



**School of Arts & Science
Visual Arts Dept.**

ART 150: THE CULTURAL USES OF PHOTOGRAPHY

COURSE OUTLINE

FALL 2013

1. INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor	Nancy Yakimoski
Credentials	BA (English Lit.) BA (Art & Art History), MA (Art History), PhD (Art History; ABD)
Office	Y101A; office hrs: Mon & Wed 8 – 8:30 pm (or by appointment)
Phone	250-370-3386 (voice mail)—email whenever possible
E-mail	yakimosk@camosun.bc.ca (note: no "i" at the end of my name)
Dept site	http://camosun.ca/learn/programs/visart/

2. INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

- describe various historic and contemporary photographic processes
- understand how photographs have been utilized in various socio-political contexts & disciplines, from c. 1830s to present day
- understand key issues, ethics, & consequences involved in both picture taking & application of photography
- understand and use the terminology specific to the field
- general understanding of contemporary theory as applied to discussing photography

3. REQUIRED MATERIALS & ATTENDANCE

A) ACCESS TO A COMPUTER, THE WEB, AND PBWORKS

This course has a mandatory website. You need to join ASAP (before the next class)

log on > <http://art150.pbworks.com>

> not a member? Click 'request access' and enter in the required email address.

Make sure this email address is the one you use all the time. I receive an email prompting me to grant you access, I grant you access and you are notified.

B) READINGS

On the course website, there are PDFs of the various readings.

C) REQUIRED ATTENDANCE AT THE ROYAL BC MUSEUM (DATE TBA)

Ms. Robbyn Gordon Lanning will lead a discussion about the use of photographs within the museum context and specifically, within the RBCM's First Peoples Gallery. Admission is **free**. Exact Saturday to be confirmed.

We may also have a weekday visit to the Provincial Archives. Attendance would be optional.

4. COURSE CONTENT

This course examines different ways that photography and photographs have been used by Western society in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries (emphasis on England, France, and North America). We will investigate the production of images, their circulation, consumption, applications, and interpretations, as well as their impact within the areas of portraiture, photojournalism, science, "pseudo" science, and advertising. We also consider issues and theories of spectatorship, identity, representation, gender, race, and class.

The course is divided into themes with lectures exploring these themes using different case studies and examples. For each class, specific articles provide background while the lectures provide the details. Although lectures are based on specific topics, they do build upon previous lecture material and further develop recurring themes.

Please note: this course is *not* a chronological examination of the technical developments, genres, or art movements in the history of photography although they are addressed.

Warning: *During the lectures there will be images and themes that some students may find troubling or controversial. If you feel this is going to adversely affect you or your ability to attend the lectures and/or complete assignments, you should re-consider taking this class.*

5. BASIS OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT (WEIGHTING)—DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

ASSIGN #1	LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT	19 SEPT	10%
	MIDTERM	03 OCT	25%
ASSIGN #2	A PICTURE IS WORTH A 1,000 WORDS (ESSAY)	10 OCT	15%
	ESSAY PRE-READ (OPTIONAL)	12 Nov	--
ASSIGN #3	ACADEMIC RESEARCH PROJECT (ESSAY)	21 Nov	25%
	FINAL EXAM	TBA	25%

ASSIGN #1: LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT

The assignment assists students with the beginning steps for the academic research essay. You will have a library information session to assist you. The assignment will be posted on PBworks.

ASSIGN #2: "A PICTURE IS WORTH A 1,000 WORDS"

From the list on PBworks, select a particular iconic photograph to research. Using 1,000 – 1,500 words of **essay text**, craft an academic research essay that analyzes the photo according to the criteria stated in the assignment.

EXAMS ("celebrations of knowledge")

Exams are based on a combination of lecture notes *and* lecture readings—perhaps even conducting additional research. Just reading the articles or attending the lectures will not be enough! Also, there is something from every lecture on the exams. You will be given an exam overview ahead of time—as well as the essay questions—so you can prepare. For the essay part of the exam you are allowed to bring an outline to the exam.

Missed exams & Make-up exams. If a student misses an exam due to illness or extenuating circumstances, notify me immediately (voice mail is acceptable). Medical (written) certification must be produced within **three** (3) week days of missed exam before alternate testing will be arranged; otherwise a grade of "0" will be issued for that exam. The make-up exam is scheduled within 3 weekdays of the missed exam, and is different from the one given in class.

ASSIGN #3: ACADEMIC RESEARCH ESSAY (2,500 WORDS)

This research project involves an **academic** exploration of a very specific topic regarding how photography or photograph(s) have been used by a particular person/group for a specific reason and/or to impart a specific message. Students will craft an academic essay.

A detailed overview will be posted on PBworks that outlines project objectives, deadlines, instructions, expectations, and grading criteria.

If you need any help, make an appointment with me during my office hours and show me your essay outline, thesis statement, ask questions, etc. Also, I offer students an opportunity for a "pre-read."

about the pre-read: *I look over the essay, analyze the argument, content, and structure. I make suggestions for improvement, then hand it back to you so you can keep working on it and then hand it in for grading.*

Academic consequences if source material is not cited

Not citing your sources is a form of plagiarism and, therefore, cannot receive a passing grade. If you are not sure about when and how to cite your sources, consult your *Style Manual*. Camosun has an **Academic Conduct Policy** and it is the **student's responsibility** to become familiar with the content of this policy (see the College's web site).

Late essays Late assignments will be penalized. Until I hold the assignment in my hands, **5% per day** will be deducted from the final assignment grade. The weekend (Sat & Sun) counts as 1 day. Assignments may not be accepted after 1 calendar week (7 days) from due date *unless special permission is arranged beforehand*.

6. LEARNING SUPPORT & SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist throughout your learning. For a detailed list and contact information, visit <http://www.camosun.bc.ca/services/>

Disability Resource Centre: <http://camosun.ca/services/drc/>

If a student requires academic accommodations to be made, he/she is responsible for registering with the Disability Resource Centre. All student & instructor interaction with the Centre is completely confidential. If there are other matters of which I should be aware because it may affect your participation and/or completion of assignments, speak with me immediately, or send an email. Again, such information is confidential.

7. Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is	1

		granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

8. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services, or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services, and the College web site in the Policy Section.