- Voluntarily reporting on assigned readings during class to earn up to 25 participation points through meaningful contributions to multiple conversations over the semester;
- and Attending one lecture in the Visual Thinker Lecture Series and submitting a VTLS Report worth 25 points within two weeks of attending the event. Please be reminded that Art and Art History majors are required by the department to attend all Visual Thinker Lectures.

Writing Assignments 45%

Students will earn up to 50 points each through the following assignments written in Chicago Manual of Style (no bibliography) that reflect skilled academic research techniques and include:

- Analysis of work on view at relevant art venue, called the “Museum Analysis”;
- And Three critical essays including skilled analysis of specific photographic works in response to assigned readings;

Additionally, on at least one occasion, students will form small groups to collaboratively write a short essay responses to writing prompts given during class. This essay may earn 25 points for all participating students and cannot be made up.

Exams 30%

Students will take two exams worth 75 points each on the course Blackboard page at <https://blackboard.chapman.edu>. Due to the nature of online testing, and the multi-day duration offered to submit, exams may not be made up. Please use the class schedule to plan accordingly.

Final Presentation 10%

During our scheduled final exam period, each student will be asked to give an in-class presentation on a photograph that is of significance to you, and discuss the image up to ten minutes.

In preparation, each student will be asked to submit a presentation plan that identifies the photograph you’ll be speaking about, a methodology for your analysis, and citations for your sources worth 20 points. The presentation itself will be worth a maximum of 30 points.



Imogen Cunningham, *False Hellebore*, 1926.

Extra Credit

Students are limited to earning a maximum of 25 points, 5% of the total points possible (500), in extra credit points during the semester. Any points earned above this cap will NOT be applied to the final grade.

Grading

Points on writing assignments will be earned through committed consideration of the material, demonstration of learned concepts and language, and evidence of critical thinking. In addition to the individual requirements, each writing assignment will earn points based on rigorous analysis, demonstrated comprehension of assigned readings, critical reflection, thoughtful response to questions posed, and active engagement with the material.

A	100 - 97%	500 - 483 points	Writing demonstrates excellence in both articulation and critical thinking. Art historical methodologies are used thoughtfully and with exceptional skill. All questions are answered thoroughly, and discussion points carry beyond basic responses with sophistication. Credible academic sources were employed to support the author's positions, and Chicago Manual of Style citation rules were carefully followed. The written assignment leaves little to no room for improvement, and demonstrates committed interest in the discipline.
A -	96 - 90%	482 - 448	
B +	89 - 87%	447 - 433	Writing demonstrates clear focus and an above average consideration of the subject matter. While all questions have been answered, there is room for improvement by carrying the analysis and discussion beyond a basic response. The work exhibits potential for excellence however, a clearer application and understanding of the art historical methodologies is needed. Author has met the requirements for research and citations, but the stated positions could be significantly served by additional research.
B	86 - 84%	432 - 418	
B -	83 - 80%	417 - 398	
C +	79 - 77%	397 - 383	Most of the material is understood, but the focus is not entirely clear, and analysis is cursory. Question responses could be more fully realized, and the material, more thoroughly examined. Citation issues are present, little research was executed in support of the author's positions, and/or sources are not credible or academic. There are issues with language that make the writing somewhat difficult to understand.
C	76 - 74%	382 - 368	
C -	73 - 70%	367 - 348	
D +	69 - 67%	347 - 333	Writing demonstrates little understanding or connection with the material and is flawed in content and form. Question responses do not provide evidence of critical thinking. Citation issues are present, no research was executed in support of the author's positions, and/or sources are not credible or academic. There are issues with language that make the writing very difficult to understand.
D	66 - 64%	332 - 318	
D -	63 - 60%	317 - 298	
F	59% or less	297 - 0	Work fails to meet any requirements satisfactorily.
Resubmit			Assignment is incomplete but shows potential. Student is offered one additional class day to revise, add to, and resubmit the assignment.

Instructor Policies

Commitment to the Conversation

Conversation and debate will be central to the learning experience this semester. Art historians do not work in secluded spaces that are entirely disconnected from the world around them. Given the importance of engagement, students will be expected to fully commit to in-class dialogues and will agree to refrain from texting, emailing, and completing out-of-class assignments during lecture. Laptop, tablet, and smart phone use will only be permitted when the devices are being used for the purpose of understanding AH 331 material. Seriously!!! Students found to be using laptops and tablets during class for activities other than those related to our undertaking may be asked to leave class until their full attention can be directed to our course.

Attendance

Regular attendance is mandatory. You are permitted two unexcused absence without damage to your grade. More than two missed classes will potentially lower your grade, and missing four or more classes will put you at risk of failing the class.

Please also be punctual! Students arriving 15 or more minutes after class begins should expect to be marked absent for the entire class session.

Respect is Key

We may consider provocative, challenging, even vulgar subject matter in this class. It is assumed that each of us undertakes this learning endeavor with honorable intention and a commitment to understanding diverse perspectives and histories. When this is difficult, we agree to keep an open mind and to respect all views and identities, even those with which we do not agree. While engaging in class activities, we agree to refrain from using derogatory, inflammatory, or otherwise disrespectful language. We do such, fully committed to the principles of academic freedom, holding “that censorship is always suspect, that intimidation is always repugnant, and that attempts to discourage constitutionally protected expression are antithetical to the central focus of the university's mission: education and discovery of new knowledge,” and that these principles are “accompanied by a corresponding principle of responsibility.” (from the Chapman University Faculty Manual, 2016)



Ilsa Bing, *Self-Portrait in Mirrors*, 1931.

