

PHOT A200: DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY

Item	Value
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	12/08/2021
Top Code	101200 - Applied Photography
Units	3 Total Units
Hours	108 Total Hours (Lecture Hours 36; Lab Hours 72)
Total Outside of Class Hours	0
Course Credit Status	Credit: Degree Applicable (D)
Material Fee	Yes
Basic Skills	Not Basic Skills (N)
Repeatable	No
Grading Policy	Standard Letter (S)

Course Description

Concepts, aesthetics and history of documentary photography. Strongly recommended for students interested in journalism, material culture and social/political issues. Students may use B&W, color or digital photography. Instruction is offered at intermediate and advanced levels. PREREQUISITE: PHOT A125. Transfer Credit: CSU.

Course Level Student Learning Outcome(s)

1. Create visual evidence, and defend in critique, work that illustrates an understanding of documentary aesthetics, editing, sequencing, and concepts covered in lecture.
2. Characterize and evaluate contemporary documentary practices in writing assignments.

Course Objectives

- 1. Evaluate contemporary documentary photographic practice within a historical context.
- 2. Analyze photographic meaning through visual language.
- 3. Assess the inter-relationship between concept and aesthetics.
- 4. Demonstrate ability to verbalize about photographs based upon visual evidence.
- 5. Experiment with structural strategies in response to assignments.
- 6. Demonstrate understanding of documentary practice in relationship to contemporary social/political issues.
- 7. Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between documentary, art, and photojournalism.
- 8. Produce an extensive self-designed final project.

Lecture Content

Historical practices of Documentary Photographer as the objective observer Photographer as a member of a community Narrative Editing Sequencing Alternative presentation strategies The role of the document in social/political contexts Revisionist history and documentary debates of the 70s and 80s Frameworks of Truth and Propaganda Photojournalism and Editorial publication Aesthetics and its relationship to photography as an agent of social/cultural change

Lab Content

Scheduled Lab Hours (36 hrs) Arranged (TBA) Lab Hours (36 hrs) The following content will be covered in a combination of scheduled and TBA lab hours: 1. Sequencing and non-narrative organizational strategies 2. Printing a group of photographs for visual coherence 3. Rights for photographing in public 4. How to access and engage your subject 5. Printing for Composition 6. Soft Proofing 7. Print Presentation Strategies 8. Screen and Web-based Presentation Strategies 9. Project Meetings 10. Field Trips

Method(s) of Instruction

- Lecture (02)
- Lab (04)

Instructional Techniques

Slide and video lectures to demonstrate historical and contemporary practices. Slide and video lectures to illustrate concepts and means of execution. Demonstration of approaches to problem solving through lecture and critique. Handouts providing technical instruction. Discussion and critique of conceptual and aesthetic strategies. Instructor and peer feedback through critique of student work. Field trips to museums, editorial offices, etc.

Reading Assignments

Students will spend 1-2 hours/week reading handouts, monographs, interviews with photographers, exhibition reviews, and analyses of visual communication strategies.

Writing Assignments

Writing assignments from 0-3 hours/week will include: Analyses of visual communication strategies and photographic language Responses to reading assignments Exhibition reports Library Book reviews Project Proposals

Out-of-class Assignments

Students will spend 6-10 hours total/week on out-of-class assignments in response to lecture material. Students will work independently out in the world to meet photographic assignment requirements. Student will utilize the digital lab to complete exercises that use problem solving situations related to assignment work. Students will demonstrate critical thinking skills in the production of photographic assignments. Students will visually communicate conceptual and aesthetic strategies in response to lecture material. These ideas must be supported verbally in individual and group critiques as well as in periodic writing assignments.

Demonstration of Critical Thinking

1. Critique of photographic assignments
2. Oral evaluation of conceptual and aesthetic reasoning of visual ideas
3. Written reports and essays
4. Final portfolio

Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration

Students will demonstrate critical thinking skills in the production of photographic assignments. Students will visually communicate conceptual and aesthetic strategies in response to lecture material.

These ideas must be supported verbally in critiques. Students are required to write critical essays on photographic publications and exhibitions. Additionally, students are required to write a proposal for their final project.

Eligible Disciplines

Photography: Masters degree in photography, fine arts, or art OR bachelors degree in any of the above AND masters degree in art history or humanities OR the equivalent. Masters degree required.

Other Resources

1. OCC Library collection. 2. Selected handout materials will be provided and distributed by the instructor.