



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF ART**

**ART 483-01**

**Advanced Topics in Photography**

**Winter 2021**

**Lecture MW 2:00-3:15**

**Labs MW 3:15-4:30 AB 605/659**

**Course delivery format: online/synchronous; blended where possible**

**Instructor:** Dona Schwartz  
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**Office Hours:** Online via Zoom, by appointment

### **Course Description**

Advanced studio inquiry into photography, developing students' foundational, technical and conceptual skills. Deeper exploration of topics in photography such as long-term projects, narrative, projection, printing and alternative processes will enable research creation directed toward self-generated practice. Activities will include workshops, studio practice and critique.

### **Prerequisites and/or Co-requisites**

15 units of courses labelled Art at the 300-level including Art 332 or 338.

### **Objectives of the Course**

Students enrolled in ART 438 pursue individually designed creative research projects in photography, and examine approaches to editing, sequencing, printing, and presenting projects to the audience(s) envisioned for the work.

Topics to be covered include:

- proposal writing
- visual research strategies
- approaches to shooting photographic projects
- visual styles and aesthetics
- pairing words and images
- photo editing
- building visual sequences
- fine art inkjet printing (pending COVID health restrictions)
- exhibition, publication and distribution strategies

## Textbooks and Readings

Anna Fox and Natasha Caruana, 2020. *Research in Photography: Behind the Image 2e*, Routledge.

## Assignments and Evaluation

<u>DUE DATES</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>% OF GRADE</u>
Throughout the Term	Participation and attendance	10%
Monday, January 25	Project photos <sup>1</sup>	10%
Monday, February 8	Proposal presentations	10%
Monday, February 22	Project photos <sup>1</sup>	10%
Monday, March 8	Project photos <sup>1</sup>	10%
Monday, March 15	Presentation plan <sup>2</sup>	10%
Monday, March 22	First draft of project edit <sup>3</sup>	10%
Monday, April 12	Final projects <sup>4</sup>	30%

### Participation and attendance

Photographic work submitted will be discussed in class critiques. Students are expected to be able to articulate their ideas and intentions in these class discussions. Students are also expected to actively participate in discussions and critiques through productive input and commentary. Class participation is a necessary component of the course. Attendance and participation will be factored into the determination of final course grades.

**Photographs must be submitted as specified in course assignments, including file size and orientation.**

**<sup>1</sup> Photographic work will be evaluated according to the following criteria:**

- Technical proficiency (exposure, lighting, focus, rendition of color, etc.)
- Aesthetic awareness (attention to framing, composition, stylistic approach)
- Ambitiousness
- Conceptual clarity (the photograph suits its intended purpose)

**<sup>2</sup> Presentation plans will be evaluated according to the following criteria:**

- Feasibility
- Depth
- Coherent logic and rationale
- Conceptual clarity
- Written mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation)

**<sup>3</sup>The first draft of the project edit will be evaluated as follows:**

- Completeness
- Coherent logic and rationale
- Appropriateness of editing and sequencing choices for intended meanings
- Visual impact

**<sup>4</sup>Final presentation of the project will be evaluated according to these criteria:**

- Ambitiousness
- Completeness
- Coherent logic and rationale
- Appropriateness of editing and sequencing choices for intended meanings
- Visual impact and professionalism demonstrated in the preparation and presentation of the work

**Writing**

Writing is a factor in the evaluation of the student's work. See above, "Presentation plans".

All course work must be submitted in order to pass the course. A passing grade on any particular component of a course is not essential for students to pass the course as a whole.

Assignments submitted after the deadline will be subject to the Late Assignment Policy outlined below

**Registrar Scheduled Final Exam – NO**

***Note:** It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of or any relevant documentation regarding each submitted assignment.*

**Late Assignment Policy**

All work must be complete and ready for discussion on due dates. Late assignments will be graded down one step each day they are late, e.g. after one day an A becomes an A-, after two days that grade will be reduced to a B+, etc. Absence from critique will be designated as unsatisfactory performance for that class meeting.

**Additional Information**

Students will be provided with class time to shoot their projects. Students should also expect to commit a minimum of eight to ten hours per week for out-of-class photographic work, research and other course activities.

Students must have regular access to a professional quality DSLR camera, or approved alternative, to use during the term.

