

# PHOT 78C: DOCUMENTARY FIELD STUDY IN PHOTOGRAPHY

## Foothill College Course Outline of Record

Heading	Value
Units:	1
Hours:	1 lecture per week (12 total per quarter)
Advisory:	PHOT 5.
Degree & Credit Status:	Degree-Applicable Credit Course
Foothill GE:	Non-GE
Transferable:	CSU
Grade Type:	Letter Grade (Request for Pass/No Pass)
Repeatability:	Not Repeatable

## Student Learning Outcomes

- Student will create a small group of photographs inspired by the technique or subject of a documentary photographer or research and write a short paper responding to the historical contribution of a documentary photographer.
- Student will explore and use a new photographic technique that improves his/her chances of success when photographing subjects in "the street."

## Description

Investigation of a specific aspect or topic of photography through discussion and demonstration by the instructor(s) in the field.

## Course Objectives

The student will be able to:

- A. Gain in-depth understanding of documentary photography.
- B. Learn to use the equipment or technique demonstrated.
- C. Apply techniques and approaches learned to other class assignments and related topics in photography.
- D. Gain an appreciation of contributions from diverse cultures and backgrounds to the topic of photography being explored.

## Course Content

- A. Detailed explanation of documentary photography.
  1. Historical examples and precedents drawn from diverse cultures and backgrounds.
- B. Comprehensive demonstration of the uses of equipment.
  1. Testing and/or experimentation by student, as appropriate.
  2. Field sessions to use or demonstrate equipment, as appropriate.
- C. Applications of equipment used and skills demonstrated.
  1. Fine arts applications.
  2. Guest lectures by visiting artists, as appropriate.
  3. Field trips to appropriate documentary sites.
- D. Practical use of equipment or technique demonstrated.
  1. Availability and costs of equipment.
  2. Risks associated with technique or equipment demonstrated.
- E. Ethics of photographing persons in disadvantaged situations.

## Lab Content

Not applicable.

## Special Facilities and/or Equipment

A. A lecture room equipped for listening to audio tapes and viewing motion pictures, slides, and video tapes; access to camera equipment and functioning laboratory areas for instructor demonstration and student experimentation; chemicals and facilities for mixing and storing same; access to computer hardware and software for instructor demonstrations and student experimentation.

B. When taught via Foothill Global Access: on-going access to computer with JavaScript-enabled internet browsing software, media plug-ins, and relevant computer graphics applications and email software; email address.

## Method(s) of Evaluation

- A. Quizzes and hands-on examinations, as appropriate.
- B. A written paper analyzing the topic is required as a summation of the course experience.
- C. Produce a set of photographs that demonstrate knowledge of the importance of the documented site, e.g., historical preservation, prevention of further health violations, preservation of the environment, etc.

## Method(s) of Instruction

- A. Lecture
- B. Discussion
- C. Field work
- D. Electronic discussions/chat
- E. Demonstration
- F. Field trips

## Representative Text(s) and Other Materials

Langford, Michael, and Philip Andrews. [Langford's Starting Photography](#). 7th ed. Massachusetts: Elsevier/Focal Press, 2016.

## Types and/or Examples of Required Reading, Writing, and Outside of Class Assignments

- A. Reading of books on documentary photographers
- B. Written paper comparing styles and concerns of documentary photographers, e.g., Eugene Atget, E.J. Bellocq, Dorothea Lange, Sebastiao Salgado
- C. Lectures by documentary photographers
- D. Visit exhibitions by documentary photographers
- E. Visit online resources and websites of documentary photographers
- F. Post images to online blog or website for discussion and feedback
- G. Produce photographs that demonstrate competency with equipment and knowledge of the documentary issue(s) surrounding the people or site

## **Discipline(s)**

Photography