

Art History.

Course Number

AH 386-0-1

Course Title

Photography and Africa

Quarter/Year

Winter 2022

Day/Time

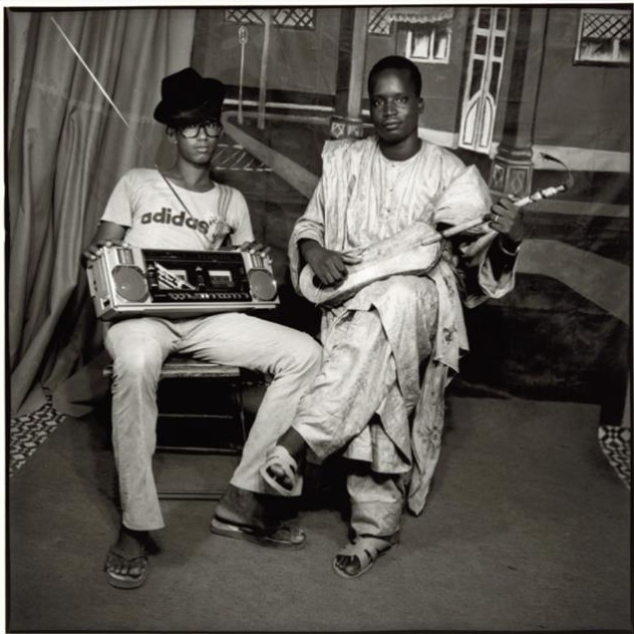
MW 2-3:20 p.m.

Instructor

Byrd

Distro Fulfillment

Majors and Minors



Course Description

This course examines the role of photography in shaping and transforming ideas of Africa—its peoples, cultures, and geographies—from the late-nineteenth century to the present. Across colonial and post-colonial contexts, we will consider how artists, amateur and professional photographers, exhibitions, and publications variously register and respond to social, cultural, and political changes on the continent. Through course readings, lectures, and study room visits, we will engage a range of forms including colonial ethnography, studio portraiture,

film, advertisements, photojournalism, and contemporary art—paying close attention to the circulation, reception, and material shifts of photographic imagery across time and space. The course will analyze the work of unknown makers as well as paradigmatic figures such as Felicia Abban, Mama Casset, Ernest Cole, Alphonso Lisk-Carew, Seydou Keita, Albert George Lutterodt, Malick Sidibé, and Zanele Muholi, among others. We will also engage objects in the collections of either the Herskovits Library of African Studies or the Art Institute of Chicago.

Required Textbooks

None required.

Assessments

Students will be required to produce several short response papers and a final essay.

Contact.

art-history@northwestern.edu
www.arthistory.northwestern.edu