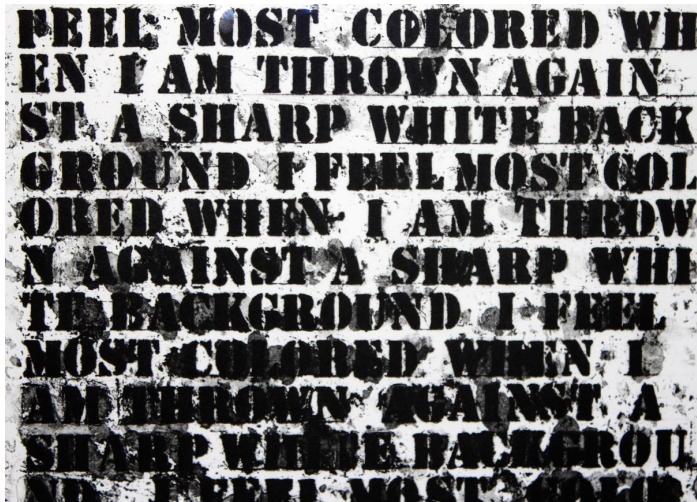


ENG 170 Section 2, Studies in Literature
"Photographic Fictions"

Winter Quarter 2018 / California State University San Bernardino
MW 4:00pm-5:50pm

Instructor: Dr. Ann Garascia
Email: ann.garascia@csusb.edu

Office: UH 301.22
Office Hours: MW 2:30-4:00pm



Glenn Ligon, "Untitled [I Feel Most Colored When I Am Against]" from Claudia Rankine's *Citizen* (2014)

"The picture... is but a succession or variety of stronger lights thrown upon one part of the paper, and of deeper shadows on another. Now Light, where it exists, can exert an action."

-- William Henry Fox Talbot, "Brief Sketch" (1839)

Even though they are nearly two hundred years apart, the words of contemporary visual artist Glenn Ligon and nineteenth-century photography pioneer William Henry Fox Talbot tap into our enduring fascination with photographic interplays of black and white, light and shadow. Whether used to discuss race in the 2010s or technology in the 1830s, the photograph supplies a vocabulary for exploring our relationships with ourselves, others, and our environments. Designed for students of all majors, ENG 170 will introduce students to the study literature, and reading methods for poetry, nonfiction, and prose fiction through a group of books that combine the written word with photographic images. With each book, we will explore how text and image work together to facilitate processes of cultural and environmental belonging for historically marginalized populations. This course fulfills the G.E. C.2 requirement.



Anna Atkins, "Chordaria flagelliformis," *Photographs of British Algae*, 1843

Course Objectives:

1. To introduce students to major literary forms and genres across different time periods.
2. To develop analytical skills, including close reading, annotating and note taking, and communicating effectively in both written and verbal forms.
3. To familiarize students with different theoretical approaches to literary texts, such as post-colonial, feminist, and eco-materialist methods.
4. To promote literacy across written and visual texts.
5. To identify and answer some of the major questions within the studies of photography and literature

Course Expectations:

1. Purchase the books, come to class having read the assigned books thoroughly, and be prepared to discuss the books. Participation is part of your grade!
2. Class will occasionally start with in-class writing assignments. These are short, informal, and designed to prepare you for participating in class. Please take these writing exercises seriously and write the entire allotted time.
3. This course is technology friendly, but non-class-related technology is not permitted.



