EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

VISUAL ARTS

School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Visual Art Art History

FA / VISA 3063 3.0 SECTION A
PHOTO STUDIO II: LANDSCAPE AND PLACE
FALL 2017 / WINTER 2018

Last Modified Date: 09/11/2017

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This is an intermediate level photography course focusing on improving camera skills and production techniques, concept development, and image presentation strategies. During the course, students will explore a range of photographic techniques and genres; develop technical and creative skills in photographic production and modes of print and/or screen-based presentations; develop confidence in their artistic practice, technical competence and creative skills; acquire critical skills in photography and in the broader discourses related to cultural production; be exposed to a range of photographic practices as a source of inspiration and to further an understanding of issues of representation. Pre-requisite: FA/VISA2061 3.0 or FA/VISA 2065. Open to non-majors

INSTRUCTOR(S)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>Levitt, Nina E</td>
<td>Sec. A / STD / F</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

Course Director: Professor Nina Levitt
nlevitt@yorku.ca
Please use email to make appointments at least 48 hours in advance.
http://www.ninalevitt.com
Office: GCFA 246
Course Moodle portal: moodle@york
Please make sure to check your York email account and Moodle frequently for announcements regarding field trips, events and other course-related information. It is your responsibility to check both before coming to class and stay informed. You may also miss any last minute changes to the schedule and field trips.
Photo area staff:
Lindsay Page (print lab), lpage@yorku.ca, (416) 736-2100 ext. 22949
Responsible for digital lab access room 132, facility supervision, large format digital printing.
Lab info - http://forerunner.finearts.yorku.ca/photolab_guidelines.html
Kotama Bouabane (all other Photo areas): kotama@yorku.ca (416) 736-5372
Responsible for darkroom and studio access and bookings, equipment checkout, facility, supervision and health and safety information.
Calendar description
This intermediate level production course will explore photography in relation to ideas and
creative practices about the natural world and a sense of place. Through a range of production strategies students will examine how the landscape genre can embrace an understanding of the natural world, history, economics, the environment and connections to place.

Pre-requisite: FA/VISA2061 3.0 or FA/VISA 2065 or permission of the course director. Materials Fee: $75

FA/VISA 3063 is a one-semester course. The LAST DATE TO DROP this course without academic penalty is November 10, 2017. Information about a refund for dropping this course can be found at http://sfs.yorku.ca/refunds/tables/

For information on other important York University dates see: http://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/fw17

Through a range of production strategies, field trips, discussions and readings, students will examine how the landscape genre can embrace an understanding of the natural world in relation to history, politics, ideology and notions of place. Topics include defining and expanding the boundaries of landscape as an artistic genre, exploring our impact on the natural world, the relationships between history, political ideology, and our environment, and how we create a sense of, and an understanding of place.

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

Readings

Some on-line tutorials, essays and artist’s websites may be assigned as needed throughout the semester. There is no required textbook for this course, although a photography reference book is highly recommended, and available in the library.

Useful reference books:

A Short Course in Photography, London & Stone, 2014

LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF

Learning Outcomes: research and creative practices, improving camera skills, understanding the value of work-in-progress, acquiring print production skills, developing critique skills.

During the course, students will:

• explore a range of photographic techniques and genres
• develop technical and creative skills in photographic production and modes of print and/or screen-based presentations
• develop confidence in their artistic practice, technical competence and creative skills
• acquire critical skills in photography and in the broader discourses related to cultural production
• be exposed to a range of photographic practices as a source of inspiration and to further an understanding of issues of representation

Teaching Mode

This is a four-hour per week studio course. Class time includes illustrated lectures, demonstrations, student presentations, print production assistance, software tutorials, one-on-one
meetings with the Instructor, field trips, and critiques.
Some class time will be devoted to production, however students are expected to dedicate 3-6 hours per week outside of class time to the creation and production of course work. Yes, 3-6 hours! This time should include photographing, printing, reading, visiting galleries and completing software tutorials as needed. Become familiar with lab hours and take advantage of after-hour access. Manage your production time with a balance of research, inspiration, and motivation.
This course allows for mixed levels of learning so a willingness to share skills and ideas with your peers is especially important. Respectful, collegial behaviour is required in the classroom and labs. Further general information about Student Code of Conduct at York.

