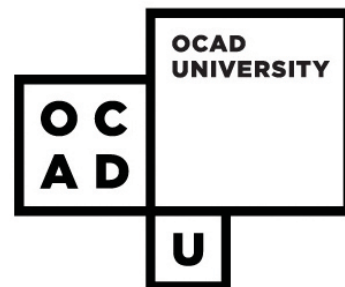


## FACULTY OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

100 McCaul St. 3rd floor, room 315

Tel: 416.977.6000 ext 372



### SEMESTER & YEAR: SUMMER 2013

**Course Title:** Into the 21st Century: Photographic Practices, Theory and Criticism

**Course Number and section:** VISA 3B43 , Section 01

**Course Day & Time:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30am–11:30am

**Room & Building:** Room 544, 100 McCaul St.

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**Credit Value:** 0.50 Credit(s)

**Pre-requisites:** 1.0 Liberal Studies credits at the 100 level including the first year writing course with a minimum passing grade of 60% and an overall average of 60%.

**Instructor:** Dr. Matthew Ryan Smith

**Email:** msmith@faculty.ocadu.ca

**Office Hour:** Tuesdays, 11:30am-12:30pm

**Office Location:** Room 325, 100 McCaul St.

**Course Website:** <https://canvas.ocadu.ca>

### COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course will provide an overview of recent photographic practices and an examination of the theoretical debates and key writings on photography and genre in the modern and contemporary contexts. Critical areas to be discussed include the role of photographic realism, the documentary form and social change, staged photography, photomontage and digital convergence. The place of the photograph will be explored within the broader contexts of concurrent conditions in contemporary art and society, which will provide a range of perspectives on the modernist and post-modernist agendas which have framed practices leading to the present.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this course, students will:

- Have gained an understanding of key movements, photographers, and technological developments impacting the development of photography in the twenty-first century.
- Be able to situate works of twenty-first century photography in the contexts of both art history and broader cultural and socio-political contexts.
- Have developed skills in a range of modes of writing and analysis pertinent to the study of photography's history, including formal analysis, comparative analysis, and the assessment of research sources.

### COURSE ORGANIZATION

This course consists of weekly classes including some combination of lecture, discussion, and group work or exercises. **Students are expected to participate fully in all online assignments and exercises, and to regularly consult the Canvas site for this class concerning weekly assignments and activities.** Absences from class must be supported with official documentation; three unsupported absences may jeopardize your standing in the course.

## COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION SCHEDULE

	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Date Due</b>
Participation	10%	Ongoing
Photo Analysis	15%	July 9
Exhibition Review	20%	July 23
Peer Review	5%	Exchange: August 1 Submit Review: August 6
Presentation	25%	August 13 & 15
Final Research Paper	25%	August 16, 5:00pm

Complete descriptions of assignments, including objectives and grading criteria for specific assignments, will be distributed later in the course. Many of these assignments have a required online component, to be completed as a part of the total grade weighting.

### POLICY ON LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late submission of assignments will result in a 5% deduction of the total grade on the assignment *per day*, excluding weekends, to a maximum of 1 week (-20%). Assignments submitted *after the beginning of class on the day they are due* will be subject to a 5% late deduction. In case of illness or other special circumstance, notification should be given to the instructor and the Program Office as soon as possible and before the deadline in question. The Liberal Studies office no longer accepts or date-stamps student work.

\* Late work must be submitted to the TAs digitally through 'My Courses' or my OCAD email (which will provide a 'date-stamp'), **and** be followed by a hard copy submitted to their mailbox within 24 hours.

\* Online activities with specific deadlines (including peer-review) will not be accepted late

### CLASS CONDUCT AND EXPECTATIONS

1) You must ensure you are properly registered for the course. If you have any concerns about your registration status, you may confirm on-line, confirm with the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences Office, or contact the Registrar. Please first check your registration and read the codes carefully (the codes are clearly explained in the Course Calendar which is available on-line at [www.ocad.ca](http://www.ocad.ca)).

