HU 5114—Theories of Visual Representation
Diane Shoos and Diana George, Spring 2001

Texts
James Curtis, Mind’s Eye/Mind’s Truth: FSA Photography Reconsidered
Stuart Hall, Representations
Michael Renov, Theorizing Documentary
Stella Bruzzi, New Documentary: A Critical Introduction
John Szarkowski, Looking at Photographs

Requirements
Besides doing the reading and screenings and making sure you are prepared for class discussion, the course will involve three types of assignments:

1) Responses or examples to be brought to class in response to readings.
2) An original documentary (video/photo/film/digital) of your own making and written reflection—to be presented to the class at the end of the term. You will be asked to use the entire class period to present your documentary and reflect on your work using the reading/discussions/screenings we’ve done throughout the term.
3) In-class final essay.

Jan. 16 Trachtenberg/Agee In-class screening of Levitt’s A Way of Seeing
18 Curtis, chapters 1 (intro) and 2 (Walker Evans)
19 Curtis, chapters 3 (Dorothea Lange) and 4 (Arthur Rothstein)
25 Hall, chapter 1; in-class screening of Consuming Hunger, Part 2

Feb. 1 Szarkowski, Looking at Photographs
Feb. 6 Barthes, “The Rhetoric of the Image” and “The Photographic Message”
Feb. 8* WINTER CARNIVAL
Feb 13 Barthes, Camera Lucida
Feb 15 Bruzzi, Introduction and chapter 1; In-class screening of Daughter Rite
Feb 20 Bruzzi, chapter 2
Feb 22 Renov, chapters 1 & 2
Feb. 27 Hall, chapter 4
March 1 Renov, chapter 10 (Nichols)

March 3-9 Spring Break
March 13 Hall, chapter 5
March 15 no class — screen Minh-ha for March 20
March 20 Renov, chapter 5 (Minh-ha)
March 22 Bruzzi, chapter 4
March 27 bell hooks (screen Hoop Dreams for this class)
March 29 Documenting violence against women: in-class screenings & discussion
April 3 Bruzzi, chapter 6 (screen Roger & Me for this class)
April 5 Renov, chapter 4 (Rosen); in-class screening of segments of Burns’ Civil War
April 10 American Photography and television documentary
April 12 Project Presentation
April 17 Project Presentation
April 19 Project Presentation
April 24 Project Presentation
April 26 Project Presentation
May 1 Formalizing in-class essay questions and Course Evaluation
May 3 In-Class Essay