

ART 475/699
Fall 2019
M/W 10:00-11:15
HFA 257

History of Photography, 1839-present

This course introduces the history of photography as technological, artistic, and cultural medium emerging in the early 19th century, and which continues to the present day. Emphasis on European and American contexts. Over the course of the semester, we will discuss where, why, and how photography was put to use for tasks of documentation, representation, and expression, how it came to be understood as an artistic medium, and how its evolution affected other art forms' purpose and meaning in the Modern period and after. Beginning with early-photographic forms, such as the daguerreotype and photographic drawing, we will cover major concepts such as photographic portraiture, the documentation of landscapes and urban complexes, industrial technology and the mechanization of vision in the late-19th century, Pictorialism and social documentary, street photography and the picturing of social publics, mass-media photography and magazines, photographs as global mediums of colonial and postcolonial agency, the advent of the "art photograph" in the 1970s and after, and current distinctions between the photograph as a physical print and the photographic image as a digital form.

Throughout, we pay close attention to artworks and art objects as our main source. Students will learn fundamental skills of Art History, such as the visual analysis, close looking, and the study of primary documents as they lead to the construction of a thesis-driven research paper.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Identify major photographic works from the late 18th-century to the present day;
- Analyze and evaluate such works, as well as provide multiple sides of an argument to its aesthetic, cultural, and historical value;
- Describe key characteristics of photographic objects, their placement within an historical timeline, and main theories of their relevance;
- Design, research, and write both short (2-page) and long (8-page) papers on photographic objects, while demonstrating mastery of the visual analysis, contextual information, and thesis-driven inquiry, and
- Deliver a short oral presentation on their final research with an original visual presentation (PowerPoint or similar).

Required Texts: [AVAIL @ UNLV BOOKSTORE, POTENTIALLY CHEAPER ON AMAZON OR SIMILAR]

- Vicki Goldberg, ed., *Photography in Print: Writings from 1816 to the Present*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1981. [Listed below as *PiP*]
- Charlotte Cotton, *The Photograph as Contemporary Art*. 3rd ed. New York:

Thames & Hudson, 2014. [Listed below as *PCA*]

- All other readings will be available via Canvas.

Required Social Media:

Students must sign up for an Instagram account, and do the following: Friend request @somearthistoryprofessors

Follow: @icp
@americansuburbx
@pier24photography
@cntrforcreativephoto
@aperturefnd
@metphotoconservation
@metphotographs
@eastmanmuseum
@parisphotofair
@magnumphotos
@veteranas_and_rucas

Course Requirements:

Attendance: It is the student's responsibility to attend all class lectures, and to participate frequently and actively in discussion. Failure to attend class will result in a lower course grade. An accumulation of 4 or more absences throughout the semester will result in a course grade of F.

Readings: Students must complete all required readings in advance of class meetings, and come to class prepared to discuss. Students are encouraged to meet with their Professor in Office Hours to discuss questions on reading, lecture material, or other related matters.

Exams: One 75-minute, in-class midterm on October 9, and one 120-minute final exam on December 9 will be given.

GRAD: Graduate students are not required to take examinations.

Written assignments:

Research Project 1: Primary Objects

Over the first half of the semester, each student will research a photographic object held at UNLV's Special Collections. This project will result in one paper, and two revisions. Only the paper is required to be turned in.

1. One 500-word (approx. 2-page) visual analysis of a photographic object on view at Special Collections.

Research Paper 2: Student's Choice

In the second half of the semester, each student will develop a research topic of their own choosing (in consultation with the Professor) and complete a research paper. Before handing in the final paper, students will complete

1. One completed Final Paper Worksheet.
2. One 2,000-word (approx. 8-page) research paper.

GRAD: One 3,500-word (approx. 15-page) research paper.

All assignments should adhere to the following formats: MS Word document (or similar), 12-pt font such as Times New Roman, double-spaced, and with margins no less than 1-in. Each assignment should begin with your name, date, the course number, as well as an original title for the piece. A list of works cited will accompany the assignment. All illustrations will be properly captioned with the artist, title, date, medium, dimensions, and collecting institution (if known).