2) You are expected to conduct yourself in a manner respectful of your instructor and your fellow students. This includes, at a minimum:

- Arriving on time
- Turning off your cell phone and your laptop (unless otherwise agreed upon with the instructor)
- If late, entering the classroom with the least disruption
- Not interrupting or speaking when someone else has the floor

### ABSENCES AND MAKE UP TESTS

Only under very special circumstances may students hand in late assignments or be absent from classes or tests/exams. If a student is sick, it is incumbent upon the student to notify the Instructor

(and the Faculty Office, in the case of missed tests, mid-term exams or final exams) with proper documentation as soon as possible. All exams carry an administrative charge of \$70. Students with special needs must contact the office for Students with Disabilities, ext. 339 at least two weeks prior to the test or assignment, if free and confidential resources are to be provided.

### **ABSENCE FOR RELIGIOUS PURPOSES**

A student who foresees a conflict between a religious obligation and any scheduled class assignments, including the final examination, must notify his/her instructor in writing and in the case of final examinations must make a written request to the appropriate Faculty Office within three weeks of the first class. Late requests for an exam deferral are subject to a fee of \$70.

### **PLAGIARISM AND REFERENCING YOUR RESEARCH SOURCES**

Plagiarism is the act of taking someone else's ideas, opinions, writings, etc. and representing them as one's own. You plagiarize whenever you borrow another scholar's ideas or quote directly from a work without giving credit through proper citation or acknowledgement. Plagiarism is a serious offense at OCADU (please see OCADU's Policy in the OCADU Academic Calendar). Any assignment in which the ideas of another author are intentionally represented without acknowledgement and/or presented as the student's own work will receive a grade of zero. Please see [http://www.ocad.ca/students/academic\\_integrity.htm#plagiarism](http://www.ocad.ca/students/academic_integrity.htm#plagiarism) for more information.

The Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences and the Writing and Learning Centre at OCADU have developed a set of 'OCADU Writing Style Guidelines' for students to consult with regard to proper research citation. Copies of the Writing Style Guidelines are available at the Writing and Learning Centre and online. You can also consult the MLA, APA, or Chicago style guides online through the library website. Please see: [http://www.ocad.ca/library/how\\_do\\_i/find\\_style\\_guides.htm](http://www.ocad.ca/library/how_do_i/find_style_guides.htm) for more information.

### **ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

Each student has final responsibility for her or his conduct. Students are expected to be aware of and abide by the regulations as they have been established in OCADU's academic and non-academic policies, which can be found on the OCADU website at <http://www.ocad.ca/students.htm> under "Student Policies". These policies outline the responsibility of students to "conduct themselves appropriately and reflect the highest standards of integrity in non-academic as well as academic behaviour". All allegations of misconduct will be reported and investigated as per the current policies.

### **WEEKLY READINGS & CLASS SCHEDULE**

#### **July 2 – Introduction**

Readings: Walter Benjamin, "A Short History of Photography"

(Optional): Susan Sontag, "In Plato's Cave"

Film screening: Chris Marker – "La Jette" (1962)

### **July 4 – The Disciplinary Frame**

Readings: John Tagg, “Evidence, Truth and Order: Photographic Records and the Growth of the State”

Allen Sekula, “The Body and the Archive”

(Optional): Louis Althusser, “Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses”

### **July 9 – Photography and Memory**

Readings: Roland Barthes, Extracts from *Camera Lucida* (pgs. 25-51 , 67-77)

Marita Sturken, “The Image as Memorial: Personal Photographs in Cultural Memory”

(Optional): Michael Fried, “Barthes’s *Punctum*”

### **Photo Analysis Due**

### **July 11 – Documentary, Reportage and Photojournalism**

Readings: Martha Rosler, “In, Around, and Afterthoughts (On Documentary Photography)”

James Curtis, “Making Sense of Documentary Photography,”

Film Screening: Ron Fricke, “Baraka” (1992)

### **July 16 – The Social Function of Images**

Readings: Walter Benjamin, “Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction”

Maren Stange, “‘Symbols of the Ideal Life’: Tugwell, Stryker and the FSA Photography Project”

(Optional): Shawn Michelle Smith, “The Evidence of Lynching Photographs”

### **July 18 – War Photography**

Readings: Mark Reinhardt, “Picturing Violence: Aesthetics and the Anxiety of Critique”

Susan Sontag, Excerpts from *Regarding the Pain of Others* (pgs. 3-39)

John Berger, “Photographs of Agony”

Film screening: “War Photographer” (2001)

### **July 23 – Image and Identity**

Readings: Louis Kaplan, “Performing Community: Nikki S. Lee’s Photographic Rites of Passing”

Simon Watney, “Photography and AIDS”

