

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:

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

Course Content

- Detailed explanation of documentary photography.
 - Historical examples and precedents drawn from diverse cultures and backgrounds.
- Comprehensive demonstration of the uses of equipment.
 - Testing and/or experimentation by student, as appropriate.
 - Field sessions to use or demonstrate equipment, as appropriate.
- Applications of equipment used and skills demonstrated.
 - Fine arts applications.
 - Guest lectures by visiting artists, as appropriate.
 - Field trips to appropriate documentary sites.
- Practical use of equipment or technique demonstrated.
 - Availability and costs of equipment.
 - Risks associated with technique or equipment demonstrated.
- 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

Methods of Evaluation may include but are not limited to the following:

- Quizzes and hands-on examinations, as appropriate.
- A written paper analyzing the topic is required as a summation of the course experience.
- 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

Methods of Instruction may include but are not limited to the following:

- Lecture
- Discussion
- Field work
- Electronic discussions/chat
- Demonstration
- 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