Proper citation is required in this course. Please refer to The Chicago Manual of Style 16th ed. to format all footnotes, endnotes, captions, and bibliographic references. For advice on when, where, and how to cite sources, see <http://writing.yalecollege.yale.edu/advice-students/using-sources>.

Failure to use proper citation on written assignments will result in a lowered assignment grade. Repeated occurrence or blatant disregard could amount to plagiarism, which automatically results in a failing grade for the course. It is the student's responsibility to familiarize themselves with and complete proper citation on each and every assignment.

Assessment: Your grade will be based on the following

- Attendance and participation 20%
- Visual Analysis 10%
- Midterm exam 20%
- Final Paper Worksheet 10%
- Final Paper 20%

Grading

- A = 94-100
- A- = 90-93
- B+ = 87-89
- B = 84-86
- B- = 80-83
- C+ = 77-79
- C = 74-76
- C- = 70-73
- D+ = 67-69
- D = 65-66

F = below 65

Rubric:

A: Excellent; original and incisive in idea and analysis, well developed and nuanced argument with thoughtful and considered in use of sources, fluid and graceful writing, consistent and correct citation, virtually free of spelling, grammar, and formatting errors. (A- fulfills at least 3 of these criteria)

B: Commendable; incisive in analysis, clear argument with thoughtful use of supporting information from sources, fluid writing, few spelling, grammar, formatting errors. (B+ fulfills all with additional originality, B- fulfills at least 2 of these criteria)

C: Satisfactory; meets requirements of the assignment, indication of argument/position using some sources to support arguments; consistent but partially incomplete citation, some spelling, grammar, formatting errors. (C+ fulfills all with greater accuracy, C- fulfills most with partial accuracy)

D and below: Unsatisfactory; does not meet requirements of assignment, vague or no indication of argument/position, inconsistent and incorrect use of sources to support ideas; poor organization and/or writing mechanics, multiple spelling, grammar, and formatting errors. (D+ provides greater accuracy, F exhibits extreme lack of consideration for criteria)

All assignments will be submitted to the professor via Canvas at the beginning of class on the date due. Late papers will be marked down by ½- letter grade for each day late (i.e. a one-day-late “B” grade would become a “B-,” a two-day-late “B” grade would become a “C+.”)

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES

WEEK 1

Aug 26: Introduction: What Was Photography?

Aug 28: Visit to Special Collections

Reading:

Arthur Lubow, “A Barnes Foundation Show Illuminates the Dawn of Photography”

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/17/arts/design/barnes-foundation-photography.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share>

John Berger, “Understanding a Photograph” from *The Look of Things*, ed. Nikos Stagos. New York: Viking, 1971, 178-82 (originally published 1968) (Canvas).

WEEK 2

Sept 2: LABOR DAY, CLASS DOES NOT MEET

Sept 4: Visit to Special Collections

Reading:

“Visual Analysis Assignment” and “Sample Visual Analysis” (Canvas)

Assignment:

Write a draft of your 500-word visual analysis and bring to Monday’s class

WEEK 3

Sept 9: Workshopping a Visual Analysis

Bring your laptop/a copy of your visual analysis draft to class.

Sept 11: Photography and Truth

Reading:

V. Fouque, “The Truth Concerning the Invention of Photography: Niecéphore Niépce; His Life and Works” in *Photography in Print*: 25-30.

Rena Silverman, “The Earliest Days of American Photography”

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/03/07/lens/the-earliest-days-of-american-photography.html>

GRAD:

“Report” William Henry Fox Talbot, “Some Account of the Art of Photogenic Drawing” in *PiP*: 36-47

“Bill Presented to the Chamber of Deputies, France” in *PiP*: 31-35

William Henry Fox Talbot, *The Pencil of Nature* (1844-1846) online via

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/33447/33447-pdf.pdf>.*

WEEK 4

Sept 16: Portraits

Reading:

Nadar, “My Life as a Photographer” in *PiP*: 127-8;

Roland Barthes, *Camera Lucida* (selections) (Canvas)

GRAD:

Alan Trachtenberg, “Illustrious Americans” in *Reading American Photographs: Images as History from Matthew Brady to Walker Evans*. New York: Hill & Wang, 1989: 21-70. (Canvas)

Sept 18: Cities & Travel Reading:

Jason Farago, “An 1840s Road Trip, Captured on Lustrous Silver”