Timeliness

Please submit coursework that is due on Blackboard by the beginning of class whether you will be in attendance or absent.

Late Assignments

You may submit one assignment, one class day late. The late assignment will not be marked down, however any assignments turned in more than one class late, or in addition to the one accepted assignment, will only receive credit at the discretion of the instructor.

Chapman University Policies

Academic Integrity Policy

Chapman University is a community of scholars which emphasizes the mutual responsibility of all members to seek knowledge honestly and in good faith. Students are responsible for doing their own work, and for submitting coursework completed this semester, for this class. Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated anywhere in the university. Academic dishonesty of any kind will be subject to sanction by the instructor/administrator and referral to the university's Academic Integrity Committee, which may impose additional sanctions up to and including expulsion. Please see the full description of Chapman University's policy on Academic Integrity at www.chapman.edu/academics/academic-integrity/index.aspx

Students with Disabilities Policy

In compliance with ADA guidelines, students who have any condition, either permanent or temporary, that might affect their ability to perform in this class are encouraged to inform the instructor at the beginning of the term. Upon recommendation of the Center for Academic Success, adaptations of teaching methods, class materials, including text and reading materials or testing may be made as needed to provide for equitable participation.

Equity and Diversity Policy

Chapman University is committed to ensuring equality and valuing diversity. Students and professors are reminded to show respect at all times as outlined in Chapman's Harassment and Discrimination Policy: at <http://www.chapman.edu/faculty-staff/human-resources/eoo.aspx>. Any violations of this policy should be discussed with the professor, the Dean of Students and/or otherwise reported in accordance with this policy.

Resources

Writing Center

All Chapman students are welcome to meet with Writing Center tutors, who can help you with any part of the writing process, from understanding the assignment and finding a significant topic to editing your final drafts. The Writing Center is located in DeMille Hall 130. To guarantee time with a tutor, call (714) 997-6828 or email tutor@chapman.edu to schedule an appointment.

Food Pantry

Students in need of access to the food pantry should contact Sherri Maeda-Akau in the Office of Residence Life and First Year Experience at maeda@chapman.edu.

Sexual Assault

If you have been sexually assaulted, make sure you are in safe place. Call 911 in an emergency, Chapman University Public Safety at (714)997-6721 and, Chapman University's Sexual Assault Information Line at (714) 744-7000. Orange Police Department can be reached at (714) 744-7444.

Student Psychological Counseling

If you are in need of help or support immediately you can contact:

CU Student Psychological Counseling - (714) 997-6778

Suicide Prevention Hotline - (800) 273-8255

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Hotline - (800) 662-HELP

National AIDS/STD Info Hotline - (800) 458-5231

Prepared by Denise Johnson, Spring 2017

Class Schedule and Required Reading - This is a tentative schedule that may change. Assignment directions and due dates will be posted on The Slide Projector. Updates will be announced in class, on lecture presentations, and modified on the Syllabus page of The Slide Projector.		
Date	Discussion Topic	Assignment and Reading Due
August 28	Introduction	
August 30	Before Photography	Introduction - page 7
September 4	Labor Day	
September 6	The Daguerreotype	Pages 8 - 16 & "The Daguerreotype"
September 11	Photography's Re-Invention	Pages 16 - 29 & 56 - 73
September 13	The Expanding Domain	Pages 30 - 41 & 43 - 55
September 18	New Subjects	Essay 1 Due
September 20	Imaging the West	Pages 42 , 96 - 140 & 222 - 227
September 25	Question of Art	Pages 74 - 95 & "Is Photo Among the Fine Arts?"
September 27	Amateur Visions	
October 2	Photographing The Other	Pages 140 - 159, 214 - 222 & "Body and the Archive"
October 4	Pictorialism	Pages 160 - 179 & 182 - 194
October 9	Studies in Motion	Pages 180 - 181, 194 - 199, & 208 - 214
October 11	New Vision	Pages, 230 - 240 & 260 - 266
October 16	Social Documentary	Midterm Exam Due
October 18	Healing the Madness	Pages 200 - 208, 228 - 229, 240 - 259 & "Games of the Doll"
October 23	Between Art & Documentary	Essay 2 Due
October 25	The Decisive Moment	Pages 266 - 335 & "The Photographer's Eye"
October 30	Group f/64	"Daybooks"
November 1	The Family of Man?	Pages 336 - 347
November 6	The Americans	Museum Analysis Due
November 8	Snapshot Aesthetic	Pages 348 - 391 & "America Seen Through Photos"
November 13	Through the Lens of Culture	Presentation Plan Due
November 15	New Topographics	"Work of Art in Age of" & "Visual Pleasure and Narrative"
November 20	Thanksgiving Recess	
November 22		
November 27	Culture Wars	Essay 3 Due
November 29	The Simulacra	Pages 392 - 491
December 4	Digital Ciphers	Chapter 14
December 6	Death of Photography?	Final Exam Due
December 11	Final Exam 4:15 to 6:45 pm	