Anthropology 135: Visual Anthropology: Documentary Photography
Fall Quarter 2017: TR 9:30-10:45 AM  Fowler A139

Photographs in anthropology serve many purposes: they are primary data, illustrations of words in a book, documentation for disappearing cultures, evidence of fieldwork, material objects for museum exhibitions, and works of art. Course topics include the relationships between subject and treatment of image, between art photography and ethnographic documentation, the role of the museum photograph and the caption, the social practice of "taking pictures," as well as a case study on photographing the Middle East and North Africa.

Class website: https://moodle2.sscnet.ucla.edu/course/view/17F-ANTHRO135-1

Required texts (available ASUC bookstore, Powell Reserve Library, and some online):

Videos:
(IML) Video and DVD Items are on Reserve at Instructional Media Library, Media Lab, Powell Library, Room 270 OR check online under “Media” on the class website.

Videos are encoded and linked to course web page via a digital link. Titles are made available for the duration of the quarter through secure course-management web pages. They will only be accessible to students enrolled in the class in question and only after logging into the UCLA VPN (Virtual Portal Network). Visit SSC for instructions on downloading VPN.

Readings (available on class website):
To print out readings, SSC is subsidizing printing in their 135 workstations in the main Social Sciences Computing Labs (2nd floor of Public Policy Bldg.) Each quarter, students enrolled in a Social Sciences class will be given $10 in print credits. For additional printing beyond this, the usual rate of 10 cents for black and white prints and 50 cents for color prints will apply. In addition, SSC will provide 10-minute workstations in place of the current kiosks for students who need quick access to computers or printing. For any questions or concerns, please contact Kiosk@ssc.ucla.edu.
**Required Fieldtrips**

1 - Visit one genuine *camera obscura*:
   a) top floor Santa Monica Senior Center, 1450 Ocean Avenue OR
   b) Griffith Observatory.

2 - Required museum exhibition:

   **Photography in Argentina, 1850–2010: Contradiction and Continuity**
   Getty (Metro Rapid Bus # 734), September 16, 2017–January 28, 2018
   OR
   LA RAZA at Autry Museum of the American West
   OR
   “Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA,” or Los Angeles/Latin America, the survey is a collaboration of more than 70 cultural institutions from San Diego to Santa Barbara and Los Angeles to Palm Springs

**Writing help**: UCLA has many resources at your disposal:
- Undergraduate Writing Center: [http://wp.ucla.edu/index.php/home](http://wp.ucla.edu/index.php/home)
- Covel Tutorials Composition Lab and the Covel Tutorials ESL Tutoring Lab that offer free peer tutoring in 228 Covel Commons.
- Academic Advancement Program (AAP) offers free tutoring to AAP students in 1214 Campbell Hall. Students are eligible for AAP “if their academic profiles and personal backgrounds may impact their university experience and their retention and graduation from UCLA.” [http://aap.ucla.edu/programs/peer-learning/](http://aap.ucla.edu/programs/peer-learning/)

Remember that all quotes or paraphrased materials must be cited to avoid plagiarism. Please use Anthropology style. Consult [www.americananthro.org](http://www.americananthro.org) or any librarian at Powell or YRL.

For writing research papers, you can use this link to get started: [http://www.library.ucla.edu/support/research-help/start-your-own-research-guide-or-tutorial](http://www.library.ucla.edu/support/research-help/start-your-own-research-guide-or-tutorial)

**Plagiarism**: Plagiarism violates the UCLA Student Code of Conduct on Academic Dishonesty, section 102.01(c): Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use of another's words or ideas as if they were one's own, including, but not limited to, representing, either with the intent to deceive or by the omission of the true source, part of or an entire work produced by someone other than the student, obtained by purchase or otherwise, as the student's original work or representing the identifiable but altered ideas, data, or writing of another person as if those ideas, data, or writing were the student's original work. Penalties for plagiarism can include Suspension or Dismissal from the University.
Accommodations: If you wish to request an accommodation due to a suspected or documented disability, please email the instructor and TA as well as contact the Center for Accessible Education as soon as possible, see website www.cae.ucla.edu