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/31/arts/design/photography-girault-de-prangey-met-museum.html?searchResultPosition=1>

Rena Silverman, “India’s Earliest Photographers”

<https://lens.blogs.nytimes.com/2015/06/18/indias-earliest-photographers/?searchResultPosition=3>

Anne de Mondenard, "Marville before the Streets of Paris," in *Charles Marville: Photographer of Paris*. Washington, DC: National Gallery of Art, 2013: 150-67 (Canvas)

Berenice Abbott, "The World of Atget" in *PiP*: 254-258

GRAD:

Roland Barthes, "Death of the Author" in *Image, Music, Text*. New York: Hill & Wang, 1977: 142-8 (Canvas);

John Leland, "The City Is an Overcrowded, Illogical, Inhospitable Marvel"

[https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/25/lens/berenice-](https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/25/lens/berenice-abbott-portraits-of-modernity-new-york.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share)

[abbott-portraits-of-modernity-new-york.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share](https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/25/lens/berenice-abbott-portraits-of-modernity-new-york.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share)

Turn in: Visual Analysis via Canvas

WEEK 5

Sept 23: War Photography in the 19th Century

Reading:

Martha Sandweiss, "General Wool and His Troops," in *Getting the Picture: The Visual Culture of the News*. Ed. Jason Hill and Vanessa Schwartz. London: Bloomsbury, 2015: 19-21 (Canvas)

James Estrin, "Roger Fenton: The First Great War Photographer"

<https://lens.blogs.nytimes.com/2018/01/18/roger-fenton-the-first-great-war-photographer/>

GRAD:

Alan Trachtenberg, "Albums of War" in *Reading American Photographs*: 71-118 (Canvas).

Sept 25: Inventing the West in American History

Reading:

Joel Snyder, *American Frontiers: The Photographs of Timothy O'Sullivan, 1867-1874*. New York: Aperture, 1981: 7-35 (Canvas)

Simon Romero, "What if Mexico Still Included California, Nevada, and Texas?"

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/03/lens/what-if-mexico-still-included-california-nevada-and-texas.html>

GRAD:

Rosalind Krauss, "Photography's Discursive Spaces" *Art Journal* 42:4 (Winter 1982): 311-319 (Canvas)

Edward S. Curtis, *The North American Indian, 1907-1903*: online via

<http://curtis.library.northwestern.edu/curtis/toc.cgi>

WEEK 6

Sept 30: Taxonomies: Pathologizing Difference in 19th Century Photography

Reading:

Rebecca Solnit, *River of Shadows: Eadweard Muybridge and the Technological Wild West*. New York: Viking, 2003: 179-238 (Canvas)

Maurice Berger, "This Photograph of a 7-year-old Girl Transformed the Abolition Movement"

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/07/lens/photo-abolition-movement-girl-in-black-and-white.html>

GRAD:

Allan Sekula, "The Body and the Archive" in *The Contest of Meaning: Critical Histories of Photography*, Chip Bolton, ed. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1992: 343-389 (Canvas).

Oct 2: Camera Work/Social Work

Reading:

Alan Trachtenberg, "Lewis Hine: The World of His Art" in *PiP*: 238-253

Alex Nemerov, "Soulmaker" (selection)

GRAD:

Allan Sekula, "On the Invention of Photographic Meaning" in *PiP*: 452-73

Martha Rosler, "in, around, and afterthoughts (on documentary photography)" in *The Contest of Meaning*: 303-342 (Canvas).

WEEK 7

Oct 7: Reading Round-up & Sample Exam Essays

How do writers respond to daguerreotypes, inventory images, portraits, and landscapes in the mid-19th century?

Oct 9: Midterm Exam

WEEK 8

Oct 14: Special Collections Assignment: Looking back on the 19th Century Reading: SCAMPER exercise (Canvas).

Oct 16: SCAMPER: Revising a Paper

WEEK 9:

Oct 21: Photography into Art 1: Pictorialism & The Thing Itself

Reading:

Alfred Stieglitz, "Pictorial Photography," in *Classic Essays on Photography*: 115-12 (Canvas);

Rena Silverman, "Revisiting the Images of Alfred Stieglitz's Camera Work Magazine"

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/12/lens/revisiting-the-images-of-alfred-stieglitz-camera-work-magazine.html>

GRAD:

Laura Wexler, "Käsebier's Indians" in *Tender Violence: Domestic Visions in an Age of US Imperialism*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2000: 177-208 (Canvas).

