

Big Assignment 4: Dematerialization and Erasure

Materials: Your choice.

For this assignment you are to consider the act of erasing. This can be literally erasing (removing charcoal from a page with your eraser), visually depicting the ephemeral (shadows), conceptual (masking areas of other images), dematerializing an object (breaking something visually down into its parts – Damien Ortega’s VW Bug for example), it can be documentary (land art for instance or a before and after), or even incorporate sound. While you have the option to do something digital for this assignment (a video or series of photographs for instance) they must be physically present for the class to critique on the date due UNLESS you are doing a video in which case you MUST notify me by next week. I encourage you to think beyond pencil on paper. Theoretically, this assignment could be performative so think beyond a traditional concept of a drawing.

Your grade on this project will be based on development of concept, craftsmanship and your ability to explain the concepts behind your work. If you are certain you can achieve this in one image that is OK but for many it might need to take the form of a series of work. Do NOT simply take a photo of your dinner plate before and after you eat the food unless you have a conceptual reason for doing so. Something like this might need to exist as a series in order for it to have a more substantive meaning.

Dematerialization and Erasure is process. This may not be something that you can document or create at last minute. Your proposal for this project is due NO LATER THAN THE NEXT CLASS PERIOD. I recommend that you email me your proposal before next class, however, so you have ample time to work on this assignment.