

BLACK AND WHITE DARKROOM

FALL 2022

Course Number: PGY3444C
Course Number: ART5930C (Graduate Cognate)
Credits: 3

INSTRUCTOR

Marina Sachs (she/they/he)
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OFFICE HOURS

(Zoom) by appt. via email

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the process of 35mm Black and White darkroom photography. Through camera handling, negative development, wet darkroom processes, and image enlargement, students will move through the process of shooting, developing, exposing, and enlarging 35mm images.

Alongside this technical development, students will develop a workflow rooted in visual research, supported by texts, historical and contemporary artist references, in-class critiques, and peer discussions, as well as one-on-one meetings with the professor. This is a hands-on course that frames photography as a praxis of research, practice, and presentation.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Through individual projects, critiques, visual research, and discussion-based participation students will:

- **Learn** and **deploy** skills to make Black and White 35mm photo negatives and enlargements
- **Practice** working in wet darkrooms developing and enlarging photo negatives through chemical-based workflow to produce prints
- **Develop** a working language around terms, ideas, and issues pertinent to analog photography, and the history image-making as it relates to 35mm photographs
- **Size, scale, and print** original images in UF's wet darkrooms
- **Prepare** and **present** work for in-class critiques, and **engage** with peers and professor during critiques and in-progress workshops
- **Perform** visual research and **present** alongside in-progress and completed projects

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

This course consists of in-person classes focused on lectures + discussions, at-home workdays, in-class work/lab sessions, an project critiques. There are three projects in this class:

PROJECTS:

1. Simulation and Simultaneity
2. Making Alternativity Real
3. You, Seeing Me, Seeing You

Each project will include specific instructions and project parameters, in addition to grading criteria. Additionally, two core objectives of this course include performing visual research and engaging in critiques.

GRADING INFORMATION

There are three projects in this course, six in-progress material or research deadlines, and critiques. Students will be graded on their participation, completion, and success across each of these course components.

PROJECTS (3 total) <i>Includes visual research, in-progress work, critiques, and preparedness.</i>	20% per project (60% total)
READINGS + HOMEWORK (3 total) <i>Includes in-class discussions, in-progress work</i>	25%
ATTENDANCE + PARTICIPATION <i>Participation includes arriving to class prepared and ready to work, willing to participate in class discussions and critiques, considerate of peers and space.</i>	15%

A more in-depth breakdown of grading tiers is available via email.

GRADING SCALE

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C-	C	D+	D	D-
94-100	90-93	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	70-72	73-76	67-69	63-66	60-62

UF Grading: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

CRITIQUES

It is a requirement of this course that you participate fully in critiques. Because of the collective aspect of the critique, it is mandatory that you are present at all three critiques. A portion of your grade will come from your contributions in critique. Everyone is expected to participate verbally (or in written form, as discussed with the professor beforehand) during critique. Your participation in this class is imperative, and robust student participation is expected. **Students must be present for the final critique** in order to receive credit for their final project. Please plan travel accordingly, as critiques cannot be rescheduled.

VISUAL RESEARCH

Performing visual research is a core objective of this course. Visual research is the process of conducting research through expanded media, including but not limited to: artworks, scholarly articles, studio work, interviews, dictionary definitions, gallery exhibitions, archives, etc. Visual research asks you to clarify the terms of engagement (i.e. “uncanny”) in addition to specifying why you deployed certain strategies to create your work.

Your practice in this course involves the production of artworks, which are informed by contemporary and historical references that, in turn, help you present the work during critique in a grounded context.

LATE WORK

All work must be submitted on time for full credit. If there are extenuating circumstances that inhibit a student from fully completing their work, they must provide documentation showing that they were unable to finish their work. On a case-by-case basis, exceptions may be made.