## CLASS SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

<b>Week 1</b>	<b>M</b> January 11 <b>W</b> January 13	Introduction to course; overview of project work Planning projects: discussion READ: Fox & Caruana Ch. 1-3
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>M</b> January 18  <b>W</b> January 20	Photography and research READ: Fox & Caruana Ch. 5-6  Project work: time for shooting and research
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>M</b> January 25 <b>W</b> January 27	<b>Photos due: critique and discussion</b> Project work: time for shooting and research
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>M</b> February 1  <b>W</b> February 3	Webb Norris Webb: Long-term projects, books & collaborations Guest speakers: Rebecca Norris Webb and Alex Webb
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>M</b> February 8 <b>W</b> February 10	<b>Presentations due: Projects that matter</b> Project work: time to photograph
<b>READING WEEK</b> <b>NO CLASS MEETINGS</b>		
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>M</b> February 22  <b>W</b> February 24	<b>Photos due: critique and discussion</b> <b>Preliminary presentation strategy proposals due</b> Project work: time to photograph
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>M</b> March 1 <b>W</b> March 3	Editing and sequencing projects Project work: time to photograph
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>M</b> March 8 <b>W</b> March 10	<b>Photos due: critique and discussion</b> Project work: time to photograph
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>M</b> March 15 <b>W</b> March 17	<b>Presentation plan due: discussion</b> Individual meetings
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>M</b> March 22 <b>W</b> March 24	<b>First draft edits of photographs due</b> Individual meetings
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>M</b> March 29 <b>W</b> March 31	Studio time: Complete work on projects Studio time: Complete work on projects
<b>Week 12</b>	<b>M</b> April 5 <b>W</b> April 7	Studio time: Complete work on projects Studio time: Complete work on projects
<b>Week 13</b>	<b>M</b> April 12 <b>W</b> April 14	<b>FINAL CRITIQUE OF WORK</b>

## Grading Method and Grading Scale

Percentage	Grade	G.P.V.	Grade Definition
96-100	A+	4.0	Outstanding
90-95	A	4.0	Excellent-superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
85-89	A-	3.7	
80-84	B+	3.3	
75-79	B	3.0	Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-74	B-	2.7	
65-69	C+	2.3	
60-64	C	2.0	Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject matter.
55-59	C-	1.7	
53-54	D+	1.3	
50-52	D	1.0	Minimal pass – marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49	F	0	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

### Internet and Electronic Communication Device Information

<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Electronic-Resources-and-Information-Policy.pdf>

Even though instruction will be delivered online, appropriate online etiquette is expected. During class time please refrain from multitasking, chatting, texting and other non-class related activities. This policy is in place for the benefit of all online learners and will make online course delivery more interactive and engaging for us all.

### Portfolios and Assignments

The Department of Art will not assume responsibility for lost or stolen portfolios or course work given to instructors for grading.

### Studio Procedures \*\*

Students will have to respect Covid-19 specific procedures pertaining to the lab location. These include circulation patterns, user policy, distancing and keeping the lab space clean and tidy.

In addition, students and instructors are expected to follow physical distancing regulations in order to comply with the University's Covid-19 Re-Entry Protocols. For more information, please refer to the following website.

<https://ucalgary.ca/risk/sites/default/files/2020-05/UCalgary.COVID19.ReEntryProtocols.pdf>

## **Academic Accommodations**

The student accommodation policy can be found at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities <https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf>

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

## **Academic Standing**

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html>

## **Deferral of Exams and Term work**

It is possible to request a deferral of term work or final examination(s) for reasons of illness, accident, family or domestic affliction, or religious obligations. Please check with Enrolment Services if any of these issues make it impossible for you to sit an exam or finish term work by stated deadlines.

For more information about deferring a final exam go to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

For more information about deferral of term work go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>  
[https://www.ucalgary.ca/live-uc-ucalgary-site/sites/default/files/teams/14/deferred\\_termwork-feb-2020\\_revised.pdf](https://www.ucalgary.ca/live-uc-ucalgary-site/sites/default/files/teams/14/deferred_termwork-feb-2020_revised.pdf)

## **F.O.I.P.**

For more information go to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-centre/privacy-policy>

## **Writing and Plagiarism**

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Support Services can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

or

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. Visual art projects submitted for course credit must be produced by the student specifically for this class. Students must not submit projects if credit has or will be provided for it in another class. This includes re-worked assignments from previous or concurrent courses, unless permission is provided in writing by the instructor. Additionally, the student is asked to be mindful of using visual sources from the internet, ensuring that that material is not derived from any on-line or other available source, and that appropriate copyright permission is granted, when required.

### **Campus Mental Health Resources**

[SU Wellness Centre](#) and the [Campus Mental Health Strategy](#)

### **Campus Security and Safewalk**

Call 220-5333 anytime. Help phones are located throughout campus, parking lots and elevators; they connect directly to Campus Security - in case of emergency, press the red button.

For more information go to <https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/campus-security/your-safety/safewalk>

### **Emergency Evacuation**

For more information go to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points>

### **Ethics**

Whenever you perform research with human participants (i.e., surveys, interviews or observation) as part of your university studies, you are responsible for following university research ethics guidelines. Your instructor must review and approve of your research plans and supervise your research.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-5.html>

or

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/chreb>

### **Instructor Intellectual Property and Copyright Legislation**

Course materials created by the instructor (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the same course section and term may be allowed under fair dealing. Check with the instructor if you have any questions about sharing materials with classmates.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act

(<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.).

Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### **Lockers**

N.A.

### **Student Misconduct**

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

### **Student Ombudsman**

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/>

### **Student Union**

For more information go to <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Call us at 220-3580 or email us at [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca).

You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre at 403-220-5881

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 210-ROCK [7625].