Edward Weston, "Daybooks" in *PiP*, 303-14.

Rena Silverman, "Tina Modotti, Behind the Camera and Out of Weston's Shadow"

<https://lens.blogs.nytimes.com/2017/08/24/tina-modotti-edward-weston-photography/?searchResultPosition=2>

Oct 23: Photography into Art 2: New Vision, Surrealism, and Mass Media Reading:

Sergei Eisenstein, *Film Form: Essays in Film Theory*. Jay Leyda, trans. San Diego: Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich, 1949: 3-17 (Canvas)

Heidi Hirschl Orley, "Hannah Höch" <https://www.moma.org/artists/2675>

GRAD:

Rosalind Krauss, "The Photographic Conditions of Surrealism" *October* 19 (Winter 1981): 3-34 (Canvas).

WEEK 10

Oct 28: Community and Protest between the World Wars

Reading:

Paul Taylor, "Migrant Mother: 1936," *PiP*: 355-357;

James Estrin, "Unraveling the Mysteries of Dorothea Lange's Migrant Mother"

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/28/lens/dorothea-lange-migrant-mother.html?searchResultPosition=1>

Langston Hughes, "The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain," *The Nation* June 23, 1926 (Canvas).

Fayemi Shakur, "Illuminating Black Joy, Black Love, and Resistance in Harlem"

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/23/lens/illuminating-black-joy-black-love-and-resistance-in-harlem.html?searchResultPosition=1>

GRAD:

Deborah Willis, "The New Negro Image" in *Reflections in Black*: 33-53 (Canvas).

Oct 30: Discussion: The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction

Reading:

Walter Benjamin, "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction" in *PiP*: 319-334

Rena Silverman, "Capturing the Soul"

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/21/lens/photographic-portraiture-before-smartphone.html>

GRAD:

Ariella Azoulay, "Citizenship beyond Sovereignty: Towards a Redefinition of Spectatorship" in *Documentary*, ed. Julian Stallabrass. Cambridge: MIT Press, 2013: 130-5 (Canvas).

WEEK 11

Nov 4: Class Discussion: Final Paper Workshop

Reading:

What Are Sources (Canvas)

Elements of Research Paper Writing

Nov 6: CLASS DOES NOT MEET

I will be at a professional conference. Please read the "Why Do I Cite" handout (Canvas) and submit your completed Final paper worksheet.

Reading: "Why Do I Cite?"

Turn in: Final Paper Worksheet via Canvas

WEEK 12

Nov 11: VETERANS DAY, CLASS DOES NOT MEET

Nov 13: The Decisive Moment & Photographing the Everyday Reading:

Charlotte Cotton, "Introduction" and "If This Is Art," *PCA*, 1-47

Catherine Clark, "The Decisive Moment" in *Getting the Picture*, 55-7 (Canvas).

GRAD:

Catherine Zuromskis, "Nan Goldin at the Limits of Photographic Possibility" in *Snapshot Photography: The Lives of Images*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 2013 (Canvas)

WEEK 13

Nov 18: Photography into Art 3: Artists Using Photography

Reading:

Jonathan Blaustein, "Lee Friedlander's Photos of 1960s TV Sets"

<https://lens.blogs.nytimes.com/2017/07/03/lee-friedlanders-photos-of-1960s-t-v-sets/>

Rena Silverman, "Peter Hujar's Gay Lower East Side"

<https://lens.blogs.nytimes.com/2017/01/23/peter-hujars-gay-lower-east-side-out-of-the-shadows/?searchResultPosition=2>

Jake Naughton, "Robert Mapplethorpe in Search of Perfection"

<https://lens.blogs.nytimes.com/2016/02/11/robert-mapplethorpe-getty-homosexuality-the-perfect-medium-lacma/?searchResultPosition=1>

GRAD:

David Wojnarowicz, *The Waterfront Journals*. New York: Grove, 1996 (Canvas).

