SOPHOMORE SEMINAR: EXPLODED VIEW
DRAFT SYLLABUS

WEDNESDAYS 9 AM -12 PM / CO 207

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COURSE DESCRIPTION
Marlo Pascual’s rigid, oversized photographs are pierced by fluorescent light tubes. John Stezaker cuts up and recombines postcards, film stills, and promotional portraits to create new, uncanny images. Brendan Fowler’s framed photographs intersect: physically breaking through one another to become sculptural forms. Ann Hamilton uses her mouth as a pinhole camera. Felix Gonzales-Torres turned intimate photographs into billboards or stacks of infinitely replenished take-aways.

Photography captures a fleeting view of the world. In art, this recorded image can be translated, manipulated, circulated, destroyed and remade. Exploded View explores the catalytic potential of lens-based media for interdisciplinary art making. Drawing on a range of works and practices, the course explores photographic and moving images as material, provocation, and/or companion to works of sculpture, painting, performance, and installation. Responding to these models, students develop and refine their own work over the course of the semester. Through essential readings, studio projects, and writing, students reflect on their own creative practice and its future development, generating narratives about how and why they make art.

SELECTED COURSE TEXTS (DRAFT)
Haunted: Contemporary Photography, Video, Performance, ed. Jennifer Blessing and Nat Trotman
Light Years: Conceptual Art and the Photograph, ed. Matt Witkovsky
Conceptual Art, ed. Tony Godfrey
Photography is Magic, ed. Charlotte Cotton
How to Write About Contemporary Art, by Gilda Williams

ASSIGNMENTS
VDB Critical Response (3 part writing assignment)
DIY Futures Essay
Self-Reflective Essay
Documentation of Practice
Curricular Mapping, Generative Writing, and Documentation Exercises

PROJECT CRITIQUES
Students will have three critiques of their work over the course of the semester.

MENTORING MEETINGS
Students will sign up for three individual or small group meetings outside of class time.

WRITING FELLOW
Students are responsible for arranging and attending two meetings with the class Writing Fellow. These meetings are to get helpful feedback and guidance on drafts of the DIY Futures and Self-Reflective essays.