

Visual Arts, Art History  
**History of Photography**  
AH 2650G – Winter 2023

Helen Levitt, New York, c1971

Professor Sarah Bassnett

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Office hours – Tuesdays 2 – 2:30 pm on Zoom

Class time: access new course material each week on Mondays @ 10 am

Teaching assistants

Blessy Augustine - [baugusti@uwo.ca](mailto:baugusti@uwo.ca)

Emily Cadotte - [ecadotte@uwo.ca](mailto:ecadotte@uwo.ca)

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course takes a thematic approach to issues and debates in the history of photography.

Throughout the course, we look at the work of key photographers, discuss ideas by important theorists and historians, and consider how photographs relate to the social, political, and artistic context in

which they were produced. We examine the social and cultural role of photography, including how

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students to the exciting field of photography studies and prepares them to critically engage with our image-saturated world. This is an asynchronous online course.

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## LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- x describe and analyze the formal properties of a range of photographs using appropriate terminology
- x explain the significance of the work of important photographers from the nineteenth to the twenty-first centuries, including how it relates to the social, political, and artistic context in which it was produced
- x read and comprehend the main points of scholarly articles
- x conduct research using library resources, such as books and journal articles in databases, and use the sources effectively to support your analysis of selected photographs
- x express ideas effectively in writing
- x participate respectfully and constructively in online discussions and activities

## PREREQUISITE / ANTI-REQUISITE

The prerequisite is 1.0 from AH 1640 or the former VAH 1040 or two of AH 1641A/B – 1648A/B or the former VAH 1041A/B – VAH 1045A/B, or 1.0 essay course from Arts and Humanities, FIMS, or Social Science, or a module in photography, or permission of the Department.

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an anti-requisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as the basis for an appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it without an adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

The last day to drop this course without academic penalty is March 7, 2023.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Important Technical Requirements

Stable internet connection

## ASSESSMENTS

### DUE DATES & GRADING

Assignment	Due date	Grading
Participation on VoiceThread	Weekly	15%
Quizzes on readings and lectures	Weeks 2 to 8	25%
Final written assignment	March 13 @ 10 am to March 19 @ 11 pm	30%
Visual analysis essay	April 6 @ 11 pm	30%

### PARTICIPATION 15%

The participation portion of your grade will be based your contributions to online discussions and activities in VoiceThread. Please note that even though the course is asynchronous, there is a weekly schedule. You are expected to complete course work on a weekly basis, and this includes contributions to online discussions.

### WEEKLY QUIZZES 25%

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### WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT 30%

The written assignment is based on the weekly readings and lecture videos and assesses the weekly learning outcomes. The assignment is comprised of short answer and essay questions. You will have approximately one week to complete this, in addition to the lessons assigned for that week.

### VISUAL ANALYSIS ESSAY 30%

Using the guidelines for visual analysis provided, write a 6 page / 1800-word essay that compares two photographs with similar subject matter(ubj)-8.3 (ec)8.9 (t)-66 (aphs)8.8 ( w)2.6 (i)2.7 (t)-6.7 (h s 07 Tw .56 -0 )-2 (

petition and supporting documents have been received and assessed, appropriate academic accommodation  
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accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements for  
classes/labs/tutorials, arranging Special Exams or Incompletes, re-weighting course requirements, or granting  
late withdrawals without academic penalty. Academic accommodation shall be granted only where the  
documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not  
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### Academic Accommodation

For Western's complete Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities see [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic\\_policies/rights\\_responsibilities.html](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/rights_responsibilities.html). Please visit the Accessible Education for assistance with a academic accommodation. Students who want to request academic accommodation must register with the Centre, meet with a counselor, and provide appropriate documentation. See [http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible\\_education/index.html](http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html) for more information.

### Absences on Religious Holy Days

For purposes of this policy "the University has approved a list of dates which are recognized religious holidays which require members of those religions to be absent from the University; this list is updated annually and is available at departmental, Deans' and Faculty advising Offices." For Western's Policy on Religious Holidays see [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic\\_policies/rights\\_responsibilities.html](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/rights_responsibilities.html).

### Professionalism & Privacy

In addition to following the [Student Code of Conduct](#) Western students are expected to adhere to the following expectations of professional conduct:

Students are expected to follow online etiquette expectations

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The writing shows less than adequate engagement with the topic and with the material covered by the course. The writing is a less than adequate summary of sources and/or is considerably off-topic. Written facts are stated inaccurately or ambiguously; the writing style is difficult to follow; there is insufficient elaboration to permit reader's comprehension of relations among ideas; little judgment is shown in selecting detail for inclusion in the text. Regarding research, few s