Community Conversations
The Changing Image: Ethics and Authorship in the Digital Age of Photography

Top Picks – Recommended by Dean Walton, Librarian

Section 1. Photojournalism and Ethics

TEXTS


SUMMIT LIBRARY
This is a concise primer on legal issues for photographers. The author, Bert Krages, is a University of Oregon Law School graduate and works in Portland.

PHOTOJOURNALISM WEBSITES:

National Press Photography Association
http://www.nppa.org/professional_development/business_practices/ethics.html
Site for professional photojournalists’ Code of Ethics

Journalists’ Toolbox
http://www.journaliststoolbox.org/archive/college-media/
The Society of Professional Journalists’ college media portal

The Society of Professional Journalists’ page for student journalists
http://www.spj.org/students.asp

Student Press Law Center
http://www.splc.org/
A portal and advocacy site for student photojournalist

Section II. Ethics and Photography on and around Campus

CASE STUDIES

1. University of Wisconsin – Undergraduate application cover for the 2000-2001 school year. University employees inserted an African American student’s face into a photograph of a football game crowd to make the crowd appear more diverse.

http://www.snopes.com/college/admin/uwmadison.asp


2. Police at the University of Wisconsin create a fake Facebook persona to aid them in finding images of illegal and underage drinking.


3. Colorado University Boulder Smoke-Out Incident of 2006

Colorado University at Boulder employees photographed students at a protest purportedly smoking marijuana, posted the images on the University’s website, and offered a $50 reward for each colleague identified by other students. The site was taken down after a lawsuit was filed by student families.

Concurring Opinions
http://www.concurringopinions.com/archives/2006/04/get_high_and_id.html
A legal blog that covered the Colorado University incident

NewWest News Service

http://www.colorado.edu/police/420_Photo_Album/index.htm
The dead link to the initial site.

Section III. Ethics and Photo-Manipulation

PART A. THE HISTORY OF PHOTOMANIPULATION

*Phototruth or Photofiction?: Ethics and Media Imagery in the Digital Age* / Tom Wheeler
KNIGHT - TR820 .W4 2002
A very easy to read primer on ethics and photography. The book focuses on issues regarding the popular media.

*Photo Fakery: The History and Techniques of Photographic Deception and Manipulation* / Dino A. Brugioni
KNIGHT - TR148 .B78 1999
An intriguing text that deals with the political use of photomnipulation and emphasizing the Cold War.

PART B. DIGITAL-THE CURRENT STATE OF PHOTOMANIPULATION

i. Video of Photomnipulation

*Adobe Photoshop CS5: Content-Aware Fill Sneak Peek*
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NH0aEp1oDOI&feature=player_embedded
This is video (~6 minutes) from Adobe shows the newest photomnipulation abilities in Photoshop CS5, including smart actions. The video shows some amazing things, particularly the content in the last minute of the video.
Beauty is a Product of Photoshop
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=chd6FC6AAD8&feature=related
A fairly fast paced tutorial on touching up a photograph using Photoshop. This video is somewhere between a tutorial and a video showing off what Photoshop can do (~5 minutes).

Glen Feron
http://www.glennferon.com/portfolio1/
A large interactive web-portfolio of fashion photographs shot by various photographers but photoedited again by Glen C. Feron. Moving the cursor over each image will provide a before and after shot.

Dove Photoshop Effect
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4y5b7INqE
A video of a model getting makeup for a fashion shoot and the resulting image edited for a billboard advertisement. This fast paced video covers an amazing amount of content in just over a minute.

Extreme (Photoshop) Makeover
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aHLpRxAmCrw&feature=related
This video (~3 minutes) shows several examples of photomanipulated portraits. The content is good; however, the title is certainly an exaggeration, as little in the video would be considered extreme manipulation.

Op Ed: Sex Lies and Photoshop
A video editorial from the staff at the New York Times on photography, Photoshop and the fashion industry.

Photoshop: Virtual Weight Loss in Photoshop!(HD)
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hsiQptl_Y9E&feature=related
A six-minute course in using Photoshop to manipulate images and change the appearance of a person while still keeping the individual looking real. This is a decent tutorial for learning Photoshop techniques.

The Photoshop Effect, Part 2 Controversy and Part 3 Peer Pressure
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oypd5O6M8tQ&NR=1 Part 2 (~3 minutes).
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jID2ulFrdj8&feature=channel Part 3 (~2 minutes).
A set of videos on photo-manipulation and photo-retouching associated with the fashion industry. These video critique the use Photoshop in the fashion industry, and while they certainly highlight what Photoshop can do, the intent of the videos is to look at how and why Photoshop is used.
ii. Books

*The Creative Digital Darkroom* / Katrin Eismann and Sean Duggan  
A&AA - TR 267 .E377

This book provides information on digital techniques for adjusting and enhancing color, tone, texture and other features of digital photography using Adobe Photoshop.


This resource is a little bit on the older side, but the approach to digital photography is broader and not tied to specific software. All one-hundred pages of Chapter Five, "All about image manipulation" are devoted to special techniques for fixing, distorting and changing digital images.

A&AA - TR642 .I27 2009

After a year of exhibits examining fashion photography, the International Center for Photography published this book of 34 artists who are examining the “confluence of fashion and artifice” through photography and video.


Almost entirely composed of the photographic images of thirteen artists, this book examines how digital photography has disengaged the photographic image from the idea of reality.

*Pixel Surgeons: Extreme Manipulation of the Figure in Photography* / Martin Dawber, London: Mitchell Beazley, 2005.  

This book contains fashion images in which digital photography has allowed manipulation to be bolder in creating fantasy images.

iii. Static Images

Heavily manipulated photographs in Flickr:  
http://www.flickr.com/photos/mefind/533180266/lightbox/  
http://www.flickr.com/groups/lookingintothepast/

Museum of Hoaxes  
http://www.museumofhoaxes.com/hoax/photo_database/thumbnails/  
A short digital gallery of more recent and infamous falsified images.

Section IV – Sociology and Photographs

*Image-based research: a sourcebook for qualitative researchers* / Jon Prosser  
KNIGHT - GN347.I43

*Sociology* 42(5) pp.857-872.  
http://soc.sagepub.com/content/42/5/857.full.pdf+html