

## Terra Visiting Professorship at the Kennedy Institute

### Laura Katzman's Courses in the Winter Term 2018

#### BA

##### A Social History of Photography in the United States

(course number: 32101)

Wednesdays 10 a.m. – noon, Kennedy Institute (Lansstr. 7-9, 14195 Berlin) room 319;  
first session on November 7, 2018

This course examines the history of photography in the United States, considering the aesthetic, technological, social, cultural, and political factors that contributed to the development and practice of photography from its beginnings in 1839 through the mid-twentieth century. Particular emphasis will be given to the relationship between photography and society, the role that photography has played in shaping ideology and informing popular thought, as well as the ways that photographs have been used to raise political awareness, inspire civic and global engagement, and promote social change. Photography's complex status as art and document, and how the medium has been theorized by critics, scholars, and artists, will also be studied. The ultimate goal of this course is to encourage critical looking, thinking, and writing about photographic images, texts, and institutions. Field trips to museums in Berlin with strong photography collections and/or photography exhibitions will be required.

Please register at: [culture@jfki.fu-berlin.de](mailto:culture@jfki.fu-berlin.de) with your name, matriculation number, study program, home university, zedat email address or email address of home university, and type of exchange program (if applicable). **Deadline for registration is November 1, 2018.** Enrollment without registration here is not possible. A final list of participants will be published on November 5.

#### MA

##### The Museum in America: Histories and Controversies

(course number: 32114)

Wednesdays 2 – 4 p.m., Kennedy Institute (Lansstr. 7-9, 14195 Berlin) room 319;  
first session on November 7, 2018

This seminar examines the history, functions, and meanings of museums in society, focusing primarily on the art museum in the United States. Drawing on the ever-growing literature on museology, the course critically addresses the ways in which museums—through their policies, programs, exhibitions, technologies, and architecture—can define regional or national values, shape cultural attitudes, and inform social and political views. The intersection between museum theory and practice will be investigated. Students are encouraged to analyze the ways in which American museums present, display, and interpret the art of the United States as well as that of non-American and non-Western cultures. Using the 20<sup>th</sup>-century American art collections at the *Hamburger Bahnhof* and the *Neue Nationalgalerie*, the seminar also considers how contemporary American culture is presented through a European lens. Field trips to the plethora of museums on *Museuminsel* and throughout Berlin will be required.

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