ART 395.01; History of Photography

Valerie L. Hedquist
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Art 395, History of Photography, 3 credits
Spring 2007, MW, 8:10-9:30; Fine Arts Building 302

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Office Hours: Monday 12-1:00; Tuesday 11-12:00, 205 Fine Arts Building

Course description: A survey introduction to the history of photography from the beginnings in France and England in the early 19th century, through technical and aesthetic developments in the United States in the 19th and 20th centuries, to the Post-modern role of photography as a fine art in the early 21st century.

Learning Objectives:
- Gain knowledge of the history of photography through primary texts, images, lectures, and discussions
- Become familiar with specific photographers, technical developments, images, and cultural contexts
- Develop improved observation and formal analysis of photography
- Understand the various critical perspectives for interpreting and evaluating photography


Requirements for Course: You are expected to attend class and participate in discussion. All assigned course work must be completed in order to earn credit for the class. Late work will lose 10 points/day. Students are expected to keep copies of all assigned work. Students will utilize Blackboard (http://courseware.umt.edu) for course syllabus, other course materials, announcements, and grades. Grades will be calculated as follows:

Image Examinations on BlackBoard, 100 points each/400 points total
Hulick and Marshall, BlackBoard Examination Questions, 100 points each/500 points total
Final Examination, 100 points total

Grades are calculated as follows, based on all work completed:
1000-920, A; 919-900, A-
899-880, B+; 879-820, B; 819-800, B-
799-780, C+; 779-720, C; 719-700, C-
699-680, D+; 679-620, D; 619-600, D-
599 and lower F

Students with disabilities or special needs should see the instructor.

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code: All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321.

January 22 and 24, Prehistory and ‘Discovery’ of Photography, Talbot and Daguerre
Merian, Introduction and Chapter 1, The Origins of Photography (to 1839)
Merian, The Second Invention of Photography (1839-1954)

January 29 and 31, Portraiture and Landscape, Art and Science
Merian, The Second Invention of Photography (1839-1954)
Merian, The Expanding Domain (1854-1880)
January 25, Social Sciences 356, Nicola Vruwink, 4:10-5:00 p.m., Gallery Opening 5:00-7:00
January 25, Opening Reception for The Collectors’ Art, Meloy and Paxson Galleries, 5:00-7:00

February 5 and 7, War Photography; Topographical and Ethnographic Photography
Merian, The Expanding Domain (1854-1880)

February 12 and 14, Naturalism and Pictorialism
Merian, Photography in the Modern Age (1880-1918)
Hulick and Marshall, Chapter One

NO CLASS ON FEBRUARY 19, HOLIDAY

February 21, Pictorialism
Merian, Photography in the Modern Age (1880-1918)

February 26 and 28, Documentary Photography
Merian, Photography in the Modern Age (1880-1918)
March 7, Lecture by Judy Fox, Social Science Building, Room 356, 5:00 p.m.

March 5 and 7, Straight Photography
Merian, Chapter Five, A New Vision (1918-1945)
Hulick and Marshall, Chapter Two

March 12 and 14, Abstraction and Photojournalism
Merian, Chapter Five, A New Vision (1918-1945)

March 19 and 21, European Documentary Photography and The Depression and American Photography
Merian, Chapter Five, A New Vision (1918-1945)

SPRING BREAK MARCH

April 2 and 4, Windows and Mirrors, Robert Frank and Minor White
Merian, Chapter Six, Through the Lens of Culture (1945-1975)
Hulick and Marshall, Chapter Three
BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition II, Gallery of Visual Arts, April 2-13, 2007

April 9 and 11, Photography and Art
Merian, Chapter Six, Through the Lens of Culture (1945-1975)
Hulick and Marshall, Chapter Four

April 16 and 18, Post-Photography and Ideological Photography
Merian, Chapter Seven, Convergences (1975-2000)

April 24 and 26, Post-Modern Photography
Merian, Chapter Seven, Convergences (1875-2000)
Hulick and Marshall, Chapter Five
Graduate Thesis Exhibitions, Gallery of Visual Arts, April 26-May 11, 2007

May 1 and 3, People, Nature, and Fashion
Merian, Chapter Eight, Into the New Millennium (2000-now)