COURSE DESCRIPTION
The advent of photography in the mid 1800s has been thought of as a crucial development in modern ways of understanding the world. And yet, inherent in the many histories and theories of photography that have followed its introduction is the awareness that it is virtually impossible to pin down exactly how photographs make meaning for their viewers. Rather, what we find as we begin to explore photography’s histories, are multiple competing ideas concerning what a photograph is and how it functions. In exploring these histories we quickly come to the realization that the meaning of any given photograph can only be determined in relation to the conditions of
its making and reception in a particular place and time, and the paths of circulation that follow. Taking a thematic approach the course will investigate the multiple contexts of representative collections of photographs to investigate their historical and contemporary uses across institutional and disciplinary sites. We will pay particular attention to the impact and continued relevance of photographic ways of seeing to contemporary life in the 21st century.

**PREREQUISITE / ANTI-REQUISITE**

*Prerequisite(s):* 1.0 from VAH 1040 or two of VAH 1041A/B – VAH 1045A/B, or 0.5 or 1.0 essay course from Arts and Humanities, FIMS, or Social Science, or permission of the Department. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as the basis for an appeal.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of the course students will be able to:

- identify key issues and themes in photographic history
- identify primary theoretical approaches employed in the historical and contemporary study of photography
- explain the significance of the work of important photographers from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, as it relates to the social, political, and / or artistic context in which it was produced
- read, comprehend, and summarize the main argument of an academic article
- conduct research using the library catalogue and databases, and use the sources effectively in a research essay
- articulate an argument in writing, support the argument using appropriate evidence, and address counter-arguments

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Required text for this course:


The book is available for purchase at the University Bookstore and is also on two-hour reserve at Weldon Library. *Additional required readings are posted as PDFs on OWL/Sakai.*

**POLICIES & CONDUCT**

Attendance and participation in all classes is mandatory. Course lectures use weekly readings as a departure point, so please ensure you do the required weekly reading ahead of the day for which it is assigned. Failure to do so will put you at a distinct disadvantage for lectures and class discussion. If you are absent, please find out what you missed from a classmate.

I am committed to ensuring a respectful, hospitable and intellectually engaged teaching and learning environment for our time together. As a student you are expected and required to approach others with courtesy, generosity and respect. Together we will foster a climate of exciting and productive mutual exchange.

Students who miss more than 15% of course hours, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, can be debarred from writing final exams. Students who are consistently absent from a portion of a three-hour class will be considered absent from the class, and when the 15% limit is reached, can be similarly debarred.
The last day to drop this course without academic penalty is March 7, 2014.

HEALTH AND WELL BEING—Emotional/Mental Distress
Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help on a 24hr basis.

ACCOMMODATIONS
Please talk to me during the first few weeks of the course if you require accommodation in course requirements or scheduling due to a disability. Please visit the Student Development Centre for assistance with a disability. Students who want to request academic accommodation must register with the Centre, meet with a counselor, and provide appropriate documentation of a disability. See http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/ for more information.

Medical Policy:
Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

POLICIES & CONDUCT
I will make every effort to foster a class environment that is comfortable for all students and where students respect all class members. We do not always have to agree with one another, however, it is important that we respect each other’s viewpoints. Behaviour that is disruptive or discriminatory will not be tolerated.

ACADEMIC HONESTY
All work submitted must be your own. The best way to protect yourself against plagiarism is to ensure that you accurately cite all sources that you use for your assignments. Citation will be discussed in class. If you have doubts about how and when to cite sources, consult the Chicago Manual of Style guide on OWL Sakai in the Resources section, visit the Writing Centre, or meet with instructor/TAs. All course work must be completed specifically for this course. Submitting the same work for credit in more than one course is considered cheating. Plagiarism and cheating are very serious academic offences.

All assignments may be subject to review through plagiarism detection software. The University of Western Ontario currently uses Turnitin.com for this purpose. Turnitin is an anti-plagiarism tool that screens assignments against a database of the Internet, e-journals, e-books, and a range of other scanned material, including other assignments for this course. All papers submitted to Turnitin will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. When you submit your paper to Turnitin, it is time and date stamped and therefore cannot be lost.

RESOURCES & POLICIES
OFFICE HOURS / EMAIL
Please see Margherita Papadatos, Jessica Cappuccitti, or Professor James during office hours if you are having difficulty with any aspect of the course, including readings or assignments. If you would like to talk to one of us and cannot make it to office hours, please ask for an appointment or contact us by email. Expect a turnaround time of 24 hours in answering emails sent to Professor James from Monday morning to Friday noon. Mail sent on Friday afternoon and over the weekend will be answered on Monday.

**OWL SAKAI**

We will be using OWL/SAKAI for our online course site to supplement the in-class portion of the course. You will be able to access all course related information and materials there as well as a discussion link, course PowerPoint presentations, and various other resources of interest.

Go to [https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/owldocs](https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/owldocs)

Use your Western user name and password to sign on. Please be sure to check your browser and make sure everything is working at the beginning of the course. See the ITS technical assistance info on the above mentioned web site, and contact ITS for additional technical assistance. The ITS Support number is (519) 661-3800.

