

Sample Syllabus
ART 462: History of Photography
California State University, Northridge

Instructor: Julia Schlosser Email Address: julia.schlosser@csun.edu **Course Schedule:** 2 hours 45 minutes

Catalog Description: (3) A course which emphasizes the aesthetics of photography and its emergence and acceptance as a fine art. In addition to slide lectures and discussions, students will be required to attend several photography exhibitions and lectures at galleries and museums in the area.

Art Department Program Goals Addressed in This Course/Course Student Learning Outcomes:

- ◆ Basic Skills: Developing a foundation of art knowledge, theories, and written analytical skills vis-à-vis the history of photography and theoretical frameworks that have developed in response to that history
- ◆ Art Knowledge: Broadening knowledge of the history of the medium of photography and to develop an understanding of photographic images within theoretical, cultural, and historical contexts.
- ◆ Critical Thinking: Analyzing, interpreting, and questioning traditional methodologies and pre-conceived notions of photography by thinking about the ways that photography is used in our society and has altered our perception of the world

REQUIRED TEXT:

Marien, Mary Warner. *Photography: A Cultural History*, 3rd edition. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 2010. ISBN: 0205708005.

Recommended Text:

Barrett, Terry. *Criticizing Photographs: An Introduction to Understanding Images*. FOURTH EDITION. Boston, McGraw Hill, 2006. ISBN: 0072977434.

OVERVIEW OF COURSE ACTIVITIES:

Attendance: Attendance is essential. Because each class meeting involves slide lectures and discussion, it is impossible to make up missed classes. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to obtain the lecture notes from a fellow student, and you are responsible for ascertaining all assignment and date changes that may have happened in your absence. Please refrain from tardiness. (See below for Attendance Policy).

Class Participation & Reading Assignments: You will be responsible for completing the weekly reading assignments from the course syllabus, and will be expected to participate in class discussions.

Written Assignments: All written assignments must be typed, double spaced on 8 1/2 x 11 paper using size 12 font and one inch margins. I do not accept discs, emails, or faxes in lieu of written assignments. Late papers must be printed and either turned in to me during class or office hours or placed in my mailbox in the Art Department.

ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION:

GRADING POLICIES AND TESTS:

Midterm:	100 points
Final (not cumulative):	100 points
Film Analysis Paper	50 points
Gallery Review Paper	50 points
Man Ray written response	30 points
In class artist presentation	<u>30 points</u>
Total semester points:	360 points

Exams: The midterm and the final (not cumulative) will be given in essay/slide identification format. No make-up exams will be scheduled for the midterm or final without a University approved excuse.

Two 5-page papers will be required, each worth 50 points.

Film Analysis Paper, Gallery Review Paper

Late papers will ONLY be accepted for one week after each due date and will be graded down 15% for each late class meeting.

An in-class presentation on an artist will be required, worth 30 points. If you are not in class during your scheduled presentation time it may not be possible for you to make up your presentation and your grade will be significantly downgraded.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Attendance will be taken into consideration upon final grading. After three unexcused absences, each absence will result in a lowered grade. In order for an absence to be excused you must provide valid, written documentation to the instructor in a timely manner. Only those reasons that the University considers valid will be accepted, ie. major medical (doctor's note, hospital bill), family or transportation emergency (dated automobile repair bill) etc. Three tardies or early departures will count as one absence. You must be in the classroom when roll is taken or you will be counted as absent. If you are late to class or are not present when roll is taken, it is your responsibility to speak to the instructor at the end of the class period and sign the late-roll sheet. If you forget, it will not be possible to sign the late-roll sheet after the class period in which you are tardy.

PARTICIPATION: I appreciate your response to the questions that I ask you in class. You are welcome to ask me questions and to participate in our in-class discussion groups. However, please refrain from side conversations.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE: Please arrive on time to each class. I will take attendance within the first few minutes of class. If you arrive in class after I take roll, **you will be counted as absent for that day (see above)**. Please respect your fellow classmates. **DO NOT** leave class to take phone calls or for any reason other than an emergency. Do not use a laptop for personal business other than taking notes during lectures.

****CELL PHONES AND PAGERS MUST BE COMPLETELY TURNED OFF DURING CLASS TIME.****

PROFESSIONAL ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES: Please be courteous to the professor and to fellow students. Please refer to the student code of conduct on the CSUN website for information on the professional attitudes and practices you are expected to uphold in the classroom:

http://www.csun.edu/studentaffairs/pdfs/standards_student_conduct.pdf

PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Please refer to the Student Academic Integrity Policy Statement in your schedule of classes on the CSUN website.

****ABSOLUTELY NO CELL PHONES OR OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES MAY BE VISIBLE DURING AN EXAM****

KEEP THEM IN YOUR BAGS OR POCKETS, PLEASE.

NOTE TAKING IN CLASS: I strongly encourage that in addition to regular attendance, you TAKE NOTES during each class lecture. We will cover a significant amount of material in class and not all of this will be found in the textbook. Sometimes it helps to make a small drawing in your notes of images we cover in class. Nothing fancy- stick figures are fine!! If you are a visual learner, drawing can help you remember details about the image. See if it works for you.

Taking notes during class helps you retain lecture material. If you read the assigned pages before each class and then take notes in class, you will increase your retention and understanding of the class material, and you will be better prepared to participate in class. Of course, you will also be better prepared for the exams!!

STUDYING FOR EXAMS: Some people like to make flashcards of the images on the slide list for the exams. You can print the image from Moodle and cut it out and paste or tape it to one side of a card. On the other side of the card, write the artist, title and other important information about the artist and image. You can test yourself and see whether you remember the important points about each image. Read the assigned reading from the textbook and use your class notes as study aids to prepare for the exams.

Studying in groups of two or more can also be an excellent way to prepare for exams. Please make friends with one or two other people in class and exchange contact information. That way you can share notes and ideas.