San José State University
Department of Art & Art History
Phot 116, Contemporary Issues in Photography
Section 02, Course Number 49596
Fall 2015

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Valerie Mendoza
Office Location: DH 401C (W) or meet @ IS 219 (on TH)
Telephone: 408-924-4693
Email: valerie.mendoza@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Drop-in: Wednesdays 3:00-5:00
By Appointment only on Thurs evenings from 6-7:00 PM &
Wednesday evenings from 5:00-6:00
Must be arranged in advance.
Class Days/Time: Tues from 12:00 - 2:50
Classroom: Industrial Studies Building 219C
Prerequisites: Phot 40

Server Information –Assignments, Readings, Handouts

Assignments, readings, handouts and other information will be located on the Canvas website provided by the
university for this course, where you may download them and view or print them out anytime you wish. In the
past I've used Canvas in conjunction with the Photo server for this course. Since we won't be using the Photo
server, I don't need to give out the user ID and password to access it for this course. Due to our efforts to make
the Department of Art and Art History “paperless,” hard copies will not be distributed.
Most of you have used Canvas before for other classes. To access the site, go to: https://sjsu.instructure.com

You should go there now (or as soon as you get home) and download the greensheet and first handouts and
assignments, so you have them available for future use. Make a practice of doing this regularly. Start a folder on
your laptop and download and keep the materials there, rather than counting on being able to return to Canvas
regularly. All systems fail and are unavailable at times. Waiting until the last minute or failing to download and
keep your materials safe can be deadly. Please let me know if you have problems accessing your materials.

Catalogue Course Description

Examination and discussion of aesthetic trends and philosophies in photography and related media, their impact
on the medium and society.
Course Content and Objective

Photo 116 is a seminar course exploring contemporary issues in photography and related media in the art world. We will spend our time primarily viewing contemporary imagery while actively engaged in discussion regarding weekly readings about today’s photographers, ideas and philosophies about the medium.

We live in a society where photography surrounds us and influences our daily lives in numerous ways. In fact, much research has been conducted on our culture and how we "consume" images. Though we may not realize it consciously, we are actually quite sophisticated and adept at understanding the meaning behind even the split-second flash of an image in an advertisement, music video or film. The same holds true for still images, where the viewer has a bit more time to study the image and decide what it means, and how s/he might relate to it. This seminar will explore the major trends and philosophies found in photography today, with a special emphasis on photography as a fine art. We will view many diverse images and examine how contemporary photographers use the medium, inventing new ways to express their interests and concerns on subjects as varied as landscape, autobiography, political issues such as identity, gender, race, class, sexual orientation and censorship, documentary imagery, postmodernism, advertising, traditional manipulation, mixed media, digital imaging and more. This broad knowledge base will help us develop our own artistic philosophy and shape the direction of our future artwork.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast movements and philosophies in contemporary photography.
2. Identify various aesthetic trends pervasive in the art world during the last 20 years.
3. Understand and explain photography’s multi-faceted influence on today’s society.
4. Describe the emphasis/concerns of major artists in the field of contemporary photography and related media.

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at http://www.sjsu.edu senate/docs/S12-3.pdf.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook: None - I will upload weekly readings to Canvas as downloadable PDF files.

Library Liaison

Our library Liaison is Rebecca Kohn. She can be reached via email at Rebecca.Kohn@sjsu.edu and by phone at (408) 808-2007. Her office is located on the 4th floor of the King Library and she welcomes students to contact her with research questions. Art and Art History Library Resources are available online at: libguides.sjsu.edu/Art. All of the University Library Resources can be accessed at: libguides.sjsu.edu/az.php

Required Texts/Readings

Due to the contemporary nature of this course, there is no textbook that contains a current timeline of up-to-date information. Therefore, to gain a better understanding of the many issues we’ll explore in this class, specific reading assignments will be posted on our Canvas Site a week prior to each weekly class meeting. These articles will be posted as easily downloadable PDF files. Students are expected to read the articles and be prepared to discuss the issues in class. The articles and essays have been carefully selected. I promise never to give you irrelevant “busy” work. Keep in mind that class participation is a significant percentage of your grade, so making
notes while reading will be very helpful to you during our discussions. Where do you agree or disagree with the author? Which issues are most relevant and interesting to you for discussion in class? The articles often offer much to think about and consider, so don't put the readings off until the last minute and turn them into a burden.