**WRITING CENTRE 217 UCC**

The Writing Centre is part of the Effective Writing Program at Western and is open to all registered students. It offers instruction on all aspects of writing and is not restricted to students who have difficulty with writing. All students are encouraged to take advantage of this service. Most effective are the one-on-one tutoring sessions, where students can work with a tutor on course assignments from early in the process of responding to the assignment through to its completion. See [http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/writing/](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/writing/) for details.

**ASSIGNMENTS**

All course assignment guidelines and requirements are posted on SAKAI and will also discussed in class ahead of their due dates.

**LATE POLICIES**

Extensions, granted for valid reasons, must be negotiated BEFORE assignments are due. Late assignments will be penalized by 5% each day, unless appropriate documentation (a doctor’s note, for example) is provided. This means on an assignment out of ten that is submitted two days late, the maximum grade would be nine.

Accommodation for missed assignments, or attendance, totaling less than 10%, due to medical reasons, should be discussed with the professor. In order to have a request considered, students must contact the professor no later than the day after the assignment is due or attendance is missed. All course work must be submitted by the last day of classes, which is **April 8, 2014**.

**GRADING**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short Writing Assignment (750 words)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>January 28th due date</td>
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<td>Mid-term Test</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>February 25th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Essay (1500-2000 words)</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>March 25th due date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>TBA April 11–30th exam period</td>
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SYLLABUS

(This is a tentative schedule. Any changes will be discussed in class.)

CLASS 1
Wed Jan 7 INTRO TO COURSE/ TECHNOLOGY, POLITICS, AND THE IMAGE I
   • Readings: Rosenblum, A World History of Photography, Chapter 1, “The Early Years: Technology, Vision, Users 1839-1875”

CLASS 2
Wed Jan 14 PICTURE ME: IDENTITY AND POWER
   • Reading: Rosenblum, A World History of Photography, Chapter 2, “A Plenitude of Portraits 1839-1890”; bell hooks, “In Our Glory: Photography and Black Life” (PDF on Sakai)

CLASS 3
Wed Jan 21 PROSPECTS OF LAND AND SPACE IN AN INDUSTRIAL AGE
   • McIntosh Gallery visit and tour of Ron Benner: Three Questions

CLASS 4
Wed. Jan. 28 COLONIZING IMAGES
   • Rosenblum, A World History of Photography, Chapter 4, “Documentation: Objects and Events, 1839-1890”
   • Walter Benjamin, “The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction” (PDF on Sakai).
   • Short Writing Assignment Due

CLASS 5
Wed Feb 4 TRUTH/BEAUTY: STAKING A CLAIM

CLASS 6
Wed Feb 11 TECHNOLOGY, POLITICS, AND THE IMAGE II
   • Reading: Rosenblum, A World History of Photography, Chapter 6, “New Technology, New Vision, New Users 1875-1925; Roland Barthes, Camera Lucida excerpts (PDF on Sakai)

CLASS 7
Wed Feb 18 READING WEEK – NO CLASSES HELD

CLASS 8
Wed Feb 25 CONSOLIDATION
   • Reading: Rosenblum, A World History of Photography, Chapter 7, “Art Photography: Another Aspect 1890-1920”.
   • Midterm in-class test
<table>
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<tr>
<th>CLASS 9</th>
<th>Wed Mar 4</th>
<th>CONSTRUCTING THE SOCIAL</th>
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<tr>
<th>CLASS 10</th>
<th>Wed Mar 11</th>
<th>AVANT-GARDE GAMBITS AND RAPID CHANGE</th>
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<th>CLASS 11</th>
<th>Wed Mar 18</th>
<th>FRENZY OF THE VISIBLE</th>
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<th>CLASS 12</th>
<th>Wed Mar 25</th>
<th>FRESH NEGOTIATIONS I</th>
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<td>• <strong>Research Essay Due</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>CLASS 13</th>
<th>Wed Apr 1</th>
<th>FRESH NEGOTIATIONS II</th>
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<td>• Reading: Chapter 12 “Photography since 1950: Manipulations and Colour”</td>
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<th>CLASS 14</th>
<th>Wed Apr 8</th>
<th>Individual student meetings/return research papers</th>
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<td>(Classes end Wednesday, April 8, 2014)</td>
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The University of Western Ontario
Visual Arts Department

POLICIES

Student Conduct:
All students will conduct themselves in a manner that will be consistent with the maturity and academic integrity expected of university students. Student conduct shall be consistent with the general laws of the community and with University regulations. Students shall show regard and respect for the rights, safety, and property of all members of the University community and are expected to act in a responsible manner within the University and the community at large.

Attendance:
A student who misses more than 15% of the course hours, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, can be debarred from writing final exams, or participation in final studio evaluations. Note that if a student consistently is absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and can be debarred.