Lewis deSoto, "Agua Mensa," *Empire*, 2016

Required Texts—available in CSUSB Bookstore

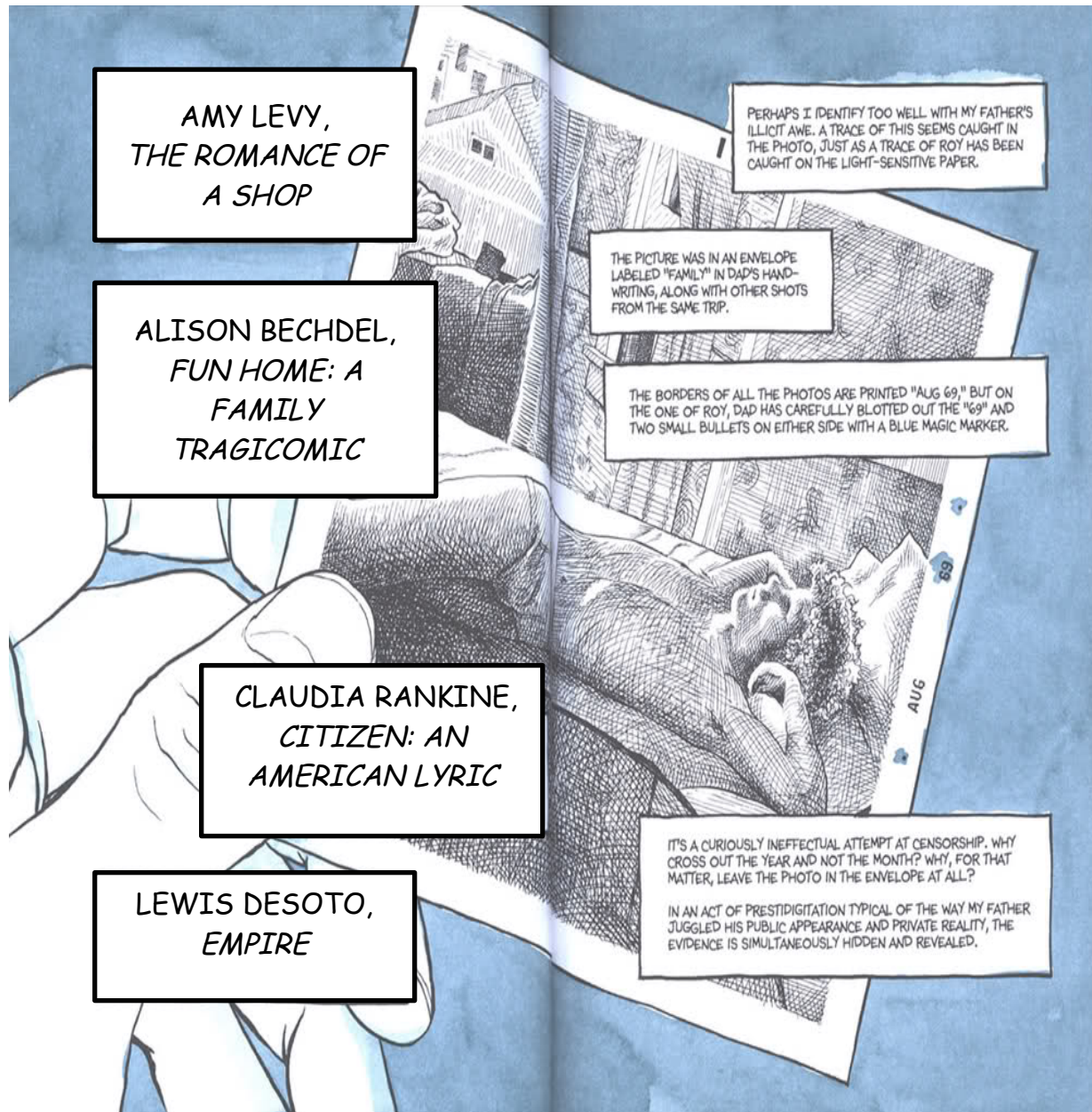


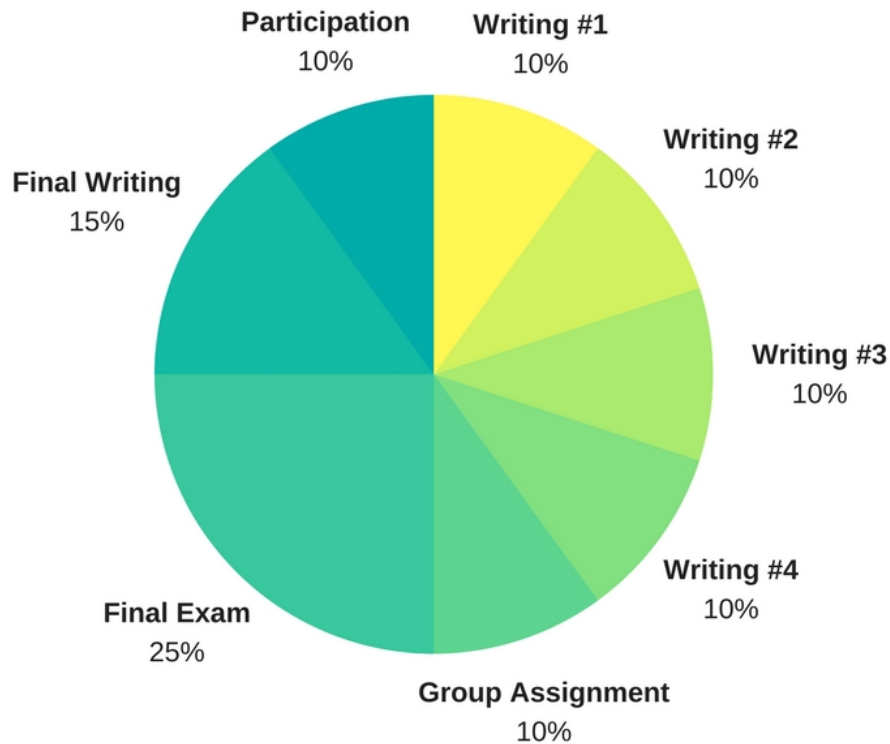
Image from Alison Bechdel, *Fun Home*

If you buy them elsewhere, here are the ISBN numbers:

1. Amy Levy, *The Romance of a Shop* (ISBN-13: 978-1551115665)
2. Alison Bechdel, *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic* (ISBN-13: 978-0618871711)
3. Claudia Rankine, *Citizen: An American Lyric* (ISBN-13: 978-1555976903)
4. Lewis deSoto, *Empire* (ISBN-13: 978-1597143349)

**the rest of the readings will be available on BlackBoard

Grading Requirements



Writing Assignments #1-#4 (100pts / 10% each)

Throughout the quarter, you will be completing a series of short writing assignments that respond to the assigned reading texts this quarter. These include Victorian scientific publications (#1); Amy Levy's *The Romance of a Shop* (#2); Lewis deSoto's *Empire* (#3), and Alison Bechdel's *Fun Home* (#4). You will be able to find instructions and grading rubrics for each assignment under "Information" on BlackBoard. You will upload each assignment to BlackBoard. **Due dates for these assignments are listed on the reading schedule**

Group Assignment (100pts / 10%)

For our final reading of the quarter, Claudia Rankine's *Citizen*, instead of completing a short writing assignment, you will be working in small groups to present on the book's

major themes and style. About halfway through the quarter (Week 5), I will be circulating a sign-up sheet so that you may form your small groups (approx. 6 people), as well as a more detailed assignment sheet outlining the requirements and grading rubric for this assignment. These presentations will take place the last couple weeks of class.

Final Exam (250pts / 25%)

On Wednesday, March 21st of final weeks, we will have an in-class final for this course. The final will include:

