

## DESCRIPTION AND SYLLABUS

Name of the subject in Hungarian:	Theories of Images
Name of the subject in English:	Theories of Images
Credit value of the subject:	4
The code of the subject in the electronic study system:	BN-THEIMA-04-EA
Classification of the subject:	Obligatory
Language of instruction (in case of non-Hungarian courses):	English
Institute or department responsible for the subject:	-
Course type and number of contact hours:	Lecture, class per week: 2, class per semester: 0
Mode of study: (Full-time / Part-time):	Full-time training
The semester in which the subject is open for registration:	2022/2023 1st semester
Prerequisite(s):	-

### THE PURPOSE OF THE SUBJECT, LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will have a deeper understanding of contemporary visual culture and its historical background. They will also have a strong grasp of the subject matter and could easily apply it in a variety of contexts (digital environment, social media). They will be able to identify the main issues in the field of visual studies, recognize and apply techniques for effective visual communication. They will have a more critical approach to visual representation, based on values of diversity and equal rights to visibility.

### SUMMARY OF THE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT

Theories of Images is basically a theoretical course with lots of examples, analysis, critical thinking, that introduces the students the dramatic changes in our attitude to pictorial representation in the last decades. To understand it we will map the origin of the so-called pictorial turn and examine the present visual culture. We will discuss in details how technical images influenced it. Although the course will give some deeper understanding of several art theories, it will undoubtedly put a larger stress on moving image theories. In the third part of the semester we will also examine politics of images and approach them in the light of some critical theories like eg. theories of feminism, post-colonialism and memory studies.

### STUDENT'S TASKS AND PLANNED LEARNING ACTIVITIES:

Based on the theoretical texts chosen for the course, and our interactive classes, students must be able to explain, interpret some important subject-related vocabulary, art theoretical terminology and give examples using them. To admit the written exam, they must fulfill three smaller tasks chosen out of five during the semester. They will be listed and published in CooSpace before the first class.

### EVALUATION OF THE SUBJECT:

To admit the written exam consisting of mixed questions (true or false, finish the sentence, essay question, etc.) the students must fulfil three tasks out of five during the semester. The exam will be evaluated according to the general assessment criteria at METU.

Offered grade can be given: No.

### OBLIGATORY READING LIST:

- *The visual culture reader*. Routledge, [2010]
- Bredekamp, Horst: *Image acts*. De Gruyter, 2021
- Mitchell W. J. Thomas: *What do pictures want?* , 2005
- Arthur C. Danto: Moving Pictures, *Quarterly Review of Film Studies*, 4 (1):1-21 , 1979

### RECOMMENDED READING LIST:

- *Experience : culture, cognition, and the common sense*. Distributed by the MIT Press, 2016 (Ranciere, Jacques: Aisthesis)
- Didi-Huberman, Georges: *Images Despite of All, Four Photographs from Auschwitz*, University of Chicago Press, 2018
- Michael Rothberg: *Multidirectional Memory. Remembering the Holocaust in the Age of Decolonization*, Stanford University Press, 2009