9-2013

ARTH 391.01: History of Photography

Valerie L. Hedquist

University of Montana - Missoula, valerie.hedquist@umontana.edu

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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 Postmodern 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. Students are expected to keep copies of all assigned work. Students will utilize Moodle https://moodle.umt.edu/ for course syllabus, other course materials, announcements, and grades. Grades will be calculated as follows:

Attendance. 10 points each/12 lecture periods/120 points total
Four Image and Topic Examinations, 100 points each/400 points total
Two projects, 50 points each/100 points total
Final Examination, 3:20-5:20, Wednesday, 16 December, 100 points total

Grades are calculated as follows, based on all work completed:
720-663, A; 662-648, A-
647-634, B+; 633-591, B; 590-576, B-
575-562, C+; 561-519, C; 518-504, C-
503-490, D+; 489-447, D; 446-432, D-
431 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.

Lecture Schedule
28 August
Introduction
Describing a Photograph
Barrett, Chapters 1 and 2
Prehistory and ‘Discovery’ of Photography, Talbot and Daguerre
Marien, Introduction and Part One, Chapter One

4 September
Daguerreotype, Calotype and Wet-plate Photography
Marien, Part One, Chapter Two
PROJECT #1

11 September
War Photography
Barrett, Chapters 3 and 4
Marien, Part Two, Chapter Four
EXAMINATION #1
18 September
Photography as art; Photography as fact
Marien, Part Two, Chapters Three and Five

25 September
Time, Space, and Motion
Marien, Part Three, Chapter Seven

2 October
Naturalism and Pictorialism
Marien, Part Three, Chapter Six
EXAMINATION #2

9 October
Straight Photography
Marien, Part Four, Chapter Eight

16 October
Documentary Photography in America and Europe
Marien, Part Four, Chapter Nine

23 October, The Family of Man, MOMA, 1955
Marien, Part Five, Chapter Ten
EXAMINATION #3

30 October, Mirrors and Windows, Minor White and Robert Frank
John Szarkowski, MOMA, 1978
Marien, Part Five, Chapter Eleven
Visit to Mansfield Library Archives

6 November, Photography in the 1960s and 1970s
Marien, Part Five, Chapter Eleven

13 November Postmodern Photography
Barrett, Chapter 5 and 7
Marien, Part Six, Chapter Twelve
EXAMINATION #4

20 November, Postmodern Photograph
Barrett, Chapter 6
Marien, Part Six, Chapter Thirteen

27 November, No class
Thanksgiving Break, 27 November – 1 December

4 December, Contemporary Photography
Barrett, Chapter 8
Marien, Part Six, Chapter Fourteen
PROJECT #2

Final Examination, 1:10-3:10, Thursday, 12 December, 100 points total