

Effective Semester: Spring 2024

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Title: History of Photography

Course Number: ARTH 201

Credits: 3

Total Weeks: 14 (Fall, Spring)
12 (Summer)

Total Hours: 39

Course Level: ☐ First Year ☒ Second Year
☐ New ☐ Revised Course
☐ Replacement Course

Department: Humanities

Department Head: P. Best

Former Course Code(s) and Number(s) (if applicable): N/A

Pre-requisites (If there are no prerequisites, type NONE): ARTH 100 or equivalent

Co-requisite Statement (List if applicable or type NONE): NONE

Precluded Courses: N/A

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A comprehensive chronology of major photographic theories, technologies, and styles. The course will introduce students to crucial topics in the development of photography across the world, from its invention in the 19th century to the emergence and widespread popularization of digital and mobile technologies in our current era.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- recognize early developments of photography as a cultural, social, historical, economic, and artistic phenomenon.
- discuss the functions and purposes of photography in different cultures and societies between the mid-19th and early 21st centuries.
- describe diverse technical, historical, and political aspects involved in the production of photographs across different countries, periods, styles.
- recognize main properties amongst different photographic typologies.
- apply diverse photographic theories, techniques, and vocabulary in the production of original pieces of work.

INSTRUCTION AND GRADING

Instructional (Contact) Hours:

Type	Duration
Lecture	39
Seminars/Tutorials	
Laboratory	
Field Experience	
Other (<i>specify</i>):	
Total	39

Grading System: Letter Grades ☒ Percentage ☒ Pass/Fail ☐ Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory ☐ Other ☐

Specify passing grade: 50%

Evaluation Activities and Weighting (total must equal 100%)

Assignments: 15% <i>Specify number of, variety, and nature of assignments:</i> Lowest score is dropped out of a total of two in-class assignments	Lab Work: %	Participation: 10% <i>Specify nature of participation:</i> Attendance, in-class participation, engagement.	Project: 15% <i>Specify nature of project:</i> One photo-essay accompanied by an oral presentation in class.
Quizzes/Test: 10% Two lowest scores are dropped out of a total of six online quizzes.	Midterm Exam: 20%	Final Exam: 25%	Other: 5% (Class summary report)

TEXT(S) AND RESOURCE MATERIALS

Provide a full reference for each text and/or resource material and include whether required/not required.

All readings and supplementary materials are provided by the instructor on My CC.

COURSE TOPICS

List topics and sequence covered.

Week	Topic
Week 1	Introduction to The Course; Outcomes; Structure; Classroom conduct; College Policy / What Does a Photograph Say?
Week 2	Early Years: Daguerreotypes and Calotypes / Depictions: Portraiture, Identity, and Celebrity Culture (I)
Week 3	Depictions: Portraiture, Identity, and Celebrity Culture (II) / Depiction or Detection? Photography As Art.
Week 4	Depiction or Detection? Photography as Science / Assignment One.
Week 5	Landscapes, Places, and Documents: The Displacement of Painting / The Vernacular: Documentation and Progress.
Week 6	The Vernacular: War Photography / Midterm Exam
Week 7	Midterm Follow-up Session / The Vernacular: The Birth of the Snapshot
Week 8	Social Documentation/Photography and the Avant-Garde: Straight Photography in Europe
Week 9	Photojournalism: War Reportage and the Post-War Era / Fashion Photography, Celebrity Portraiture, and Consumer Culture
Week 10	Assignment Two / Photography and Meaning: Identity and the Politics of Representation

Week 11	Analog, Digital, Mobile: Photography in the 21 st Century / Snap! Mobile Photography in the Age of Digital Distribution
Week 12	Final Thoughts: Photography in the Age of A.I. / Assignment #3.
Week 13	Oral Presentations.
Week 14	FINAL EXAM

NOTES

1. Students are required to follow all College policies. Policies are available on the website at: [Coquitlam College Policies](#)
2. To find out how this course transfers, visit the BC Transfer Guide at: bctransferguide.ca

Last Reviewed: September 2023

Last Revised: September 2023