

# FACT or FICTION

## UNIT 1 - Diagnostic Investigation into Creative Practice -Summer Brief



*Jeff Wall Mimic 1982*

<b>HAND OUT:</b>	3.July 2025
<b>HAND IN:</b>	2.September 2025
<b>AUTHOR- IV NAME &amp; DATE:</b>	Beatrice Haverich Georgina Hooper 1/7/25

## SCENARIO / CONTEXT::

**'The camera never lies or rather it can lie as to the meaning of the thing... never to its existence.'**  
**Roland Barthes.**

Since its conception photography has been seen to record reality as truth. It captures a moment in time to be revisited at a later time. The camera in its beginning was seen as a scientific tool to record historical events and capture evidence.

However there have always been ways to manipulate images through darkroom techniques and retouching, now through the use of digital photography, editing is an integral part to refine or alter images.

In your summer project explore ideas around 'fact and fiction'. Create fake news or evidence, capture real life events or recreate an arranged scene. You can produce a factual document of a place or construct a narrative through composition, use of lens, depth of field. Create a model environment or use digital manipulation to try to twist photography's capabilities of being seen as real.

Enjoy and be creative, experiment by playing with the viewers perception of fact or fiction within documentary, portraiture, fashion, architecture or still life photography.

### Requirements of the Brief:

#### Research

- Research into the concept of 'Fake and Fiction' in photography historical and now.
- Research into a range of artists and photographers from the websites and books listed, select at least two to inspire you for this project.
- Discuss your chosen 2 photographers and artists in depth linking their concept or style of photography to your exploration and outcomes.

#### Experiment, develop and create

- Experiment and photograph different concepts, alter in camera, manipulate actually or digitally.
- Produce a series of edited images between 5-10.

#### Evaluate and reflect

- Evaluate and reflect on shoots and experimentations.
- Final evaluation on what did you explore, what was successful and why? How could you improve on the work.
- Consider ethics, what effects can creating a fake depiction have on a viewer or audience.

#### Present

- Explore relationships between images, consider different ways of presenting images. Creating a sequence or diptych/ triptych/ grids (how does that change the narrative) or using mixed media and text.
- Produce a series of edited images between 5-10 images

On the first day back, you will submit a minimum of 20 slides (ppt) in total. Please note you will be discussing your work in small groups with your peers and tutor. This work will be the initial stage of building your portfolio.



Cindy Sherman, *Untitled Film Still #58*, 1980

## MATERIALS NEEDED:

**For summer project:** DSLR/ Analogue Camera/ Film/ SD cards/ Flash/ editing software/ g-drive

**For start of term:** DSLR camera (Canon, Nikon works with our studio lighting system )  
What camera tips <https://www.techradar.com/uk/news/best-entry-level-dslr-camera>

SD card 32GB/ SD card reader/ USB stick/ external hard drive

**Additional kit (College art shop or any other supplier of your choice) :**

10X8 inch/ 25X20 cm b/w photographic paper

100 ASA Black and White 35mm Film

400 ASA Black and White 35mm Film

A5 Notebook

*Sandy Skoglund, Radioactive Cats, 1981*



## WHAT YOU NEED TO SUBMIT

### Google-slides with the above tasks

On the first day back, you will submit a minimum of 20 slides (ppt) in total. Please note you will be discussing your work in small groups with your peers. This work will be the initial stages of building your portfolio.

**On the 2nd of September 2025**

## CONTEXTUAL RESEARCH: (a starting point, not exhaustive list)

**Suggested Photographers:** Samuel Fasso, Sandy Skoglund, James Casebere, Laura Simmons, Joseph Schultz, Thomas Ruff, Nico Krinjo, Thomas Demand, Bernd & Hilla Becher, New Typologies Photographers, Sophie Ristelhueber, Sandro Giordano's series 'In Extremis' and Denis Darzacq series 'The Fall'. Eadweard Muybridge, Mike Mandel and Larry Sultan, Cindy Sherman, Sherrie Levine, Richard Prince, Jeff Wall, Gregory Crewdson, Joan Fontcuberta 'Stranger than Fiction', Andreas Gursky, Morgan Ashcom, Susan Lipper Grapevine, Alex Webb, Jacob Aue Sobol, Richard Kalvar, Solve Sundsbo, Mika Ninagawa.

### Magazine/ News articles

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20170629-the-hidden-signs-that-can-reveal-if-a-photo-is-fake>

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2023/apr/18/ai-threat-boris-eldagsen-fake-photo-duped-sony-judges-hits-back>

<https://magazine.artland.com/staged-photography-top-ten/>

### Photography Organisations and Exhibition Links:

Lensculture: <https://www.lensculture.com/> Source Photographic Review: <https://www.source.ie/index.php>

Photoworks: <https://photoworks.org.uk/> British Journal of Photography: <https://www.1854.photography/> The Photographers Gallery: <https://thephotographersgallery.org.uk/> Flowers East:

<https://www.flowersgallery.com/exhibitions/> Dazed Online: <https://www.dazeddigital.com>

Tate online: <https://www.tate.org.uk/about-us/projects/unilever-series-turbinegeneration/online-gallery>

Magnum Gallery: <https://www.magnumphotos.com/shop/gallery/>

Yossi Milo Gallery: <https://www.yossimilo.com/>

Michael Hoppen Gallery: <https://www.michaelhoppengallery.com/>