(Optional): bell hooks, “In Our Glory: Photography and Black Life”

### **Exhibition Review Due**

### **July 25 – Vernacular Photography**

Readings: Susan Murray, “Digital Images, Photo-Sharing, and Our Shifting Notions of Everyday Aesthetics”

Catherine Whalen, “Finding ‘Me’”

(Optional): David Colman, “Me, Myself and iPhone”

Screening: “Going Down in History,” *This American Life* (TV)

### **July 30 – Autobiography and Confession**

Readings: Lisa Leibmann, “Goldin’s Years”

J. Koether, “Larry Clark – Interview”

Matthew Ryan Smith, “The Participatory Witness: An Interview with Jaret Belliveau”

Film Screening: Richard Billingham, “Fishtank” (1998)

### **August 1 – The Spectacle of Images**

Readings: Guy Debord, Extracts from *Society of the Spectacle*, (pgs. 1-20).

Anandi Ramamurthy, “Spectacles and Illusions: Photography and Commodity Culture,” (pgs. 1-22).

(Optional): Geoffrey Batchen, “Does Size Matter?”

### **Date of Peer Review Exchange**

### **August 6 – Photographic Ethics and Heritage Tourism**

Readings: Chris Thornton, “Turning Tragedy Into a Tourist Industry The hard men of Northern Ireland are conducting tours of Belfast’s trouble spots”

Tracy McNicoll, Ginanne Brownell and Carla Power, “Back from the Brink: Cities on the Rebound from Genocide, War and Destruction are Not Afraid of Using their Brutal Legacies to Help Lure Tourists”

(Optional): Ruth Robbins, “Death sentences: Confessions of Living with Dying in Narratives of Terminal Illness”

Film Screening: Coco Fusco and Guillermo Gómez –Peña, “The Couple in the Cage” (1997)

### **Peer Review Due**

### **August 8 – Digitalizing the Frame**

Readings: Corey Dzenko, “Analog to Digital: The Indexical Function of Photographic Images”

Geoffrey Batchen, “Ectoplasm: Photography in the Digital Age”

(Optional): Andy Grundberg, “The Crisis of the Real: Photography and Postmodernism”

### **August 13 – Presentations**

### **August 15 – Presentations and Course Conclusion**

### **August 18, 5:00pm – Research Papers Due**

### **UNIVERSITY RESOURCES:**

#### **Writing and Learning Centre:**

<http://www.ocadu.ca/students/wlc.htm>

Resources specific to this course, for students requiring assistance with the material and with writing or reading comprehension, and for those for whom English is a second language, are provided

through the **Writing and Learning Centre, room 1501, 113 McCaul, 5<sup>th</sup> floor (ext. 229); e-mail: [wlc@ocadu.ca](mailto:wlc@ocadu.ca)** One-on-one tutoring is available and confidential. The Writing and Learning Centre (WLC) provides free services for all students including writing, critical thinking, critical reading, and study skills, through one-on-one tutoring, group tutoring, writing and academic skills workshops, resource materials, and ESL assistance.

### **Services for Students with Disabilities**

[http://www.ocadu.ca/students/disability\\_services.htm](http://www.ocadu.ca/students/disability_services.htm)

Formal and informal student-centred supports, such as counselling, academic accommodations, and specialized services are available year-round to students registered with the Centre for Students with Disabilities. Students who think they may have learning or physical disabilities should contact **Services for Students with Disabilities (ext. 339), 51 McCaul St. 2<sup>nd</sup> level**, as soon as possible. Students must be registered with the CSD to receive accommodations and related support. It is important to register early in the semester to ensure the accommodations can be scheduled by the start of the semester.

### **Dorothy Hoover Library**

<http://www.ocadu.ca/library.htm>

OCADU Library, 113 McCaul, 2nd Floor , Room 1215

General Reference Desk: ex. 334

Art and Design Reference, Robert Fabbro: ex. 343

Art and Liberal Arts & Sciences Reference, Daniel Payne: ex. 217

Health and Wellness Centre - <http://www.ocadu.ca/students/health-wellness.htm>

Academic Integrity - [http://www.ocadu.ca/students/academic\\_integrity.htm](http://www.ocadu.ca/students/academic_integrity.htm)

Academic Advising - [http://www.ocadu.ca/students/academic\\_advising.htm](http://www.ocadu.ca/students/academic_advising.htm)