Prerequisites:
You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

Plagiarism:
Plagiarism, which may be defined as "The act or an instance of copying or stealing another's words or ideas and attributing them as one's own," will not be tolerated. (Citation excerpted from Black's Law Dictionary, 1999, 7th ed., p. 1170). (Refer to http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2013/pg113.html or the 2013/2014 Western Academic Calendar, p. 19-21, with regards to academic penalties for plagiarism.)

Medical Policy:
Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Please note: academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. See course outline for specific arrangements regarding assignments weighted at less than 10%.

Building Access:
The John Labatt Visual Arts Centre will be closed at 10:30 pm each night. There will be no after-hour access for undergraduate students. The Centre is open weekends 12:00 noon-5:00 pm. Students should be prepared to vacate the building promptly at 10:30 pm and 5:00 pm. You must also sign-in with the building monitors when working in the workshop areas outside of regular office hours.

Please remember:
One of the most important resources for course counselling, special permissions, course changes, grade appeals, etc., is the Undergraduate Chair of Visual Arts, Prof. C. Barteet (tel. 519-661-3440; vauqgo@uwo.ca). Please note, however, that should you encounter any serious difficulties due to illness, family emergency, etc., you should consult the Academic Counselor for your Faculty (Mrs. B. Barratt and Mr. Ben Hakala are the counselors for the Faculty of Arts and Humanities).

The Student Development Centre (WSS room 4111; tel: 519-661-3031; www.sdc.uwo.ca) offers a wide range of useful services to students including workshops on learning skills, career and employment services, and an effective writing program, amongst many more.

The D.B. Weldon Library offers orientation tours from the first week of classes until Thanksgiving, where you will get acquainted with the numerous research resources available. As well, the University libraries have an extremely useful website where you can search the library system, the databases, view your circulation record, renew materials, access your UWO e-mail account, and much more. Check it out at: www.lib.uwo.ca.

Financial Aid Services is your main source of information for OSAP, bursaries, loans, scholarships, and the work-study program which offer part-time positions on campus for Western students. Tel: 519-661-2100; e-mail, finaid@uwo.ca; or check out their website at www.registrar.uwo.ca/FinancialServices/index.cfm (updated June 10, 2013)
These guidelines are benchmarks that are not to be followed as rigid regulations. They will be adjusted as appropriate to take into account the level of the course and any specific instructions given by a professor. For example, grades in first year courses are generally lower than in fourth year.

90-100 (Outstanding, A+)
The writing shows significant originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Sophisticated synthesis and analysis of the theoretical and conceptual dimensions of the topic are demonstrated. Mastery of complex material and ideas is immediately evident. The topic is treated with sensitivity and subtlety of thought. The quality of the background research is exemplary. Regarding research, all major secondary sources pertaining to the topic have been consulted and proper citation has been used.

80-89 (Excellent, A)
The writing shows originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Writing is probing through the use of comments and/or questions, and is clearly focused and logically organized. The quality of writing immediately engages the reader. Mastery of complex materials and ideas is demonstrated. The writing is of appropriate length, and demonstrates mastery of techniques so that results are meaningful and not simplistic. Regarding research, a majority of the secondary sources pertaining to the topic have been consulted and proper citation has been used.

75-79 (Very Good, B+)
The writing shows above average analysis, critical thinking and independent thought. Written claims are supported by ample evidence and the components of the topic are well-researched and presented. The work is addressed in reasonable depth and/or breadth and covers material appropriate to the course. Written analysis is organized around focal points and the development of the argument is easily followed. The writer demonstrates an above average ability to write in an intelligible style and to condense material meaningfully and with a concern for priorities of that material. Regarding research, a representative selection of secondary sources pertaining to the topic has been consulted and proper citation has been used.

70-74 (Good, B)
The writing shows a satisfactory attempt at analysis and critical thinking. Written claims are supported by reasonable evidence. The work is addressed in some depth and/or breadth, with references to the appropriate literature and course material. Written analysis is organized around focal points. The text is generally well written and well argued. Regarding research, a somewhat limited selection of secondary sources pertaining to the topic has been consulted and proper citation has been used.

60-69 (Competent, C)
The writing demonstrates adequate engagement with the topic. The writing is on topic and is a reasonable response to material covered in the course, but goes no further. Written facts are stated accurately; the quality of writing is sufficiently intelligible with enough elaboration and enough connections made between ideas to permit a reader to understand the point of the text. Regarding research, an insufficient number secondary sources pertaining to the topic has been consulted but proper citation has been used.

50-59 (Marginal, D)
The writing shows less than adequate engagement with the topic and with the material covered by the course. The writing is a less than adequate summary of sources and/or is considerably off-topic. Written facts are stated inaccurately or ambiguously; the writing style is difficult to follow; there is insufficient elaboration to permit reader's comprehension of relations among ideas; little judgment is shown in selecting detail for inclusion in the text. Regarding research, few secondary sources pertaining to the topic have been consulted; proper citation may or may not have been used.

Below 50 (Unacceptable, F)
The writing demonstrates a failure to comprehend the topic. Written material is disorganized and unintelligible. The work clearly does not meet the minimal requirements of the assignment. Regarding research, secondary sources pertaining to the topic have not been consulted and proper citation has not been used.