

## ANTH 472: VISUAL TECHNIQUES IN ANTHROPOLOGY: PHOTOGRAPHY SPRING 2019 /// WEDNESDAY, 2-5 PM



PARIS - NEW YORK - SHANGHAI

**Instructor: John Alexander, Artist in Residence, EALC /// [johnrale@usc.edu](mailto:johnrale@usc.edu)**

How does photography translate complex human experiences and relationships into anthropological knowledge, and what are the political, ideological, and ethical frictions involved with photographic representation? ANTH 472 is a hybrid seminar-workshop course that addresses these questions through an exploration of the intersection of anthropology and photography.

The course examines how practices of photography, across historical periods and in different cultural contexts, have participated in and reflected shifting anthropological concerns about **visuality, observation, evidence, authority, and truth**. ANTH 472 takes a broad, interdisciplinary approach to the study of photography and photographic theory, engaging with critical issues and debates in the fields of **visual anthropology, contemporary art, art history, post-colonial studies, photojournalism, and documentary studies**.

→ MAKING PHOTOGRAPHS is a major component of this course. The workshop creates a space for practice-based experiments in ethnographic-documentary photography. Over the course of the semester, you will develop and produce a substantial photographic project on a topic of your choosing.

ANTH 472 has no prerequisites. Students with prior experience in photography and media production are especially encouraged to enroll.

Image credit: Hans Eijkelboom, from the book, *Paris-New York-Shanghai* (Aperture, 2007)