

## Contemplative Photography and General Semantics: Multiple/New Ways of Looking/Seeing

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### Overview

Just Seeing and A New Way of Looking brings the practices of Contemplative Photography and General Semantics together to contribute to approaching human experience differently. Contemplative Photography combines the practice of seeing with the practice of mindfulness. The intent of contemplative photography is to see objects and our relation to them with no preconceived conceptual baggage. While contemplative photography can have features in common with photography as an art form, its purpose is simply to see ‘differently’, ‘anew’ what we encounter in our daily life.

This new way of seeing can lead to new ways of looking at the world, others and self. Using three key techniques of General Semantics – the structural differential, silent practice and the devices of index, date, chain index, etc., quotes and hyphens – we will address problems of contemporary life that are closely related to a few fundamental flaws in the deep grammar of our language

The course will consist of 12 hours (6 lecture hours and 6 tutorial hours). Lectures 1-3 will set out the philosophy and techniques of contemplative photography: see it, shoot it (outlined in Tutorial 1 and practiced with different object matter in each tutorial). Lectures 4 and 5 will set out the premises of General Semantics and three key techniques – the structural differential, silent practice and the devices of index, date, chain index, etc., quotes and hyphens. Lecture 6 will summarize the links between Contemplative Photography and General Semantics. Tutorials 1-3 will consist of introducing the forms of color, light, pattern, texture; shooting that form using the flash of perception and collectively reviewing the previous day’s work. Tutorials 4 and 5 will consist of doing silent practice and practicing the devices.

<b>Dates</b>	November 7-11, 2017. Number of participants for the course will be limited to fifty.
<b>Modules</b>	A: Just Seeing B: A New Way of Looking
<b>You Should Attend If...</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You are interested in learning and practicing the technique of contemplative photography.</li><li>• You are interested in learning and practicing core techniques of General Semantics – structural differential, silent practice, and the devices.</li><li>• You are interested in identifying unconsciousness of abstraction that causes one to identify conceptual maps of what is going on with reality.</li></ul>
<b>Fees</b>	<p>The participation fees for taking the course is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Participants from abroad : US \$200</li><li>➤ Students(UG/PG): Rs.1500</li><li>➤ Research scholars(M Phil/DPhil/PhD): Rs.2500</li><li>➤ Faculty/others (Academic Institutions): 3500</li><li>➤ Participants from Industry: Rs.4000</li></ul> <p>The above fee is towards participation in the course, all instructional materials, tea and snacks etc. Accommodation, food, and the travel expenses should be paid by the participants. Accommodation in the guest house may be provided on a space available basis with early reservation.</p> <p>Mode of payment: Please contact the Course Co-ordinator.</p>

## The Faculty



Shannon Bell is a Professor of Political Science at York University, Toronto, Canada <http://www.yorku.ca/shanbell/>. Bell is currently working on shooting theory—video-imaging philosophical concept such as Heidegger's 'stillness', Husserl's 'epoché', Bataille's 'waste' and 'expenditure', Weil's 'attention', Deleuze's 'deterritorialization', Levinas' 'elemental'.

Her books include: *Fast Feminism* (2010), *Reading, Writing and Rewriting the Prostitute Body* (1994), *Whore Carnival* (1995), *Bad Attitude/s on Trial* co-authored (1997); *The Book of Radical General Semantics* co-edited (2016), *Subversive Itinerary: The Thought of Gad Horowitz*, co-edited (2013) and *New Socialisms* co-edited (2004).



Dr. Shri Krishan Rai is an Assistant Professor at Department of Humanities and Social Sciences of National Institute of Technology Durgapur, WB, India. He has got three books and a score of research papers to his credit to date. His current interests include cinema, religion, and contemporary theories.

## Course Co-ordinator

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