

PGY 3820C – Digital Photography
Tuesday/Thursday 3.00pm-6.00pm (periods 8-10)
Fine Arts Building D, Room 329
Spring Semester, 2016

Instructor: Anthea Behm

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Office: Fine Arts Building D, Room 333

Telephone: 352 273 3036

Office hours: Tuesday/Thursday 6.00-7.00pm (and by appointment)

Course description

This course explores digital culture and the ways it is effecting society. Designed to facilitate an understanding of the changes that have occurred, and are occurring, with the rise of digital technology, the course will engage notions such as acceleration, ephemerality, abstraction, verticality, and precarity. This will be facilitated through exploring the work of artists and writers including Brad Troemel, Vilèm Flusser, Hito Steyerl, Martine Syms, Jonathan Crary, Victoria Fu, and Juliana Huxtable.

Course objectives, goals, and expectations

The goal of this course is to develop critical thinking and the skills to create and speak about issues concerning current photographic production and related media. Students will engage a wide range of art historians, theorists, and artists through the seminar style component through reading assignments and group discussions. Students will investigate formal and conceptual questions raised during the seminars through a number of studio based projects. This will provide students with a framework for connecting research to the development of their own practice. To further facilitate this, students will undertake a self-directed project that will be developed through individual meetings with the instructor. For the studio assignments, students are expected to explore new ways to work and experiment through their projects and present formally and conceptually rigorous work. A professional practice component will also be included.

Individual meetings

Individual meetings will be conducted throughout the semester on a regular basis. During these meetings students will present work in progress and discuss their plans and timeline for work. If these plans or ideas change, you must inform the instructor either through email or in person for approval. Failure to follow this procedure will affect the project grade.

Assessment

Students taking this course will be evaluated through two elements:

(1) Studio Assignments [55% of grade]

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

(2) Participation [45% of final grade]

Participation will be graded according to successful completion of reading assignments, input during seminar discussions and group critiques, as well as presentations of research.

Please see assignment sheet for detailed information. Late assignments will be marked down 5% for each day they are past due. Please note, to receive your final grade you must turn in work completed for all assignments (including written) on the Google Drive by 5pm on Friday 22 April 2016. Please save videos as MOV and images as high quality JPG.

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Grading Points Criteria

100-93 A: Present at all class/lab meetings; significant engagement with course material and excellent results-both technical and conceptual; significant and considerate contribution to group discussions and presentations.

92-90 A-: Present at all class/lab meetings; significant engagement with course material; good technical development; significant and considerate contribution to group discussions and presentations.

89-88 B+: Present at all class/lab meetings; very good engagement with the course material and group discussions.

87-80 B: Present at all class/lab meetings; good engagement with the course materials and group discussions.

79-78 C+: Present at most or all of class/lab meetings; good engagement with the course materials and group discussions.

77-70 C: Present at most or all of class/lab meetings; satisfactory engagement with the course materials and group discussions.

69-60 D: Student missed class/lab meetings and has not engaged the course material in a satisfactory manner; student's engagement with discussions is minimal. Additionally, this mark may reflect excessive absence from class and lab meetings.

59-0 E: Student has not satisfactorily engaged nor met the class criteria. Additionally, this mark may reflect excessive absence from class and lab meetings.

Letter Grade % GPA Equivalency

A 4.0 A- 3.67 B+ 3.33 B 3.00 B- 2.67 C+ 2.33 C 2.00 C- 1.67 D+ 1.33 D 1.00 D- .67

UF grading policies can be reviewed at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Class Attendance

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx#absences>

Students in this course will be required to attend every class meeting. Attendance includes arriving with all materials and equipment necessary to actively participate in that date's discussion, lecture or presentation. Students arriving without assigned materials may be counted absent on that date. Excused absences require legitimate reasons and documentation. Any more than three unexcused absences will result in a lower grade, and students will be referred to the area co-ordinator. If a student is late to class three times this will result in one absence. More than five absences may result in failure of the class.

Digital devices

Use of devices (laptops, tablets, cell phones, etc.) in class for anything other than coursework will result in an absence. Laptops may be used during class for research, reading, etc. Cell phones may only be used in class for an emergency. Using any device for non-course related business will result in the loss of the student's privilege to bring their laptop or phone to the class and lab meeting for the remainder of the semester.

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Make-up policy

Absences during critiques must be documented or have prior permission, otherwise the student's grade will be decreased. Students with legitimate reasons for being absent during critiques may meet with the instructor during office hours.

Health and Safety

<http://www.arts.ufl.edu/art/healthandsafety>

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.

- **Health and Safety specific to Photography**
<http://ufphotorulez.blogspot.com/>
- There are many hazards associated with photographic materials. Many photographic processes produce toxic gases. The gases could be produced from baths or storage of chemicals.
- Developers are highly alkaline and moderately to highly toxic. They can cause eye and skin irritations and are also allergic sensitizers.
- Stop Baths: The Acetic Acid in Stop Baths can cause dermatitis and skin ulceration. It can also irritate the respiratory system.
- Ammonia is especially hazardous to the eyes and the mucous membranes.
- Iodine can cause hypersensitivity reaction and skin burns when contacting the skin.
- Intensifiers can contain Mercury, Cyanide, or Uranium. Can cause lung cancer over a long time of exposure.
- Hardeners often contain formaldehyde, which is poisonous, very irritating to the eyes, throat, and breathing passages. It can also cause dermatitis.

Students with disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

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 distracting behavior. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom will result in, at least, a request to leave class.

Academic Honesty

The university's codes for honesty and conduct will be upheld. Complete information is available at the links below:

Academic Honesty: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html#honesty>

Honour Code: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>

Student Conduct: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php>

University Counseling & Wellness Center

If you are having any physical or psychological trouble with this course or anything related to this course, please speak to me as soon as possible. Please also note the University Counselling Centre:

3190 Radio Road P.O. Box 112662

University of Florida Gainesville, FL 32611-4100

352-392-1575

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>