Mid-Term Exam

HOA 300 Photography and Empire

Tuesday 10/31

30% of final grade

This is an in-class essay-exam, for which you will have one week to prepare in advance. You will use your notes and readings to prepare an outline (max. 2 handwritten or typed pages), which you will be expected to bring with you and turn in with your essay at the end of the exam. You may use your outline to help you write your exam, but this is the only aid you may use.

You will have the entire class period to respond to the below prompt. Please respond in short essay format using complete sentences. Essays are to be handwritten unless you have laptop accommodations. Again, your outline is the only aid to which you may refer during the exam.

**Essay Question—80 minutes:**

The photography theorist Ariella Azoulay has recently written that “Photography should be understood as part and parcel of the imperial world, that is, the transformation of others and their modes of being into lucrative primary resources, the products of which can be owned as private property.”

Please respond to Azoulay’s argument, addressing some of the ways that nineteenth- and twentieth-century photographers, artists, and/or intellectuals have exploited, negotiated, and/or contested this aspect of photographic identity.

Build your discussion around **3 well-chosen historical or contemporary examples** drawn from our readings and/or class discussions and incorporate the ideas of at least **3 authors** we have read into your analysis.

Please structure your essay like this:

* Paragraph 1: Basic argument
* Paragraph 2: Case study A
* Paragraph 3: Case study B
* Paragraph 4: Case study C
* Paragraph 5: Concluding analysis (bring analyses A&B&C together)

**Allocation of Points**

Outline—10

Clarity of overall argument—9

Engagement w/ readings—21 (7 each)

Quality/relevance of case studies—60 (20 each)