Course requirements:
1) All required readings and films: You must complete the assigned readings by the dates noted on the syllabus and come to class prepared to discuss. Required attendance at class meetings, class participation, and “Assignment 1” (10 %).
   - Assignment 1: due Tuesday, October 17 and must be posted on “Assignment 1: Student Posts” (see website under “Instructions for Assignment 1.”
2) Midterm in-class blue book: (20%): Tuesday, October 31.
3) Final (35%): Monday, December 11.
4) Documentary photography project: (35%): Photographs and essay. Topic is to be chosen with instructor’s approval. See “Instructions for Documentary Photography Project.” Project includes a minimum of 10 photos each accompanied by descriptive captions plus an introduction (minimum 5-pages) explaining the choice of topic, fieldwork descriptions, equipment used, relevant readings consulted. Required office visit to discuss project and receive approval of project proposal in the form of student abstract by November 30. Photographs and essay project must be handed in during the last class on December 8, 2017. Late or no proposals and papers without medical note will be docked grades.
Course Outline
(This is a reading list and not in bibliographic form, see instructions for photography essay on course website)

WEEK 1:
The Power of Photography
9/28
(2) Start reading Susan Sontag, *On Photography*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1977. Assignment 1 based on Sontag is due by October 17 (See Assignment 1 on class website)

10/3
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0pDE4VX_9Kk

Recommended:

WEEK 2:
Histories
10/5
(2) Check out UCLA’s Huhtamo Collection and Archive of Media Archaeology online: http://www.erkkihuhtamo.com/collection/

Anthropology and Photography
10/10

WEEK 3:
Photography and Research
10/12

Albums and Family Photographs, East and West, Part I
10/17
(IML) “Photo Wallahs: An Encounter with Photography” and clips from “Ellis Island,” 3-hours, History Channel

WEEK 4:
10/19:
Finish Sontag, On Photography, hand in hard copy of Assignment #1 by 10/19 and upload online version (see Assignment #1 instructions on class website)

Albums and Family Photographs, East and West, Part II
10/19 and 10/24

WEEK 5:
Photography as Fragment, Photos as Evidence: Portraits, Mug Shots
10/26

10/31: IN CLASS MIDTERM – DON’T FORGET BLUE BOOK(S)

WEEK 6:
Aerial Photography
11/2
(1) Media: Video clips on WWII aerial photography from Haroun Farocki.

Recommended:
Ming Chen, Drone photography using DJI Phantom4, see YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/mingography/videos

Nature/Fashion Photographs: True or False?
11/7
On photography and ghosts, see “The American Museum of Photography” website: www.photographymuseum.com/believe1.html
Read:
(3) Unretouched images from Lena Dunham’s *Vogue* photo shoot: http://jezebel.com/here-are-the-unretouched-images-from-lena-dunhams-vogue-1503336657

WEEK 7:
The Case of National Geographic
11/9
(1) Media: *National Geographic* video clips
(3) Media/YouTube: “Cannibal Tours”

Recommended:

Photography and Gender
11/14
Week 8:
Photography in the Middle East/North Africa
11/16

11/21: Speaker: Courtney Cecale, “Photographing Climate Change.”

WEEK 9:
War Photography
11/30
There are many sites to view Abu Ghraib Prison photos through Google. Be aware that this is extreme material, often shown in juxtaposition with pornographic images. Images can also be viewed in these Sontag articles:

12/5
(IML) video: *Standard Operating Procedure*

WEEK 10:
Documentary Photography, Photojournalism and Museum Display
12/8
(3) Ron Kelley, "Irangeles: Photographic Contexts"

Recommended:

**FINAL PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT DUE LAST DAY OF CLASS: December 8, 2017**

**FINAL EXAM: Monday, December 11, 2017 at 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

Please make your travel plans between fall and winter quarter with this date in mind. The final exam date will not be postponed or make-up final rescheduled except for clear crisis situations such as medical reasons (with a doctor’s note).