

**ART 3807C Experimental Photography**  
**Spring 2024**  
**Syllabus**

Monday/ Wednesday, 3.00—6.00pm (periods 8—10)  
Fine Arts Building C, Room 306

Instructor: Anthea Behm  
Pronouns: she/her  
Email: [antheabehm@ufl.edu](mailto:antheabehm@ufl.edu)  
Office hours: Wednesdays 11.45—12.45pm and by appointment  
Office location: FAD 333 & online

### **Course Description**

In this course, students will engage experimental ways of creating images without the use of the camera as a central component. This will be through analogue black and white darkroom processes (photograms) and AI generated images. Alongside these experiments in the analogue and digital labs, students will participate in seminar style reading discussions that engage topics such as semiotics (how meaning is socially constructed and produced), indexicality in conventional darkroom photography, digital photography and AI. These seminars inform a series of studio assignments that will be viewed and discussed during group critiques and individual meetings. The class will culminate in a self-directed project and accompanying artist statement.

### **Course Objectives & Goals**

The goal of this course is to develop critical thinking and the skills to create work and speak about issues concerning current photographic production and related media. Students will explore experimental image creation while engaging a wide range of art historians, theorists, and artists through seminar style reading presentations and discussion. Through these seminars, students will critically engage photo theory and apply it to darkroom, digital, and AI image production and generation. In conjunction with this, students will investigate formal and conceptual questions raised during their reading and research through a number of studio-based projects. For the studio assignments, students are expected to experiment and explore new ways to work and experiment in their projects, and to present formally and conceptually rigorous work. The course will culminate in a self-directed project that will be developed through individual meetings with the instructor. An artist statement will be developed alongside the final project.

### **Open Lab & Individual Meetings**

Individual meetings will be scheduled throughout the semester. During these meetings students will present their research and work in progress. To facilitate a discussion of their ideas, students must show images/ objects/ sketches, etc. of their research. During these meetings students will also discuss their plans and timeline for work. If these plans or ideas change, students must inform the instructor either through email or in person for approval.

### **Assessment**

Students taking this course will be evaluated through three elements:

(1) **Studio Assignments** [40% of grade]

Students studio assignments will be graded according to the level of engagement with the critical and conceptual goals of the assignment. Consistency of work, research efforts, and response to feedback will also be highly considered.

(2) **Workshops + Experimentations** [30% of final grade]

This component will be graded on criteria for student presentations, level of engagement in the workshops, as well as effort and development over the course of the semester.

(3) **Participation** [30% of final grade]

**ART 3807C Experimental Photography**  
**Spring 2024**  
**Syllabus**

Participation will be graded according to successful completion of reading assignments, student reading group presentations, as well as community engagement during discussions and group critiques.

Please see assignment sheet for detailed information on assignments. Late assignments will be marked down 5% for each day they are past due. Please note, to receive your final grade you must upload a Portfolio of work completed for all assignments (including written, and documentation of studio work) on the Google drive no later than 5.00pm on Friday, April 26, 2024. Please save videos as compressed .MOV (less than 50 MB) and images as high quality .JPG (less than 10 MB).

**Weekly Schedule**

Week	Topic	Assignment
Week 1	Course Overview	Intro presentations
Week 2	AI Image Generation	Reading presentations + discussion Experimentation with AI Artist Statements
Week 3	Language, Text, Image or Semiotics	Reading presentations + discussion Experimentations with text
Week 4	Semiotics + AI	Reading presentations + discussion Experimentations with text
Week 5	The concrete image	Studio Assignment 1 Reading presentations + discussion Experimentation with the darkroom
Week 6	Abstraction + The Concrete	Experimentations with drawing
Week 7	AI + Contemporary Photography	Studio Assignment 2 Reading presentations + discussion
Week 8	Independent Studio Project Proposals	Independent Studio Project Proposals development
Week 9	Spring Break	
Week 10	Independent Project Proposals	Project Proposals Presentation
Week 11	Digital Materiality	Reading presentations + discussion
Week 12	AI Sound + Moving Image	Reading presentations + discussion
Week 13	In progress critique	Studio work in progress presentation
Week 14	AI, language + power	Reading presentations + discussion
Week 15	Final Projects	Final Projects Critique

**ART 3807C Experimental Photography**  
**Spring 2024**  
**Syllabus**

**Required Reading**

Readings will be provided to students as PDFs. There are no required textbooks for this class.

**Class Attendance**

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>.

Students are required to attend every class meeting. Attendance includes arriving on time and with all materials necessary to actively participate in that date's discussion, lecture, or presentation. Students arriving without assigned materials may be counted absent on that date. Three unexcused late arrivals may be recorded as one absence. At the discretion of the instructor, students who have more than three unexcused absences may receive a failing grade for the course. Additionally, a student's grade may be effected if they have unexcused absences or do not present work on their designated critique day. Excused absences require documentation such as a doctor's note. In the case of an absence, students are asked to communicate this via email and in advance of class unless extenuating circumstances prohibit doing so. Make up work will be made available for all students who have excused absences.

**Grading Criteria**

A: This grade is awarded for exceptional work that demonstrates critical thinking, a full realization of the ideas put forth in assignment, and outstanding engagement of both form and content; excellent amount of effort given to the class and assignments, with minimum lateness and absences; going beyond the basic course requirements through independent work and research; display a strong commitment to learning, being an active member of the class community, and growth as an artist and student.

B: This grade will be awarded for very good work that demonstrates a sound and competent realization of the ideas put forth in each assignment; excels in many areas but lacks one or more of the outstanding characteristics listed above.

C: This grade will be awarded for well-presented, average work that demonstrates a fairly good attempt at grasping the expectations of each given assignment. This work lacks a competent, comprehensive understanding mentioned in 'B' above.

D: This grade is awarded for inadequate work, extremely poor and/or half-finished work with no care or attention to the assignment. In addition, when someone has missed three or more classes, has failed to complete one or more assignments, or keep up to date with the studio-based syllabus.

E: When someone stops coming to class and stops communicating with instructor. This is a severe grade and is usually given in severe circumstances.

UF grading policies can be reviewed at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

**Health and Safety**

Each student must complete a Health and Safety Student Waiver for this course. These forms will be turned in to the School of Art office. <http://saahhealthandsafety.weebly.com>

**ART 3807C Experimental Photography**  
**Spring 2024**  
**Syllabus**

**Accommodations for students with disabilities**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center: <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

**Class Demeanor Policy**

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have the opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are prohibited from engaging in any form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result, minimally, in a request to leave class.

**Academic Honesty**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

**Online Course Evaluations**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

**In-Class Recording**

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not

**ART 3807C Experimental Photography**  
**Spring 2024**  
**Syllabus**

limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note / tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

**Campus Resources // Health and Wellness**

*U Matter, We Care:* If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

*Counseling and Wellness Center:* [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

*Student Health Care Center:* Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

*University Police Department:* [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

*UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:* For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

*GatorWell Health Promotion Services:* For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the [GatorWell website](#) or call 352-273-4450.

**Campus Resources // Academic Resources**

*E-learning technical support:* Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

*Career Connections Center:* Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

*Library Support:* Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

*Teaching Center:* Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

*Writing Studio:* 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

*Student Complaints On-Campus:* [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.](#)

*On-Line Students Complaints:* [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Proces](#)