1. fill-in / short answer questions on each of the major texts that we have read throughout the quarter (**please note: I *do not* give students multiple choice examinations)
2. brief essays that respond to the quarter's reading assignments

Tips the PowerPoint lectures that I give in class are your study guides. I will post these after class regularly, so use them as your study materials.

Final Writing Portfolio (150pts / 15%)

You will have a cumulative wrap-up writing assignment for ENG 170 in which you compile your earlier writings into a portfolio. In addition to arranging each of your previous writings as you see fit, you will write an introduction to your portfolio that uses examples from the texts that we have read (at least **3** different ones) to answer this question: "What is a photographic fiction? How has this definition stayed the same and how has it changed throughout the course?" This introduction will be at least 4 pages (1000 words)

Participation, Attendance, & Quizzes (100pts / 10%)

Quizzes: Throughout the quarter you will have a number of short reading quizzes to ensure that you are keeping up with the assignments. These will either be short answer or short (paragraph-length) writings.

Participation: Although this is a large lecture course, I expect students to participate actively. While I will be lecturing, much of the course content should and will be generated by student discussions. As such, participation is **REQUIRED** in this course, whether in small group activities or full class discussions. If you are nervous about talking in class, use this requirement as an opportunity for developing your oral communication skills.

Attendance: Regular attendance is also required in this course. You will have 2 unexcused absences as a cushion. However, if you miss more than two class meetings, your "Participation, Attendance, and Quizzes" grade will be docked by 5pts for each absence over 2.

