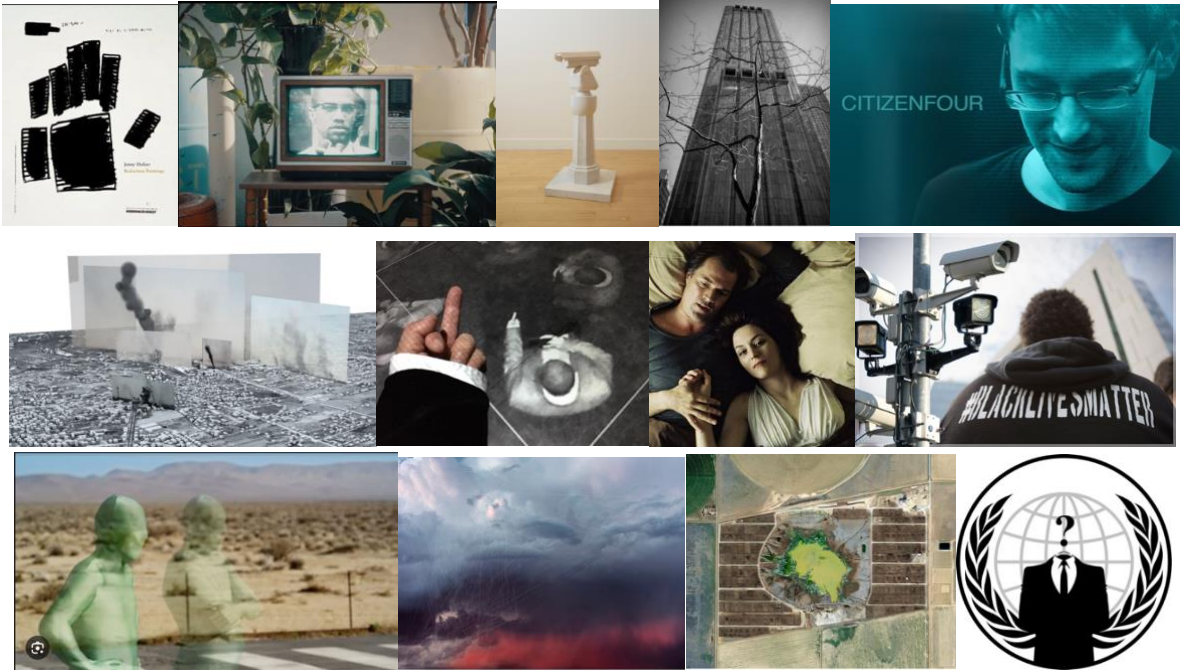


Intermedia



ART 362: Ideas in Intermedia:

User or Being Used: Surveillance in Art and Culture

ART 362: Ideas in Intermedia: User or Being Used: Surveillance in Art and Culture /// 4 units

[Prerequisites: None]. M/W Noon – 1:50 pm Harris 211.

On a daily basis, we opt into systems that track our movements, finances, and personal habits. Who is surveilling your community and culture? Why should you care? How does that surveillance impact us? Does how your information gets used reflect your social values? Are we the users? Or are we being used?

Through the lens of contemporary art, this course examines historic and current methods of surveillance and how contemporary artists respond to conditions in which surveillance capitalism and authoritarian power creates or ignores cultural conditions. Included in this conversation are areas in culture where voicelessness puts justice at risk. Beginning with Edward Snowden's leak of highly classified information from the National Security Administration, this course studies how surveillance functions through computer devices, social media, systemic racism, police states, voyeurism, and consent. Through art projects by Wafaa Bilal, Patrisse Cullers, Omar Fast, Harun Frocki, William Jones, Laura Poitras, Trevor Paglen, Jenny Holzer, Hito Steyerl, and Ai Wei Wei, among others, we will discuss how surveillance impacts our behavior and steps artists have taken to reveal and resist surveillance states. For the midterm this class produces a DIY gif or video-based archive of a site surveilled, and for the final students identify and create postcards, posters, and image archives that amplifies a subject with the goal of creating positive change.

This course counts toward photography minor Intermedia Arts Minor and Comm Design Minor.