

Photography Theory 2021

(DOM-E3045)

Schedule updated 3.2.2021, changes are possible!

SPRING 2021 SCHEDULE (Thursdays 9.15-12)

- | | |
|------|---|
| 14.1 | Harri: Introduction to photography theory |
| 21.1 | Mika Elo: Photographic apparatus I: the camera and the eye |
| 28.1 | Mika Elo: Photographic apparatus II: the subface |
| 4.2 | Harri: Roland Barthes and photography |
| 11.2 | Maija Tammi: Uncanny, Abject, and (Aesthetic) Disgust |
| 18.2 | Harri: Jean-Luc Nancy and the image (photography and film) |
| ---- | |
| 11.3 | Anna-Kaisa Rastenberger: Blind spots |
| 18.3 | Marjaana Kella: 'The photographic' in contemporary art &
Rethinking photographic abstraction |
| 21.3 | Deadline for assignment idea/draft (you can always submit it earlier, too!)
(1-2 pages = e.g. beginning/draft of essay describing main idea).
Send as pdf to harri.laakso@aalto.fi |
| 25.3 | Harri: Jean Baudrillard and photography + group working time |
| 1.4 | Group presentations Part 1 + Easter Theory |
| 8.4 | Group presentations Part 2 + Ending session |
| ---- | |
| 25.4 | Final deadline for individual assignments.
Send as pdf to harri.laakso@aalto.fi |

NB: You also have the possibility for voluntary individual meetings (by skype or Zoom) with Harri during the course, in case you want to discuss the assignments or other photography theory related issues. Please set the meeting time by email.

REQUIREMENTS

Attendance 80% and participation, reading assigned texts, completing required essays and tasks.

There will be one individual essay assignment/project (5-7 pages + possible images OR equivalent) and a presentation based on that, done in small groups of 2-4. You can choose the topic of your essay quite freely (as long as it relates to photography theory in any of the ways in which it is addressed during the course.)

Your individual assignment/project will be completed in 3 stages:

- 1) Submit a 1-2 pages essay assignment idea/draft at the latest 21st March. (Send as pdf to harri.laakso@aalto.fi)
- 2) You will work in small groups (decided by teacher based on your themes) and will do a presentation as a group – in which the assignments of all individual members of the group are represented (so that everyone gets to know what the others are doing). You may do this as a ppt presentation including all the projects, as a discussion or debate. However your group wishes.
- 3) Submit the individual 5-7 assignment/project (5-7 pages + possible images OR equivalent project). The final deadline for this is 25th April. (Send as pdf to harri.laakso@aalto.fi)

Possible topics, examples:

- * An essay which relates your photographic work (/your interest in photography) to the thinking of one of the photography theorists/philosophers/writers discussed in the course.
- * How is it possible (*or is it possible*) to address philosophical themes in films and photographs? The essay can deal with the way in which philosophical ideas/texts/books have been adapted/adopted to films, issues of artistic research, relation of images and words etc.
- * An experiment in photography theory. Experiment with alternative way of writing/doing photography theory. (Can be a work combining images and words in a new way, a short video etc.) be creative and do something that will be useful for you later on.