**Response Papers - 1st due next week, 9/1:** You will be asked to write responses to the readings each week which will be collected at the beginning of class, starting next week. One to two typed page/s with reasonable type size (no larger than 12 point), margins (1 inch max.) and spacing (no more than double-spaced) is sufficient and will be graded based on clarity and insight. I will notice very large type, huge margins and vast spacing and you will be graded down if this occurs. You should comment on (and quote) specific material in the articles, so that I know you have read them, rather than simply giving your opinions on the subject matter in general. You might want to bring two copies, one to hand in to me, and one to use as notes to help you participate in the class discussion or refer to on your laptop or tablet. Remember, your participation in the form of discussion will be part of your grade. Discussion is not considered optional for this class. It is required to earn an A.

Your weekly written response papers are worth 25% or one-quarter of your grade. You will write 11 one to two-page response papers for this class, plus your Artist Statement at the end of the semester, for a total of 12. Papers are graded as a “check” (adequate or roughly a “B”), “check plus” (above average or “A”), or “check-minus” (inadequate, below average or “C”). Each paper is worth points. Occasionally I give a “check-plus-plus” for exceptionally strong papers (A+, worth extra credit) or a “check-minus-minus” for papers that include little relevant information and are next to turning in nothing at all (roughly worth a “D”). Missing papers or very poorly written papers add up fast and will negatively impact your grade. To give you an example, if you turned in 5 of your 11 papers, you would receive less than half credit for your reading/writing grade, and would fail this portion of the class. Late papers lose 1/3 of a grade (automatically reduced from a “check-plus” to a “check,” for example). If you didn't write any papers at all, even if you received 100% on every other portion of the class (which isn't likely), you would only receive a “C” as your overall class grade. Please take this portion of the class seriously. Do the readings, site the readings in your papers, don't miss papers, get them in on time, and you'll do well on this portion of the class. That said, it's far better to turn papers in late, or have a few be less than fabulous than to miss them altogether.

**Class Presentations**

Each week, one to two students will research and present on the scheduled topic in photography (for which the rest of us have likewise done the reading). Each of you will only present once, so you should carefully choose a topic that is of interest to you from the list of topics on the course schedule at the end of the greensheet. Last semester I had each student present twice. More on why I made the change later in the greensheet. But what this means is that you have a little less work in the class, but your one presentation also counts for more points. You've only got one shot at this, and it counts for a lot (30% of your grade in this class). So take it seriously and make it good!

Though some of you will be working as a team, each student will research, compile, and give their own 30 minute presentation. A more collaborative approach is also fine (like a panel discussion), though each of you still have to present 30 minutes of material. The presentation will be given as a digital slide show and can include showing images you’ve collected from the Internet, books, and other sources. You can create a PowerPoint or Keynote presentation, or you can lead us on visits to various websites, show short excerpts from relevant videos, and explore music and other related media. I actually don't suggest the website surfing approach, because this usually doesn't work out well and tends to be disorganized and slow. Regardless of which approach you choose, keep any videos you show very short (videos are optional, not required), and be sure to practice ahead of time. Your presentations in this class will represent 50% (or one half) of your grade. This presentation in particular is very important. It represents 30% of your grade, or roughly a third of your final grade in this class. A typical presentation will include 6-10 different photographers and last 30 minutes. A well-prepared presentation should not last longer than 30 minutes. If your presentation is disorganized and begins to run too far past 30 minutes, I will stop you, and your grade will suffer as a result. Your grade will also suffer if you have insufficient materials and your presentation is
short (less than 20 minutes). Please arrive prepared to present on your chosen presentation days. There won't be
time to reschedule if you miss your presentation, and there will be an automatic reduction of a full letter grade if
your presentation is late. It’s very important to research the artists you present, since your presentation is intended
to educate the rest of us. Feel free to exchange email addresses with the other student/s presenting the same day, to
avoid picking the same artists. I realize that public speaking can be intimidating, but it's a big part of this class, a
good experience for you, and educational for the rest of us. Most careers will involve delivering presentations of
one sort or another, so consider this a valuable learning experience for your future.

Your presentations will receive a letter grade broken down into numerical value, and will represent your most
important work in this class. If you were to miss your presentations, even if you received 100% on every other
portion of the class (not likely), you would not pass the class. Again, please take your presentations seriously. You
will have two small presentations in this class as well: one in the beginning of the class, introducing us to your
favorite artists, and one at the end, when you share your own work with the class. Each of them is worth 10% of
your final grade, with the large, 30 minute presentation worth 30%, for a total of 50% of your final grade.