Late Work Policy:

Class absence does not extend the due date. Depending on the circumstances, late work may or may not be accepted. In these circumstances, you must come speak with me to make alternate arrangements for turning your work in. Do be advised, late work that is accepted will be lowered by 1/3 of a letter grade per day that it is late—and this includes weekends. For example, if any essay is one date late, it will drop from a B to a B-.

Other Course Policies

Special Needs:

If you have a physical, psychiatric/emotional, medical, or learning disability that may affect your ability to carry out assigned course work, I urge you to contact the staff with Services to Students with Disabilities (SSD), who will review your concerns and determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation are confidential.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is the "copying of language, structure, or ideas of another and attributing (explicitly or implicitly) the work to one's own efforts. Plagiarism means using another's work without giving credit. Examples include but are not limited to: (1) copying information from computer-based sources, i.e., the internet, and (2) allowing another person to substantially alter or revise your work and submitting it entirely as your own" you are found to have plagiarized, you may receive a zero on the assignment and an "F" for the course. Further disciplinary action may be taken by the Student Conduct and Ethical Development Office.

Courtesy:

It is expected that you will participate appropriately in class and in any online discussions. We are a diverse academic community, representing different faiths, lifestyles, ethnicities, sexualities, and cultures. In addition, we will be discussing controversial issues – issues that typically elicit strong opinions, so it is especially important that you be tolerant, respectful, and considerate of your fellow classmates during any discussions.

Disruptions to the classroom environment are unwelcome and inconsiderate of others' right to learn. **Do not talk while I am talking, while others are talking, and during writing assignments.** Please silence all electronics (cell phones, iPods, etc.) before entering class and limit discussions in class and group activities to class-related topics.

Reading Schedule

***Denotes text available on BlackBoard via "Course Materials"**

schedule & due dates are subject to change at instructor's discretion at any time during the quarter

W, January 10th

*William Henry Fox Talbot, *The Pencil of Nature* (pp. 1-30)

M, January 15th

*no class meeting

W, January 17th

*William Henry Fox Talbot, *The Pencil of Nature* (pp. 30-end)

*Anna Atkins, *Photographs of British Algae: Cyanotype Impressions*

*Mike Ware, "John Herschel's Cyanotype: Invention or Discovery?" (skim)

—SATURDAY, JANUARY 20th : Writing Assignment #1 DUE on BlackBoard—

M, January 22nd

Amy Levy, *The Romance of a Shop* (Ch. I-XIII)

W, January 24th

Amy Levy, *The Romance of a Shop* (Ch. IX-XIII)

M, January 29th

Amy Levy, *The Romance of a Shop* (Ch. XIV-XIX)

W, January 31st

Amy Levy, *The Romance of a Shop* (Ch. XX-end)

—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD: Writing Assignment #2 DUE on BlackBoard—

M, February 5th

*Eugen Sandow, *Life is Motion*

W, February 7th

Lewis deSoto, *Empire* ("San Bernardino," "Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Fontana, Rialto,")

M, February 12th

Lewis deSoto, *Empire* ("Redlands," "Highway 18")

W, February 14th

Lewis deSoto, *Empire* ("Riverside" and "Palm Springs, Indio, the Salton Sea")

—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH: Writing Assignment #3 DUE on BlackBoard—

M, February 19th

Alison Bechdel, *Fun Home*

W, February 21st

Alison Bechdel, *Fun Home*

M, February 26th

Alison Bechdel, *Fun Home*

W, February 28th (no in-class meeting)

Alison Bechdel, *Fun Home*

M, March 5th

Alison Bechdel, *Fun Home*

W, March 7th

Claudia Rankine, *Citizen*

—SATURDAY, MARCH 10TH: Writing Assignment #4 DUE on BlackBoard—

M, March 12th

Claudia Rankine, *Citizen* (Group Presentation Round 1)

W, March 14th

Claudia Rankine, *Citizen* (Group Presentation Round 2)

M, March 19th

Claudia Rankine, *Citizen* & Wrap-up (Group Presentation Round 3)

W, March 21st

In-class Final Exam!

**—THURSDAY, MARCH 22nd: Final Writing Assignment DUE on
BlackBoard—**