Nov 20: Revived and Remade Reading:

Charlotte Cotton, "Revived and Remade" in *PCA*, 191-217

Patti Smith, "Holding Hands with God" in *Just Kids*. New York: Harper Collins, 2010: 261-284 (Canvas).

WEEK 14

Nov 25: Return of the Portrait

Reading:

Charlotte Cotton, Beginning with "This chapter draws to a close" (105-13) and "Intimate Life" in *PCA*, 137-65.

Nov 27: Physical and Material Reading:

Charlotte Cotton, "Physical and Material" in *PCA*: 218-49.

GRAD:

Hito Steyerl, "In Defense of the Poor Image," *e-flux Journal* 10 (November 2009) (Canvas).

STUDY WEEK:

Dec 2: Discussion: What is Photography Today?

Reading:

Teju Cole, "On Photography: The History of Photography is a History of Shattered Glass" *New York Times Magazine*, November 19, 2017, MM22 (Canvas).

Dec 4: Discussion: What Is Photography Today?

Dave Gershgorn, "Photography without a Lens?"

<https://lens.blogs.nytimes.com/2015/12/23/the-future-of-computational-photography/?searchResultPosition=1>

Turn in:

- FINAL PAPER DUE VIA CANVAS

FINAL EXAM MONDAY, DEC 9, 10.10A-12.10P. HFA 257

Academic Misconduct

Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the Campus community; we all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility, and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, and are encouraged to always take the ethical path whenever faced with choices. Students enrolling at UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV's educational mission. An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another person, from the Internet or any other source without proper citation of the sources. See the [Student Conduct Code](https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct), <https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct>.

Auditing Classes

Auditing a course allows a student to continue attending the lectures and/or laboratories and discussion sessions associated with the course, but the student will not earn a grade for any component of the course. Students who audit a course receive the same educational experience as students taking the course for a grade, but will be excused from exams, assessments, and other evaluative measures that serve the primary purpose of assigning a grade.

Classroom Conduct

Students have a responsibility to conduct themselves in class and in the libraries in ways that do not interfere with the rights of other students to learn or of instructors to teach. Use of electronic devices such as pagers, cellular phones, or recording devices, or potentially disruptive devices or activities, are only permitted with the prior explicit consent of the instructor. The instructor may rescind permission at any time during the class. If a student does

not comply with established requirements or obstructs the functioning of the class, the instructor may initiate an administrative drop of the student from the course.

Copyright

The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with, and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The University will neither protect nor defend you, nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional [copyright policy information](http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright) is available at <http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright>.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)

The [UNLV Disability Resource Center](https://www.unlv.edu/drc) (SSC-A, Room 143, <https://www.unlv.edu/drc>, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. Students who believe that they may need academic accommodations due to injury, disability, or due to pregnancy should contact the DRC as early as possible in the academic term. A Disabilities Specialist will discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours, so that you may work together to develop strategies for

implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

Final Examinations

The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur on the date and at the time specified in the Final Exam schedule. The general schedule is typically available at the start of the semester, and the classroom locations are available approximately one month before the end of the semester. See the [Final Exam Schedule](https://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars), <https://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars>.

Identity Verification in Online Courses

All UNLV students must use their Campus-issued ACE ID and password to log in to WebCampus.

UNLV students enrolled in online or hybrid courses are expected to read and adhere to the [Student Academic Misconduct Policy](https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/misconduct/policy), <https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/misconduct/policy>, which defines, “acting or attempting to act as a substitute for another, or using or attempting to use a substitute, in any academic evaluation or assignment” as a form of academic misconduct.

Intentionally sharing ACE login credentials with another person may be considered an attempt to use a substitute and could result in investigation and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Academic Misconduct Policy.

UNLV students enrolled in online courses are also expected to read and adhere to the [Acceptable Use of Computing and Information Technology Resources Policy](https://www.it.unlv.edu/policies/acceptable-use-computing-and-information-technology-resource-s-policy), <https://www.it.unlv.edu/policies/acceptable-use-computing-and-information-technology-resource-s-policy>, which prohibits sharing university accounts with other persons without authorization.

To the greatest extent possible, all graded assignments and assessments in UNLV online courses should be hosted in WebCampus or another UNLV-managed platform that requires ACE login credentials for access.