Other equipment / material requirements

1. You MUST have your own laptop computer to take courses in the Department of Art & Art History at
SJSU. Macs are preferred and will make life easier, since demos are given on a Mac.

2. Adobe CC and Antivirus Software is free to all SJSU students - You should use this link and
download it asap: http://its.sjsu.edu/services/software/

Other equipment / material requirements/technical Issues

You can either hook your own laptop up to the digital projector in our classroom (recommended), or I’ll have a
Mac laptop connected to a digital projector available for student presentations each week. If you give your
presentation from my laptop, you will need to bring your presentation images on a flashdrive, CD or DVD,
and/or surf the internet from my computer during the presentation. If you plan on using your own computer and
you're a Mac person, be sure to bring the little white adaptor that hooks up to the projector cable. It’s helpful if
you have a little knowledge about technical issues like jpeg images and presentation programs such as
PowerPoint, Keynote, or Lightroom. An advanced knowledge of software programs is not necessary.

Classroom Protocol
Guidelines for Class Discussions

We will spend most of our time actively discussing contemporary issues in photography and taking a look at
what’s going on in the art world today. We’ll go on at least 3 field trips to view exhibitions off campus. When
we meet in the classroom we’ll spend most of our time viewing photographs, videos, and visiting artists’
websites as a part of presentations, as well as actively discussing the readings. We'll narrow down the infinite art
world for each class, and analyze a particular aesthetic approach or conceptual issue associated with
contemporary photography. A lively discussion of the many, often contradictory, issues surrounding the topic
will (ideally) ensue. Your comments, agreements (and disagreements), are most welcome at any time, and will
make this class all the richer. We'll be debating issues that have already caused Congressional hearings, protests,
arrests, and lawsuits. Know that no one can be absolutely "right" or "wrong" regarding the issues we will be
discussing. Taking risks will be rewarded in this course. Have the courage to speak up with your opinion—
everyone’s views will be respected. It’s often way more interesting when we respectfully disagree!

Laptop Etiquette

Please use your laptops in respectful manner. Laptops should remain closed during critiques, films, guest
speakers or demos. Laptops should only be open during breaks, or when our weekly presenters or I have
specifically asked you to follow along. Please show respect for me and those around you.
Cell Phone Etiquette

Ringers on cell phones should be turned off during class time. Leaving the class to take a call should only be done in emergencies. The same goes for texting. Again, please show respect for those around you.

Class Blog

Each of you will be posting three links relevant to the scheduled topic and readings to our Canvas site each week. Information about what is occurring in the following week will be posted as a "Discussion" prior to the start of class. Over the coming week, you will add your links below my introduction. All links must be posted by 11:59 PM the night before our class to receive full credit. I am hoping to make this a more active portion of the class this semester. Each of you should take a look at one other's posts prior to the start of class, and please feel free to comment. This semester I have reduced your topical presentations from 2 to 1 presentation each. This will make the class less rushed, and leave us more time to discuss the links you have posted. I will begin each class by breaking you up into groups of 3 or 4. You will discuss the weekly topic for 15 minutes. After that, we will begin our class discussion. My goal in doing this is to provide time for you to get "warmed up" for an interesting, active, perhaps even exciting discussion, with all members of the group fully participating.

More Details on Weekly Posts

Beyond those students giving scheduled presentations, every student will be asked to research three websites related to that week’s topic, and post the sites as a link on our Canvas site by 11:59 PM the night before our class to receive full credit. Everyone should be prepared to present their sites briefly, if called upon when time permits (this means visiting your sites ahead of time and becoming familiar with the artists you picked). Relevant websites can be an artist’s homepage, a museum or gallery exhibition, an essay or an artist’s biography. Try starting your journey at http://www.artnet.com this one friendly site has images and information regarding 300,000 artists and links to museums and galleries around the world. Of course Google is a great resource as well, and I'm sure Rebecca will provide more great tips. Try clicking on the “ Image” option after doing a search to bring up photographs you can use in your presentation or Canvas posts.

