



Universidad de Sevilla/Facultad de Geografía e Historia

Curso GA-19

**PHOTOGRAPHY: PHOTOGRAPHY: THEORY, HISTORY AND ART
PHOTOGRAPHY**

(45 class hours)

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INTRODUCTION

This Course combines a theoretical and practical approach to the phenomenon of the photographic.

From the first notions provided, up to the conclusions presented at the close, students will be involved in a wide range of photographic practices linked with the major photographic genre types. The Course's practical character will be backed up by sessions based on the history and theory of Photography as a framework for understanding the different uses, genre types and approaches to the photographic medium which exist, as well as a way of encouraging an analytical reading of contemporary photographic-based pictures.

Specific attention will be paid to Photography as a contemporary creative art form within the Spanish context.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Course entitled "Telling (Hi)stories through Photography: History, Genre Types and Contemporary Practices" are as follows:

- To learn how to handle a camera as used in Photography.
- To understand the principles of photographic art.
- To provide an introduction to Digital Photography.
- To appreciate the possibilities of Photography as an expressive and informative medium.
- To become knowledgeable about and understand the history of Photography.
- To develop critical skills in reading contemporary photographic images.
- To develop social and teamwork skills.

II. METHODOLOGY

Class sessions will be based on real participation and discussion, thereby encouraging a pro-active attitude in students.

III. SYLLABUS

1.- INTRODUCTION. THE WORLD IN PICTURES. APPLICATIONS AND USES OF PHOTOGRAPHY.

- Telling stories through Photography
- Revisiting the origins of Photography
- History of Photography I. From 1839 to the Brownie camera.
- Classifications: Photo-Document; Photo-Advertising; Photo-Art



CONTENTS BLOCK A: PHOTOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUE

2.- FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

- Light and image formation. The eye and the camera.
- Exposure: diaphragm apertures, shutter speed and ISO sensitivity. The law of reciprocity.
- Types of camera, formats, lenses and sensors.
- Depth of field and hyper-focal distance.
- Picture composition.

3.- DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY I

- Introduction: differences and similarities between digital and analog photography.
- Fundamental principles of Digital Photography. Basic concepts. CCD (Charge Coupled Device). Resolution. Color Depth. The Camera's Histogram. White balance settings.
- Types of files.
- Optimization and retouching pictures.
- Workflow and developing raw files.
- Picture size and picture compression.
- Black and white Digital Photography
- High-Dynamic-Range Photos (HDR).

CONTENTS BLOCK B: THEORY AND HISTORY

4.- DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY

- Photography as testimony / Truth as appearance.

5.- HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY (II)

- From 1900 to 1955. Photography and the artistic avant-garde. The shattering of the mirror. Street photography.

6.- PHOTOGRAPH AS PORTRAIT.

7.- THE CITY AS SETTING: URBAN LANDSCAPE AND ARCHITECTURE.

8.- HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY (III). PHOTOGRAPHY AND FICTION

- From the sixties to the present day. Photography and storytelling. Conceptual Art. New documentary style.

9.- PHOTOGRAPHY IN SPAIN. From 1900 to the present day.

- The colonial slant. The 30s avant-garde and pictorialism.
- Neorealism's new documents.

10.- PHOTOGRAPHY AND THE MEDIA

- Multimedia with pictures as a point of departure. Hybridizations. Photography and Cinema. Photography and social networks.

ASSESSMENT



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In this seminar, assessment will be an on-going process based on the handing in of a series of assignments during the course period, together with a test at the close of the semester. A mid-semester test will also be held.

Grading will be based on the following distribution: Class participation: 10%. Practical Assignments: 60%. Final Test 30%

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Books:

- Angeletti, Norberto (2010): TIME: The Illustrated History of the World's Most Influential Magazine. Rizzoli International Publications Inc. New York
- Beardsworth, John (2007): Advanced Digital Black and White Photography. The Ilex Press Limited.
- Benjamin, Walter, 'The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction', in Illuminations, ed. Hannah Arendt, trans. Harry Zohn, New York: Harcourt Brace & World, 1955.
- Berger, John Ways of Seeing. London: British Broadcasting Corporation and Penguin Books (2007(2000)).
- Modos de ver. Barcelona, Gustavo Gili. (2006 (1972)). Sobre las propiedades del retrato fotográfico. Gustavo Gili. Barcelona.
- Bright, Susan (2005) Art Photography Now. Aperture. New York
- Capa, Robert (2009) Slightly out of focus. La Fábrica. Madrid.
- Cartier-Bresson, Henri (2001) The decisive moment. Aperture
- Dondis, D.A. (2002) A Premier of Visual Literacy. Gustavo Gili. Barcelona
- D'Ors, Mauricio (ed.). (2005). Pérez Siquier La Mirada. Ed. Lunweg. Barcelona.
- Easterby, John (2010): 150 Photographic Projects for Art Students. Quarto Inc. London
- Fisher, Andrea. Let us now praise famous women: women photographers for the U.S. government, 1935 to 1944: Esther Bubley, Marjory Collins, Pauline Ehrlich, Dorothea Lange, Martha McMillan Roberts, Marion Post Wolcott, Ann Rosener, Louise Rosskam. London; New York: Pandora Press, 1987. 160 p
- Foncuberta, J. (2010). La cámara de pandora. La fotografía después de la fotografía. Editorial Gustavo Gili. Barcelona.
- Freund, G. (2001(1974)). Photography and society. (La fotografía como documento social. Barcelona, Gustavo Gili)
- González, Chema (2009) Walker Evans. Cuaderno nº 37. Fundación Mapfre. Madrid.
- Hill, P. C., Thomas (2001(1979)). Diálogos con la fotografía. Barcelona, Gustavo Gili.
- Kobré, Kennteh (2004) Photojournalism: the professionals' approach. Elsevier Inc. San Diego
- Ledo Andi3n, M. (1998). Documentalismo Fotogr3fico. Madrid, C3tedra.
- Ledo Andi3n, M. (2005). Cine de fotogr3fos. Barcelona, Gustavo Gili.
- L3pez Mond3jar, P. (1999). 150 a3os de fotograf3a en Espa3a. Barcelona, Lunweg Editores S.A.



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- López Mondéjar, Publio: Historia de la fotografía en España. Lunweg.Madrid, 1999.
- Mayer, Marcos (2004): John Berger y los modos de mirar. Campo de ideas. Madrid. España. Lunweg.Madrid.
- Meiselas, Susan (2009): In History. International Center of Photography. STEIDL. Göttingen
- Newhall, B. (1988 (1937)). The history of photography : from 1839 to the present. Little, Brown. Boston.
- Pomés, Leopoldo (2001) Toros. Centro Andaluz de la Fotografía. Almería.
- Ribalta, Jorge (2008). El archivo universal. Texto para la exposición del mismo nombre. MACBA. Barcelona.
- Rubio, Oliva María (2007) Momentos estelares. La fotografía en el siglo XX. Círculo de Bellas Artes. Madrid.]
- Sontag, S. (2003):Regarding the pain of others. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, New York.
- Sontag, S. (1973) On Photography. Picador USA. New York
- Sougez, Marie -Loup (1994). Historia de la Fotografía. Madrid, Cátedra.
- Sougez, Marie -Loup (2007). Historia general de la fotografía. Madrid, Ediciones Cátedra (Grupo Anaya S.A.).
- VV.AA. (1996). Retratos: fotografía española, 1848 - 1995. Fundación Caixa de Catalunya. Barcelona.

Magazines:

Documentary Photography

www.ojodepez.org - Ojo de Pez Magazine - Barcelona

www.privatephotoreview.com

www.7punto7.net - 7 Punto 7 Magazine. Madrid

www.bjp-online.com - British Journal Of Photography - London

Camera Internacional

www.photovision.es -Revista Photovision - Sevilla

www.ingentaconnect.com (Photography and culture) Photography And Culture Magazine

Art:

www.exitmedia.net (Exit Book y Exit Express)

www.camera-austria.at Camera Austria Magazine

Tecnicque:

<http://foto.difo.uah.es/curso/index.html>

Other:

Centro Virtual Instituto Cervantes

<http://cvc.cervantes.es/artes/fotografia/default.htm>

Analysis of artistic photography. Castellón University (Jaume I)

http://www.analisisfotografia.uji.es/root2/intr_ingl.html

Films:

CONTACTS Idea by William Klein

ROBERT FRANK FILMOGRAPHY



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LIFE THROUGH A LENS Annie Leibovitz
WAR PHOTOGRAPHER James Natchwey
BLOW UP Michelangelo Antonioni
HOCKNEY (David) - On Photography
SUMO- Helmut Newton
THE GENIUS OF PHOTOGRAPHY – BBC

Additional reading

Students can get hold a number of articles and texts at Faculty Copy Center. Some of these will also be made available by the unit coordinator on line.

ACTIVITIES

Throughout the Course a range of academic activities will be carried out, such as visits to exhibitions, museums, historical monuments and cultural centers, including the following:

- Photo-walk: Getting to Know the City. The Guadalquivir Riverside.
- Photo-walk II: Triana Market.
- Camera Obscura : The Pellet-Shot Tower (Torre de los Perdigones)
- The Seville Municipal Photo Library
- The Andalusian Center for Contemporary Art (CAAC)
- The Forestier Gardens. University of Seville (Seville)
- The Exhibition Casino (Casino de la Exposición)
- The Seville Institute of Culture and the Arts (ICAS)
- The Focus Abengoa Foundation
- The Valentín de Madariaga Foundation
- Museum of the Autonomous Community of Andalusia