Incomplete Grades

The grade of “I” (Incomplete) may be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session, but cannot complete the last part of the course for reason(s) beyond the student’s control and acceptable to the instructor, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. For undergraduate courses, the incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the period indicated, a grade of “F” will be recorded, and the student’s GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete grade do not register for the course, but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the “I” grade.

Library Resources

Librarians are available to consult with students on research needs, including developing research topics, finding information, and evaluating sources. To make an appointment with a subject expert for this class, please visit the [Libraries’ Research Consultation](http://guides.library.unlv.edu/appointments/librarian) website: <http://guides.library.unlv.edu/appointments/librarian>. You can also [ask the library staff](http://ask.library.unlv.edu/) questions via chat and text message at: <http://ask.library.unlv.edu/>.

Missed Classwork

Any student missing class, quizzes, examinations, or any other class or laboratory work because of observance of religious holidays will be given an opportunity during that semester to make up the missed work. The make-up opportunity will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for Fall and Spring courses (except for modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for Summer and modular courses, of their intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional

information, please visit the Policy for Missed Work, under Registration Policies, on the [Academic Policies](https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=26&navoid=6046) webpage, <https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=26&navoid=6046>.

In accordance with the policy approved by the Faculty Senate regarding missed class time and assignments, students who represent UNLV in any official extracurricular activity will also have the opportunity to make up assignments, provided that the student provides official written notification to the instructor no less than one week prior to the missed class(es).

The spirit and intent of the policy for missed classwork is to offer fair and equitable assessment opportunities to all students, including those representing the University in extracurricular activities. Instructors should consider, for example, that in courses which offer a “Drop one” option for the lowest assignment, quiz, or exam, assigning the student a grade of zero for an excused absence for extracurricular activity is both contrary to the intent of the Faculty Senate’s policy, and an infringement on the student’s right to complete all work for the course.

This policy will not apply in the event that completing the assignment or administering the examination at an alternate time would impose an undue hardship on the instructor or the University that could reasonably have been avoided. There should be a good faith effort by both the instructor and the student to agree to a reasonable resolution. When disagreements regarding this policy arise, decisions can be appealed to the Department Chair/Unit Director, College/School Dean, and/or the Faculty Senate Academic Standards Committee.

For purposes of definition, extracurricular activities may include, but are not limited to: fine arts activities, competitive intercollegiate athletics, science and engineering competitions, liberal arts competitions, academic recruitment activities, and any other event or activity sanctioned by a College/School Dean, and/or by the Executive Vice President and Provost.

Rebelmail

Rebelmail is UNLV’s official email system for students, and by University policy, instructors and staff should only send emails to students’ Rebelmail accounts. Rebelmail is one of the primary ways students receive official University communications, information about deadlines, major Campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the University. Emailing within WebCampus is also acceptable.

Tutoring and Coaching

The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching, and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, please visit the [ASC website](https://www.unlv.edu/asc), <https://www.unlv.edu/asc>, or call 702-895-3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of SSC A, Room 254. Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library, and on the second floor of the College of Engineering building (TBE A 207).

UNLV Writing Center

One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the [Writing Center](https://writingcenter.unlv.edu/), <https://writingcenter.unlv.edu/>, located in the Central Desert Complex, Building 3, Room 301 (CDC 3–301). Walk-in consultations are sometimes available, but students with appointments receive priority assistance. Students may make appointments in person or by calling the Center, 702-895-3908. Students are requested to bring to their appointments their Rebel ID Card, a copy of the instructions for their assignment, and two copies of any writing they have completed on their assignment.

Diversity Statement

As an institution of higher learning, UNLV represents a rich diversity of human beings among its faculty, staff, and students, and is committed to aspiring to maintain a Campus environment that values that diversity. Accordingly, the University supports understanding and appreciation of all members of its community, regardless of race, sex, age, color, national origin, ethnicity, creed, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, marital status, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, or political affiliation. Please see [University Statements and Compliance](https://www.unlv.edu/about/statements-compliance), <https://www.unlv.edu/about/statements-compliance>.

A successful learning experience requires mutual respect and trust between the students and the instructor. Accordingly, the instructor asks that students be willing to listen to one another's points of view, acknowledging that there may be disagreements, keep discussion and comments on topic, and use first person, positive language when expressing their perspectives.