

ENGL 4876/5961 Photography & Visual Culture

This advanced **combined fourth-year & graduate seminar** brings together scholarly readings in the fields of Visual Culture and Photography Studies to examine the role of images in literary, cultural, and academic knowledge production. We will explore a range of theories and thinkers to address the following questions: how can we theorize images as forms of media and text? What is the relationship between the visual and the literary? How has visibility shaped structures of power including racial, gendered, and sexual difference? How can we “read” visual and photographic texts in ways that interrogate and challenge those structures of power? In addition to tracing the genealogies of these fields through their intersections with Media Studies, Cultural Theory, Race and Ethnicity, and Gender and Women’s Studies, we will also explore some of the visual cultures of Halifax through primary analysis of local archives.