REQUIRED READINGS

There are no required texts for this course. All readings will be available via email through our course listserv. Films and Media will be available through the AFA library on course reserve, or accessible through Kanopy or Vimeo.com

REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. **Every student should have access to an SLR camera with manual exposure controls. Canon AE-1 or Pentax K1000 are the recommended cameras.**
 - a. Any film-based camera with manual exposure controls is acceptable, and a stock lens works. The recommended lens length is 50mm, but other lens lengths are acceptable. Please check with the professor before purchasing cameras (new or used), and any additional lenses. Be sure to have a fresh battery in your camera, which will operate your light meter.
 - b. Analog SLR (PENTAX K1000 and Canon AE-1) cameras are available for check-out through the photography cage in FAD, but they are on a first-come, first-serve basis.
2. **Twenty (20) rolls of Black and White Film (36 exposures)**
 - a. Recommended films include Ilford HP5 or Kodak Tri-X. Kodak TMax can be used.
3. **35mm Negative Sleeves and Notebook for Storing Negatives/Sleeves**
 - a. Recommended size + orientation → 35mm, 7 strips of 6 frames
4. **Fiber-Based (FB) Enlargement paper**
 - a. Size → 11" x 14", 150 sheets minimum.
 - b. Recommended paper: Ilford Multigrade FB Classic Paper (Glossy or Luster), purchase three packs of 50

WHERE TO PURCHASE MATERIALS

B and H Photo / Video

<https://www.bhphotovideo.com>

Adorama Camera

<https://www.adorama.com>

KEH Camera (used equipment)

<https://www.keh.com>

Freestyle Photo (great for B/W)

<https://www.freestylephoto.biz>

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance for in person class periods is determined by your physical presence. Attendance is taken at the beginning of each in person class, and students are expected to arrive at in person meetings on time and be prepared to participate in all activities. You will be considered tardy if you arrive after class begins.

Three late arrivals or early self-dismissals will count as an unexcused absence. Failure to submit a progress image on an at-home work day counts as an unexcused absence. An unexcused absence does not constitute an extension of an assignment.

Your participation grade will drop 10% after two unexcused absences. Following that, each unexcused absence will drop your participation grade by another 10%. Six unexcused absences will result in failing the course.

It is imperative that any individuals who believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19 contact the Student Health Care Center at (352) 392-1161 to discuss symptoms with a nurse or medical provider before your visit to ensure proper protective measures are taken to prevent further risk of spread to others. Additionally, telehealth visits and phone triage are also available to assist patients with COVID-19 concerns.

If you don't already have a UFHealth MyChart account, you can register for one and activate it immediately by logging onto mychart.shands.org. Download of the Zoom app is required for telehealth visits.

INSTRUCTOR EVALUATIONS

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/.

Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluer.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

IN-CLASS RECORDING POLICY

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are:

- (1) for personal educational use
- (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or
- (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding.

All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Conduct Code.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students are expected to abide by the UF Academic Honesty Policy, which defines an academic honesty offense as “the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage.” In the context of this class, this includes properly citing sources for any materials (both printed and online) used in completing course assignments. sccr.dso.ufl.edu/students/student-conduct-code/

ACCESSIBILITY RESOURCES

I aim to create as accessible a classroom as possible but may fall short. Please let me know if there are ways that I can make classroom instruction more accessible.

Individuals with disabilities must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities and submit to this instructor the memorandum from that office concerning necessary accommodations. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation.

Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. ADA office is located in Room 232 Stadium (phone: 392-7056). All course materials are available in alternative format upon request. UF Disabilities Resource Center drc.dso.ufl.edu/

HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCES

The Counseling and Wellness Center counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/ provides counseling and consultation services to currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate students and their spouses/ partners. The Center offers brief counseling and therapy to help students confront personal, academic, and career concerns.

Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

U Matter, We Care

If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit U Matter, We Care website to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Student Health Care Center

Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the Student Health Care Center website.

University Police Department

Visit UF Police Department website or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center

For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.

GatorWell Health Promotion Services

For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the GatorWell website or call 352-273-4450.

