



Rothberg International School
בית הספר לתלמידים מחו"ל ע"ש רוטברג
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM
האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים



Department of Summer Courses
and Special Programs

המחלקה לקורסי קיץ
ותוכניות מיוחדות

Discovering Israel through the Lens (48767)

Gustavo Sagorsky

gustavosagorsky@gmail.com

June 28-July 22, 2021

Mon, Tue, Wed: 16:30-19:30

45 academic hours | 3 academic credits

Tentative Syllabus

Course Description

This course will deepen students' perspectives of both Israeli nature and Israeli society. Students will get to know the land and culture of Israel through the history of local photography and contemporary practices. During the length of the course the student will meet professional photographers who work in different fields from fashion to photojournalism. Within the framework of the workshop, students will visit and get acquainted with various community projects. Observing the complex construction of the Israeli society, the course will focus and research the social diversity local structures as a working field where the students will acquire and practice professional technological knowledge in photography. Each Student will keep a photographic daily journal as a basis for the final project.

Course Objectives

- Getting to know the local culture and landscape through photographic practice
- Develop critical thinking skills, observation, and contemplation abilities
- Acquire professional technological knowledge in photography
- Help each student to create and discover its personal aesthetic language

Course Requirements

- Class attendance and participation: It is mandatory for all students to attend classes, guest lectures, field trips, etc.

- Reading preliminary materials before arrival to Israel
- Keeping a photographic daily journal all through the course
- Final Project: During the course each student will be asked to develop a personal photography daily journal that should be presented at the last meeting.
- Back home, each student will edit and send a digital book that includes: one or several photographic projects done during the program, a personal essay about one or more subjects related to the workshop topics, and a personal written essay on the experience acquired during the journey.

Grading Rubrics

- Active participation in talks and discussions.
- Full attendance
- Effort, efficient work during the workshops
- Creativity and experimentation openness
- Quality project presentations
- Final work

Course Outline

Unit 1: The Fundamentals of Digital Photography

- Technical use of the camera, shutter speed, aperture, and image composition. Optimize the use of the equipment to its full capacity
- How to work with manual mode and natural light
- Developing and efficient workflow, how to edit and manage pictures

Unit 2: Street Photography and Photojournalism

- Meeting a prominent photojournalist and Bezalel graduate. Seeing the conflict through his/ her eyes. How to edit and transform single images into a story
- Street Photography Workshop at Mahane Yehuda market. Portraits and still life
- Visit to the Israel Museum of Art, talk at the photography exhibition department

Unit 3: The 19th Century Photographers in the Middle East

- Lecture: The European photographers' journey to biblical lands. Between stage and landscape photography. From Mark Twain diaries to expeditions of French and British photographers
- Workshop in the desert, stage photography as a political instrument based on works by David Roberts, Walter Adams, Felix Bonfils among others

Unit 4: The Contemporary Scene: Photography between Art and Fashion (Tel Aviv)

- Meeting the faculty member and artist David Adika who will talk about the manner in which his work defines aesthetic acts and marks places, objects and identities in the Mediterranean City
- Street fashion photography workshop at Tel Aviv lively young areas
- Contemporary art gallery visit

Unit 5: Landscape Photography.

- A Hike to Nachal Katlav. One of the Master photographer and faculty member Yossai Cohen's secret spots
- Artist talk, getting to know the artist work and his philosophy
- Landscape photography workshop

Unit 6: Archaeology and Photography

- Meeting in the Old City of Jerusalem at the Kahvedjian Armenian family photography collection and store founded in 1949 by his father
- Lecture: archeology and photography. Is it possible to achieve objective documentation?
- Workshop: documentation at archeological spot

Unit 7: Local History Photography

A series of lectures on Keren Hayesod photographers from the 30s and 40s, to the war and social photographers of the 60s and 70s. Getting to know the work of Zoltan Kluger, Yaakov Ben Dov, Micha Bar Am and David Rubinger, among others

Unit 8: Student Presentation

During the course the students will be asked to show the class their photographic preliminary work and writing at least twice.

At the final stage they will need to present the daily photography journal and a chosen series of pictures.

The class will provide a critic review feedback to each student.

Course Outline

Date	Activity	Contents – Tentative!	Real time
#1	Practical Class	<u>Introduction:</u> First technical approach, photography practice at the Botanical Garden, Visit to Bezalel.	16:30-19:30

#2	Student Presentation	Student Works Presentation at the University- Lecture about local history of photography.	16:30-19:30
#3	Field Trip and Workshop	<u>To Old City, Jerusalem:</u> Introducing Armenian Photography from the 19Th Century, Archaeology and Photography, Practical workshop: meeting the photographer Shay Halevi at archeological site.	10:00-16:00
#4	Student Presentation	Student Works Presentation at the University- Lecture about Local Contemporary Photography.	16:30-19:30
#5	Practical Class-	<u>Mahane Yehuda Market:</u> Street Photography, Visit to Art Centers in Jerusalem.	16:30-19:30
*#6	TBD	TBD	TBD
#7	Student Presentation	Student Work Presentation at the University.	16:30-19:30
*#8	Museum Visit	<u>Visit to the Israel Museum of Art:</u> Meeting the photography department staff, exhibitions and archive.	16:30-19:30
*#9	Practical Class- Studio Visit	<u>Trip to Tel Aviv:</u> Photography at the Yaffo Beach, Studio Visit at Photographer studio, Gallery tour.	13:00-19:30
#10	Final Presentation		16:30-19:30

Bibilography **READING LIST**

Dr. Rona Sela, Photography in Palestine in 1930s&1940s, Hakibutz Hameuchad Publishing House and Herzliya Museum, 2000. **Overseas Library E770.9 S464 (Hebrew)**

<http://www.ronasela.com/en/details.asp?listid=6>

Dr. Rona Sela, To Conquer the Mountain, Photographers and the Jewish National Fund (Keren Kayemeth Le Israel), in: Keren Kayemeth and Photography, Photographs from the Blue Box 1903-2003, Gadi Dagon (ed.), 2003 (text for exhibition catalogue). [Google it](#)

Avishay Ayal, Framed Landscape, A Comment on Landscape Photography, The Art Gallery, University of Haifa, 2014- Edward W. Said, Orientalism, Phanteon books, 1978. [Google it](#)

Roland Barthes, Camera Lucida: Reflections on Photography, Hill and Wad, 1979. **Overseas Library 770.1 B285 ; Main Library TR 642 B3713**

Susan Sontag, On Photography, Picador USA, 1977. **Overseas Library 770.1 S699 ; Main Library TR183 S65 1977**

Italo Calvino, The invisible cities, Harcourt Brace & Company, 1974. **Overseas Library 853 C168 ; Main Library PQ 4809 A45 C53 1979**

Jean Baudrillard , Photography, Or The Writing Of Light, A Translation of Jean Baudrillard, "La Photographie ou l'Ecriture de la Lumiere: Litteralite de l'Image," in L'Echange Impossible (The Impossible Exchange). Paris: Galilee, 1999: pp. 175-184. **Overseas Library 194 B342 ; Main Library BD 331 B28 (French); Main Library B2430 B33973 E2513 2001(English)**