Your weekly posts are graded in the form of points. To earn full credit, information must be posted by 11:59 PM the night before our class to receive full credit. Late posts or fewer links than requested will result in fewer points (posts earn half credit if posted after the deadline, 1/3 deduction for 2 links instead of 3, etc.). Your blog posts are worth half of your class participation grade, which means even if you attend weekly and actively participate, and received 100% on every other portion of the class (again, not likely), the highest grade you could earn would be a “B+” if you skipped your blog posts. If you missed all posts and earned less than 100% on writing and presentations (which is quite likely), you could easily fall into the low "B" or high "C" range for your final class grade. Once again, please take this assignment seriously. Your posts represent easily earned points.

Class Participation, Absences, and Late Assignments

This course will be conducted as a seminar in which regular class attendance and active participation are of critical importance. We have the potential for an amazing class this semester– if everyone comes prepared and ready to have interesting discussions. Class participation involves sharing your thoughts, opinions, questions, doubts, and insights. Absences and late arrivals reduce one's ability to participate and learn, and will significantly affect the final grade. Class lectures and discussions cannot be repeated. Please make me aware of illnesses or family emergencies when they occur, rather than attempting to give me a list of difficulties you faced at the end of the semester. Feel free to talk to me if something unusual comes up. But if you know in advance that you won't be able to attend regularly, I strongly suggest that you drop the course now. Remember the class meets only once a week, so missing one class is equal to missing one week. Missing one class is not ideal, but redeemable. Miss two classes and you're already edging toward the danger zone. Missing three classes or more is unacceptable and will result in a grade reduction, even if you are an active participant when present. Be forewarned; lack of participation, even if you are present, will also result in a grade reduction. If one sits in
class with few comments and offers little participation, expect a class participation grade of C, worse if you have missed a few classes or blog posts. Class participation in the form of active participation in the discussion and blog posts is worth 25%, or one-quarter of your overall grade.

Field Trips - "Out of Classroom" Experiences

The Bay Area is rich with photography related events. Nearby, the San Jose Museum of Art, the San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA), MACLA and Works Gallery are all within walking distance and often feature great image-based shows, as well as the de Saisset Museum at Santa Clara University and The Triton Museum of Art, both in Santa Clara. In Palo Alto and San Francisco you'll find the Stanford Art Museum, SF Camerawork, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, and the SF Museum of Modern Art. We will go out as a group, and visit a total of 4 galleries this semester. Three of those visits will be conducted during class time. Two of the galleries are within walking distance of campus and I will leave time for you to get there. The third does require transportation, but I will leave extra time for you to get there and get back before your next class begins. The three gallery visits conducted during class time are mandatory, just like any other class meeting. If you do not attend, you will lose valuable class participation points. You will also be invited to join the SF Photography Program Field Trip. This happens once each semester. If you attend the field trip, you will receive extra credit points. The field trip is worth either a half letter grade on your topical presentation (from a B+ to an A-, for instance), or you may use it in place of one paper or one week of blog posts. You may also write one 3-page Extra Credit Gallery Review this semester, on any of the galleries we visit. I urge you to take notes during our visits, just in case you decide to write a report later in the semester. The due date for your Extra Credit Gallery Review is December 1st, but you may turn your Review in at any time. I urge you to write and turn in the paper right after our gallery visit, to keep the work fresh in your mind. Since the deadline is very close to the end of the semester, this is a firm deadline. I will not accept Extra Credit Gallery Review papers after the deadline.

Interested in investigating art and artists on your own (photo-based or otherwise)?
Here are some great resources, for our class and beyond:

Create your own daily email alert for articles on Photography: http://www.google.com/alerts

Check out news on Bay Area art shows at:
http://www.sfgate.com/art/ News on Bay Area artists, art exhibitions & performances
http://sfbayareagalleryguide.com/ Bay Area Gallery Listings
http://www.sfada.com Site featuring San Francisco Art Galleries
http://www.metroactive.com/metro/ Online edition of SJ Metro weekly newspaper:

Websites of Local Museums and Galleries:
San Jose Museum of Art: http://www.sjmusart.org
San Jose Institute for Contemporary Art: http://www.sjica.org
Works Gallery in San Jose: http://www.workssanjose.org
De Saisset Museum (Santa Clara U.): http://www.scu.edu/desaisset
Triton Museum: http://www.tritonmuseum.org
Stanford University Art Events: http://museum.stanford.edu/
Carmel’s Center for Photographic Art: http://www.photography.org
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art: http://www.sfmoma.org

