

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: PHOTOGRAPHY AND CRITICISM  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **5505PH** (115411)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2012

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool School of Art & Design  
Teaching School/Faculty: Stockport College

Team	Leader
Jon Moorhouse	Y

**Academic Level:** FHEQ5  
**Credit Value:** 12.00  
**Total Delivered Hours:** 35.00  
**Total Learning Hours:** 120  
**Private Study:** 85

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Seminar	30.000
Tutorial	5.000

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	Critical Essay (3500 words)	70.0	
Presentation	AS2	Presentation (20 min)	30.0	

### Aims

*To introduce and debate the ideas, issues and arguments in photographic thinking which have shaped and developed the culture of photography.*

*To alert students to moral and ethical issues.*

*To develop skills of critical judgment.*

### Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate an understanding of, and familiarity with, debates and critical writing pertaining to photography.
- 2 Apply the principles of logical and coherent research practice.
- 3 Present an effective analytical essay.

### Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

3500 words	2	
20 minute presentation	1	3

### Outline Syllabus

*Familiarity with the procedures through which critical judgments are made with regard to photography, are essential for practitioners to evaluate both your own work and the work of others. Additionally an appreciation of photographic culture and theory provides a base from which practitioners can develop your own ideas and opinions. This module sets out to explore developments in photographic thinking, critical judgment and opinion, to introduce moral and ethical developments, and present issues of representation, from the earliest days of photography to recent practice.*

### Learning Activities

Information and issues will be explored through a seminar programme which will encourage group discussion and debate in addition to presentations by staff and visitors, student deliveries, visits and self-directed study. Throughout the module you are to keep a record of your learning experience, and provide a Module Critique for presentation at assessment.

### References

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Sontag, S.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1979
<b>Title</b>	On Photography
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Penguin
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Berger, J.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1972
<b>Title</b>	Ways of Seeing
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Penguin
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Adams, R.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1985
<b>Title</b>	Beauty in Photography
<b>Subtitle</b>	Essays in Defence of Traditional Values
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Aperture
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Barthes, R.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1993
<b>Title</b>	Camera Lucida
<b>Subtitle</b>	Reflections on Photography
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Vintage
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Coleman, AD.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1995
<b>Title</b>	Critical Focus
<b>Subtitle</b>	Photography in the International Image Community
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Nazraeli Press
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Benjamin, W. et al
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1999
<b>Title</b>	Illuminations Ed. Arendt, H. trans Zohn, H
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Fontana Collins
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Wells, L.

<b>Publishing Year</b>	2004
<b>Title</b>	Photography
<b>Subtitle</b>	A Critical Introduction
<b>Edition</b>	3rd Ed.
<b>Publisher</b>	Routledge
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Cottrell, S.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2005
<b>Title</b>	Critical Thinking Skills
<b>Subtitle</b>	developing effective analysis and argument
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Palgrave
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Le Grange, L.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2004
<b>Title</b>	Basic Critical Theory for Photographers
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Focal Press
<b>ISBN</b>	

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## Notes

What have writers said about photography? This module aims to introduce, analyse and evaluate some key texts on photography and set these texts within political and social contexts which frame them. The module encourages you to form your own philosophical approaches to photography through independent research and use these findings as a lens to view your own practice.