COURSE SCHEDULE

NB: schedule is subject to change, and all changes will be communicated via email. Project deadlines may shift based on student workflow, but will never be moved to before existing deadline.

August 24	First Day of Class 😊 Introductions and Course Overview Homework: “Artist Introduction (You/Them Visual Research)” Presentation for next class Purchase course materials
August 29	“Artist Introduction” Presentations (10 minutes) Homework: Read: Susan Sontag <i>The Image World</i> (1977)
August 31	Discussion on Susan Sontag <i>The Image World</i> (1977) Presentation on 35mm photography fundamentals + visual research Homework: Find 5 artists whose work you identify with and write a few sentences about the connection between your work + theirs
September 5	Camera Basics, Film Loading, Camera Handling Workshop Homework: Start shooting 1st roll of film
September 7	Health + Safety Demonstration with Jordan Developing 35mm Film (Canister Loading + Development) Workshop Homework: Finish shooting roll 1, Develop, Start shooting 2nd roll
September 12	Contact Printing Workshop + Open Lab Day Homework: Shoot film, develop negatives, make contact prints
September 14	<u>In-Class</u> Open Lab Day: Check-ins with contact prints Homework: 4 contact sheets due next class
September 19	4 Contact Sheets Due (Mini in-class critique) Homework: Read Jean Baudrillard (excerpt) <i>Simulacra and Simulation</i> (1981)

September 21	Reading discussion, Project 1 Intro w/ visual research workshop Homework: Develop Project 1 ideas with visual research Start shooting film, developing, contact printing
September 26	Darkroom Enlargement Workshop + Open Lab Homework: Finalize Project 1 Idea Shoot Film, Develop, Contact Print, Enlarge
September 28	Project 1 Idea Presentation to Class (5 mins) + Open Lab Homework: Continue working on Project 1 Shoot Film, Develop, Contact Print, Enlarge
October 3	<u>In-Class</u> Open Lab Day Homework: Continue working on Project 1
October 5	Open Lab Day, Optional Check-ins Homework: Finish Project 1 Install work and visual research in designated FAD areas
October 10	Project 1 Due 4 Enlargements, Negatives + Contact Prints, Visual Research
October 12	Introduce Project 2 + Film Screening Homework: Read Villem Flusser Toward's a Philosophy of Photography (tentative)
October 17	Reading Discussion + In-Depth Presentation on Project 2 Homework: Begin shooting film, brainstorming Project 2 ideas
October 19	<u>In Class</u> Work Day + Check-ins Homework: Contact Sheets + Vis Research due next class

October 24	In-Progress Critique → 2 Contact Sheets + Visual Research (10) Homework: Work on Project 2
October 26	<u>In Class</u> Work Day + Check-ins Homework: Work on Project 2
October 31	☺☺☺ MENTAL HEALTH DAY ☺☺☺ Homework: Finish Project 2 + Install in FAD with visual research
November 2	Project 2 Due 6 Enlargements, Negatives + Contact Prints, Visual Research
November 7	Introduce Project 3 + Open Lab Homework: Reading – John Tagg <i>The Plane of Decent Seeing</i>
November 9	Reading Discussion + Open Lab Homework: Brainstorm Ideas on Project 3
November 14	Project 3 Idea Presentation to Class (10 mins) with Visual Research Homework: Work on Project 3
November 16	<u>In Class</u> Work Day Homework: Work on Project 3
November 21	Check-ins (Schedule a time slot) + Open Lab Homework: Work on Project 3
November 23	NO CLASS Thanksgiving Break Begins
November 28	In-Progress Critique → Contact Sheets, 2 Enlargements + Vis. Research Homework: Work on Project 3

November 30	Student Choice: In Class or At-Home Work Day Homework: Work on Project 3
December 5	Student Choice: In Class or At-Home Work Day Homework: Finish Project 3 + Install in FAD with visual research
December 7	Project 3 Due <i>minimum 6 enlargements</i> FINAL CRITIQUE + CLASS CELEBRATION