Excellent Online Resources for your presentations:
http://www.cod.edu/photo/curto/1105/index.htm Many great links, mostly Photo History
http://www.photoeeye.com/ Photo bookstore and gallery in Santa Fe, great selection of artists
http://www.artnet.com Index of 300,000 artists & photographers, links to worldwide museums
http://www.photoalliance.org/ Excellent Bay Area photo organization, check for upcoming events
http://photography.about.com/ Vast, amazing site of technical info, and bios and images)
http://www.the-artists.org/ Go to http://the-artists.org/artistsbymovement/photography for bios and links to photographers
http://www.masters-of-photography.com/ Excellent site with images, bios, photographer links
Grading Overview

• Class Presentations 50%
  30% for Topical Presentation
  10% for Introduction to your favorite artists
  10% for Introduction to your work
• Class Participation (discussion & blog posts) 25%
• Written Responses to Assigned Readings & Artist Statements 25%

Graded work created for this class will be evaluated based on the following criteria.

A  **Outstanding:** thoughtful and intelligent ideas presented in a clear, organized, and engaging manner; among the very best.

B  **Above Average - Good:** the ideas are interesting and successfully presented; shows potential, but not necessarily distinctive; roughly equal in quality to the majority of work completed by other students.

C  **Average - mediocre:** achieves minimum requirements of the assignment, but not particularly clear, nor ambitious. Quality of work is below that of most other projects submitted. May be above average idea presented in incomplete state.

D  **Unsatisfactory:** does not satisfy the minimum requirements of the assignment; generally unsatisfactory in terms of quality and clarity.

F  You didn't submit an assignment.

Detailed Letter Grade Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding</td>
<td>100-97(A+)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>96-94(A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Good</td>
<td>93-90(A-)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good+/Good/Good-</td>
<td>89-87(B+)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average+/Average/Average-</td>
<td>86-84(B-)/83-80(B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average++/Average/Average++</td>
<td>79-77(C+)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below Average (+/-)</td>
<td>76-74(C)/73-70(C-)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below Average (--)</td>
<td>69-67(D+)/66-64(D)/63-60(D-)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsatisfactory</td>
<td>Below 60= F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Guidelines for Letters of Recommendation

1. You should give me (or any other professor) 30 days minimum forewarning for letters of recommendation (not counting holidays or breaks during which I will not be writing letters).
2. I will not be likely to grant last minute requests, though it’s worth a try, in emergencies.
3. It should go without saying that you should be a student who did very well in the class/es you took with me.
4. All pertinent documents necessary for the letter should be delivered or mailed to my office.
5. Stamped, addressed envelopes for each recipient should be included with this information.
6. Contact information for each recipient should be e-mailed to me at the time of your request.

I strongly suggest that you schedule a brief meeting (15 to 30 minutes) with me during my office hours to discuss the purpose of the letter at the time of your request. I am happy to write letters of support for all who follow these guidelines.

University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU’s policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See University Policy S90–5 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the SJSU catalog, at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing
concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

**Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes. FYI: Last day to drop without an entry on student's permanent record (D): Tues. 9/1; Last day to add & register late: Weds. 9/9

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/).

**Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material**

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), requires students to obtain instructor’s permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
  - It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor’s process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
  - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

**Academic integrity**

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

**Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at http://www.sjsu.edu/aec to establish a record of their disability.
Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See University Policy S14-7 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center at http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/ located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors. The phone number at IRC is: 924-2888

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit Peer Connections website at http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to scan this code.)
SJSU Counseling Services

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit Counseling Services website at http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling.

Emergency phone numbers
Emergency: 911; Escort Service: 42222

For Information About the Department of Art & Art History: http://www.sjsu.edu/art/

Major/minor forms and a list of advisors can be found at: http://www.sjsu.edu/art/documents/forms/
Art & Art History Department office location: ART 116; Phone: 408-924-4320; Email: art@sjsu.edu

Important Reminders:

Student Galleries - If you would like to show your work in one of the student galleries this semester, the signup date is this Thursday, August 27th. Signup begins at 7:30 at the Art Gallery Office, Art 129. If you have a show this semester please make me aware of it. We'll try to work a gallery visit into the schedule. You may use the galleries in any way you wish. Experiments are fine. It's your space for a week, to do with as you wish. This is an amazing opportunity that most art schools (even expensive private ones) do not offer. Take advantage of it!

