Instructors

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Course Assistants:</th>
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Course Description

This mini-course will cover basic methods for using Photovoice methods with individuals, groups, and communities. The course will provide an overview of the method and its application in different contexts, both domestic and international, and how visual images can be a powerful form for communication. This section of the class will include viewing documentary photography in the School of Social Work collection. The ethical dimensions of this method will also be covered. The remainder of the class will teach methods for photovoice and engage students in their own photovoice project. We will end with an exhibit of photos from the course that will take place in our School of Social Work.

Course Content

Photovoice is a process in which people – typically those with limited power due to poverty, language barriers, race, class, ethnicity, gender, culture, or other circumstances – use video or photo images to document their environment and experiences and share them with others. It uses visual methods to communicate lived experience and to create a basis for discussion and action. The images are often used, with captions composed by the photographers, to bring the realities of the photographers’ lives home to the public and policy makers and to spur change. However, photovoice can also be a method used direct practice, evaluation, and management settings.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this mini-course students will be able to:

1. Understand the use of Photovoice methods and their application in a range of settings.
2. Understand unique ethical issues involved in Photovoice methods.
3. Develop skills to successfully implement a Photovoice project.
Our class is organized around principles of andragogy (adult learning), empowerment, and collaboration. We will develop a co-learning environment that will include presentations, skill building activities and exercises, and different media. **Experiential activities will be central to the structure and process of this course.**

**Relevant core competencies**

Values & Ethics: Demonstrates how value base, ethical standards, and principles of the social work profession are applied to practice.

Critical Thinking: Actively and skillfully conceptualizing, applying, analyzing, synthesizing, and/or evaluating information gathered from, or generated by, observation, experience, reflection, reasoning, or communication.

Assessment: Applying assessment strategies and other data collection methods.

**Course requirements**

Class Participation: Participation includes being present, **on time**, active, and prepared for class and group discussions. Reading the assigned materials prior to class is also required. Active discussion includes asking questions or providing critical perspectives on the readings, and “stepping back” when necessary so others can speak. Students must attend both complete class sessions in order to receive credit for the mini-course.

Photovoice project: Each student will complete a Photovoice project on one of the themes that the class selects in our first session. Methods for carrying out this project will be covered, and practiced, in class. All students must have access to a camera in order to complete this project.

**Course Policies**

**Accommodations for students with disabilities**

If you need an accommodation for a disability please let me know as soon as possible. Many aspects of this course, the assignments, the in-class activities, and teaching methods can be modified to facilitate your participation and progress. I will make every effort to use the resources available to us, such as the services for Students with Disabilities, the Adaptive Technology Computing Site, and the like. If you disclose your disability, I will (to the extent permitted by law) treat that information as private and confidential. For more information and resources, please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities office at G664 Haven Hall, (734) 763-3000 or go to [http://www.umich.edu/~sswd/](http://www.umich.edu/~sswd/).

**Health and Wellness Services**

Health and wellness encompasses situations or circumstances that may impede your success within the program. The Office of Student Services offers health and wellness services that are directed to the MSW student body. Feel free to contact Health and Wellness Advocates Lauren Davis (laurdavi@umich.edu) or Nyshourn Price-Reed (ndp@umich.edu); 734-936-0961, regarding any health, mental health or wellness issue. This could include need for advocacy and referral to University or community resources, financial resources or counseling. Also contact Health and Wellness using ssw.wellness@umich.edu. The MSW student Guide to Health and Wellness can be found at
Dependent Care Resources

For students with child or other family care responsibilities, can consult the Students with Children website (http://www.studentswithchildren.umich.edu). This site is dedicated to the needs of students at UM who juggle parenting/elder care, study, and work. Resources include childcare, financial assistance, social support, housing, and health care information. The website was created by the former Committee on Student Parent Issues (COSPI). For additional information on work/life support please also visit the Work/Life Resource Center site (http://www.hr.umich.edu/worklife/) and the U-M Child Care gateway (http://www.hr.umich.edu/childcare/).

Religious Observances

Please notify me if religious observances conflict with class attendance, community participation or due dates for assignments so that we can make appropriate arrangements

Student Code of Academic and Professional Conduct

All students should be familiar with the Student Code for Academic and Professional Conduct (http://oscr.umich.edu/statement) which holds our students to the highest standards of academic and professional conduct. Unacceptable academic behavior refers to actions or behaviors that are contrary to maintaining the highest standards in course work and includes such actions as cheating, plagiarism, falsification of data, aiding and abetting dishonesty and impairment. Any suspected situations of academic misconduct will be discussed with the student and then reported to the Associate Dean for Academic Programs, Michael Spencer.

Course Schedule

Session 1: What is Photovoice?

Readings to be done before class (all on ctools)


PhotoVoice UK Ethics


Video: Dreamgirls Photovoice Project: http://youtu.be/gm_g1kje4LE

Homework:

Take 10 - 12 photos on your theme
Select 2 photos to print out in 8” x 10” format (Glossy or matte)

Bring your two photos and mounting and matting materials to the second session to share. You will need to purchase a 11"X 14” backing board. You can get these at Michael’s or other arts and craft stores.

**Session 2: Sharing our work**

Readings to be done before class:

One of the following:


OR


One of the examples in the Photovoice Examples folder

Contents of one of the Photovoice Manuals and Resources folder