**GRADED ASSESSMENT**

Assignments
Project #1 (25%)
Project #2 (30%)
Project #3 (30%)
Participation 10%
Attendance 5%

Demonstrating a commitment to your ideas, conducting subject research, skill development, synthesis of class lectures and responding to feedback are equally essential to the success of your projects.

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Evaluation
Assignments are graded on the basis of:
• evidence of effort and commitment to your project
• achieving technical competence and improvement
• evidence of independent creative thinking and problem-solving
• evidence of aesthetic and historical awareness and research

Work-in-Progress for Project #3 will be a % of a final project grade. You need to demonstrate work-in-progress with satisfactory levels of production. Missing the work-in-progress presentation will result in a zero for that portion of the grade unless you have a medical exemption. Please see Attendance policy below.

Late Projects will receive one letter grade deduction per week overdue to a maximum of 2 weeks. Late projects will NOT be accepted after two weeks past deadline unless you have extenuating circumstance you discuss with me in advance, or a Doctor’s note.

Consistent and punctual attendance is mandatory. Think of this as a “free” 5%. For the first class, you will start with 5/5. Each absence will result in one point deduction down to zero after 5 absences. Coming late to class may result in loss of 1 attendance point.

Participation grade is a combination of your presence, your personal and creative growth, an active and mature commitment to your work, demonstration of your willingness to help and support classmates, and contributions to discussions during class and critiques.

The final grading scheme for this course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in
undergraduate programs at York. For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar http://registrar.yorku.ca/grades/legends/fa

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Tutorials
Depending on your experience and skill level, some software tutorials may be assigned.

Required Equipment
You must have a digital SLR camera for this course that shoots RAW files. A tripod is highly recommended. There are several available in the Cage for daily or weekend loans.

Medical Absence
A Doctor’s note is absolutely required for an extended absence or for late assignments. The instructor reserves the right not to accept a late assignment unless there are extenuating circumstances that the student brings to the attention of the instructor prior to the assignment deadline. One letter grade will be deducted for each week the work is late to a maximum of 2 weeks. After 2 weeks, the assignment will not be accepted and you will receive zero.

Absence for Religious Observance
Please advise me in advance of any absence due to religious observance. More information at Religious Observance Accommodation

Accessibility
Students who feel that there are extenuating circumstances that may affect their ability to successfully complete the course requirements are encouraged to discuss the matter with the Course Director within the first two weeks. Students with physical, learning or psychiatric needs who require reasonable accommodations in teaching style or evaluation methods should discuss this with the Instructor so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Access/Disability
Academic Honesty
All students are subject to the policies and procedures regarding academic honesty as defined by the Senate of York University. Further information can be found: York's Academic Honesty Policy and Academic Integrity Web site.

Ethics Review Process
York students are subject to the York University Policy for the Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants. In particular, students proposing to undertake research involving human participants (e.g., interviewing the director of a company or government agency, having students complete a questionnaire, etc.) are required to submit an Application for Ethical Approval of Research Involving Human Participants at least one month before you plan to begin the research. If you are in doubt as to whether this requirement applies to you, contact your Course Director immediately.

Please refer to Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants

Damaged Equipment
In the case of damaged tools and equipment that are the property of the Department of Visual Art & Art History, staff technicians will determine if the damage is a result of normal wear and
tear and if the item is repairable. If it is determined that the damage was the result of abuse, the student will be responsible for the full cost of the repair, or the full cost of replacement if the item is not repairable.

Damage Collection Procedure

Upon receiving any of these notifications, (damage, loss, theft) the Department will prepare an invoice for the full repair or replacement cost of the item/s. You will be responsible for full payment of this bill within 14 days. Payment must be made by certified cheque, money order or cash to the VAAH office. Personal cheques will not be accepted. If payment is not received within 14 calendar days or by the last class day of the semester, whichever is sooner, your equipment borrowing privileges will be suspended and the outstanding amounts owed will be billed directly to your student account. Until your student account is paid in full you will not be able to obtain official transcripts or graduate etc. In certain special cases, the Studio Manager may authorize the borrower to provide a substitute for the missing or stolen equipment with an item of equivalent function and value.

Many courses utilize Moodle, York University’s course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

Moodle @ York University