Guidelines for 1st Presentations Next Week - For the first two weeks of class, each of you will give a 5-minute presentation on photographic artists who have most influenced your own work. If we have time at the end of the second day, the TA's and I will share our influences as well. A very brief, well-organized, digital slide show (powerpoint or a program like it) is fine for this. If you plan to visit a website or two, practice ahead and know your way around the site. You may have heroes who are friends or commercial artists. For this presentation, please stick with photographic fine artists who are historically significant to the medium. Stay away from commercial artists or friends. Same goes for your large, formal presentations on our class topics.

As of Today, 8/25

1. Your greensheet, handouts, and first reading assignments are already on Canvas. You should go to the Canvas site for our class and download them now. Your one-page response to the first reading is due, typed and printed at the beginning of the next class.

2. You will look through the list of topics and weekly syllabus and choose your topics for your 30 minute presentations. Pay close attention to the date and choose carefully, preferably a topic that is of interest to you. It will be difficult or impossible to change this later on.

For Tuesday 9/1

1. At the start of class, ALL STUDENTS turn in one-page response to first reading assignments - Topic of discussion: "Photography Now"

2. We will hold our first discussion on the assigned reading.

3. EVERYONE should have your presentation ready - "Personal heroes: Sharing our favorite or most influential photographers/image-based artists" - 5-minute presentation.

4. Next week we will finish any presentations that we did not complete today, and we will discuss our second reading on "Two theorists who made a difference: Roland Barthes and Susan Sontag."
For Tuesday 9/8

1. At the start of class, ALL STUDENTS turn in one-page response to second reading assignments - Topic of discussion: "Two theorists who made a difference: Roland Barthes and Susan Sontag."

2. We will hold our second discussion on the assigned reading at the start of class.

3. We will finish any 5-minute presentations we didn't get to last week: "Personal heroes: Sharing our favorite or most influential photographers and artists"

4. Next week we will go on our first field trip. The first 1-2 students will present on, "Truth, Fabrication and Manipulation in Photography" the following week (9/22). Be sure to ask questions if you have them. You should also feel free to send me questions via email. This is my preferred form of communication with you outside of class time.

For Tuesday 9/15

First Field Trip - no response paper due.

For Tuesday 9/22

The first 1-2 students will present on, "Truth, Fabrication and Manipulation in Photography." Response papers for readings on this topic due from ALL STUDENTS at the start of class.

A detailed schedule for the entire semester follows. After your presentation dates have been finalized and confirmed, I will add your names to the daily schedule, and will upload the updated version of the schedule to Canvas for you.

I look forward to working with all of you this semester. Lets make it a great one.
# Phot 116 / Contemporary Issues in Photography
## Fall 2015

### Course Schedule

Schedule is subject to change with fair notice given in class at least a week in advance, along with an email reminder.

