Course Title: Projects in Photography
Course Number: E90.1664
Instructor: ASHTON-HARRIS, Lyle
College: Steinhardt
Department: Art
Activity Type: Studio
Credit Hours: 4
Semester: Fall

Course Description:
Using both traditional and digital photography, students will record and interpret their experiences of living in Accra. Renowned photographic artist, Lyle Ashton Harris, will work with students at a variety of levels on both individual and group projects, as well as introducing students to local photographers, artists, and activists.

Week 1:
Introduction to class and b & w lab
Assigned Projects: Interview your fellow classmate

Week 2:
Field trip to Accra’s photo district: Tudu

Week 3:
Seven minute presentations of Interview your fellow classmate
Assigned Projects:
Three stage portrait (of a Ghanaian over a 8 -12 hour period)

Week 4:
Submit two-page (typed) response paper to “The Uses of Afro-Pessimism”
Discuss “The Uses of Afro-Pessimism”
Film screening: “Thomas Sankara,” by Balufu Bakupa-Kanyinda
Assigned reading: “Fieldwork, Culture and Ethnography,” from Tales of the Field by John Van Maanen, Chicago
Camera Lucida, (select chapters) by Roland Barthes, 1980, FSG

Week 5:
Presentations of Three Stage Portrait assignment

Week 6:
Presentations of Three stage portrait continued
Assigned Readings:
“Photography on The Color Line,” from W.E.B. DuBois, Race, and Visual Culture, By Shawn Michelle Smith
Week 7:
Discuss “Photography on The Color Line”
Individual meetings to discuss final projects

Week 8:
Field trip
Assigned Project: Narrative in Five Parts
Assigned Readings: “Photography as a window to the world: An email correspondence with Philip Kwame Apagya about the art of stage production and about the therapeutic aspects of studio photography” by Tobias Wendl, Flash Afrique- Photography from West Africa, Kunsthalle Wien & Steidl
“The Photographic Experience: Toward an understanding of photography in Africa,” by Olu Oguibe, Flash Afrique- Photography from West Africa, Kunsthalle Wien & Steidl

Week 9:
FALL BREAK

Week 10:
Individual meetings to discuss final projects
Discuss “Photography as a window to the world” and “The Photographic Experience: Toward an understanding of photography in Africa”

Week 11:
Visiting artist

Week 12:
Presentations of Narrative in Five parts

Week 13:
Presentations of Narrative in Five parts continued

Week 14:
In class lab and studio time

Week 15: FINAL PROJECT CRITIQUES

Week 16: FINAL PROJECT CRITIQUES

Grading
Active participation in critiques and discussion of readings will count for 25% of your final grade. The final individual project will count for 25%. The remaining 50% will be
divided among the three assignments. Three or more absences will result in failure of the course.