Please consider attending all Tuesday Night Lectures: ART 133, 5-6 PM - especially the one noted on 10/13 below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug. 25th</td>
<td>Class Introduction and Overview of Semester - Choose topics and dates for your presentation. <strong>Guest visitor: Library Liaison Rebecca Kohn provides info. on finding info. on artists.</strong> It will be a busy 2 hours and 50 minutes. Plan to remain for entire class period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sept. 1st</td>
<td><strong>Class Discussion of “Photography Now:” First paper due</strong>&lt;br&gt;Presentations: &quot;Sharing our favorite photographers/artists,&quot; Each student presents for 5 minutes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sept. 8th</td>
<td><strong>Two theorists who made a difference: Roland Barthes and Susan Sontag - Second paper due</strong>&lt;br&gt;Presentations continue (&quot;...favorite photographers/artists&quot;): Each student presents for 5 minutes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sept. 15th</td>
<td><strong>Field Trip - Meet @ Triton Museum @ 1:00 - We will remain for 1 hour, until 2PM.</strong> <a href="http://www.tritonmuseum.org/exhibitions_lens_of_four.php">http://www.tritonmuseum.org/exhibitions_lens_of_four.php</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sept. 22nd</td>
<td><strong>Truth, Fabrication and Manipulation in Photography</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sept. 29th</td>
<td><strong>Photojournalism and Documentary Photography</strong></td>
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<td>6 Sat.</td>
<td>Oct. 3rd</td>
<td><strong>SF Photography Program Field Trip - Tentative - will be in late Sept. or early Oct.</strong></td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Oct. 6th</td>
<td><strong>Landscape Photography and Environmental Issues</strong></td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Oct. 13th</td>
<td><strong>Multiculturalism: Issues of Self, Gender, Ethnicity and Identity</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Tuesday Night Lecture @ 5PM ART 133: Annu Palakunnathu Matthew plan to attend if possible – x-credit!</strong> <strong>Reminder: We are at midterm now - no additional work, just a reminder.</strong></td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Oct. 20th</td>
<td><strong>Mass Media and Advertising Imagery</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Oct. 27th</td>
<td><strong>Field Trip - Meet @ 12:30 @ SJ Museum of Art:</strong> <a href="http://sjmusart.org/exhibitions-on-view">http://sjmusart.org/exhibitions-on-view</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Nov. 3rd</td>
<td><strong>Postmodernism - Appropriation &amp; Recontextualization</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Nov. 4th (W)</td>
<td><strong>ATC Presentations begin in MLK Library, 2nd floor, Room 255, 8:55AM-5PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Attend ATC Presentations w/Valerie if possible</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nov. 10th</td>
<td><strong>Politics in Art: Censorship and Government funding</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>11/13/15</td>
<td><strong>SPE Regional Conference/Retreat @ Joshua Tree Conference Center</strong>&lt;br&gt;<a href="https://www.west.spenational.org/conferences">https://www.west.spenational.org/conferences</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Nov. 17th</td>
<td><strong>New Genre, Extending the Boundaries: Video, Installation, Painting, and Crossing Media</strong></td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Nov. 24th</td>
<td><strong>Field Trip - Meet @ 12:30 @ ICA:</strong> <a href="http://sjica.org/exhibitions_and_programs.html">http://sjica.org/exhibitions_and_programs.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Dec. 1st</td>
<td><strong>Extra Credit Gallery Reviews Due Today! No exceptions. This deadline is firm.</strong> Final Topic: Considering Digital Imaging and Historical Darkroom Processes: Photography's Future</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Dec. 8th</td>
<td><strong>Last Regular day of class - Viewing Our Own Work!</strong> Each of you will show work for 10-15 min. You should all be prepared to present today, as we will get through most of the class. We will finish up presentations on Finals day, if there are any remaining. Bring food to share - Celebrate your accomplishments! Artist Statements due Finals day, 12/11</td>
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<td>Please note that day and time are different from our regular meetings. <strong>ARTIST's STATEMENTS DUE TODAY – HARD COPY ONLY!</strong> Viewing Our Own Work continues w/few remaining students + TA's &amp; I will show work if time permits. Bring food to share – the celebration continues!</td>
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**Final Exam Schedule:** [http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12629.13573.html](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12629.13573.html)

*There are many interesting exhibitions at local galleries this semester. We don't have time to visit all of them as a class. In two instances I have suggested that you go to exhibitions on your own, because they are relevant to the topic to be discussed and researched that week. In both cases, the galleries are local, one within walking distance, and the other in Santa Clara, a short drive from SJSU. Of course you are not required to visit these exhibitions. But please do so if you have time. I will allow you to use these venues for your Extra Credit Gallery Review as well, if you decide to take advantage of that opportunity. Make sure to check days and hours of operation as well as exhibition dates, before you plan your visit. The exhibition at MACLA opens on September 2nd and closes on November 15th. The exhibition at the de Saisset doesn't open until September 18th and closes on December 6th. The de Saisset is closed right now for the install, so hours aren't listed, but will be when it re-opens. Days and hours for MACLA are listed below.

**Politics in Art: Censorship and Government funding**  
*On your own: visit MACLA - [http://maclaarte.org/programs/visual-arts/](http://maclaarte.org/programs/visual-arts/)

510 South 1st Street, San José, CA  
**GALLERY HOURS**  
Wednesday & Thursday: 12—7 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday: 12—5 p.m.  
And by special appointment  
Free admission

**New Genre, Extending the Boundaries: Video, Installation, Painting, and Crossing Media**  
*On your own: visit the de Saisset - [http://www.scu.edu/desaisset/exhibitions/closer.cfm](http://www.scu.edu/desaisset/exhibitions/closer.cfm)

El Camino Real  
Santa Clara, CA 95053  
408.554.4528  
Free Admission.  
Donations welcome.