

Course Syllabus

Department : Photography
Course Title : Photography II
Section Name : ARTS_2357_613
Start Date : 08/27/12
End Date : 12/07/12
Modality : Face-to-Face
Credits : 3.0

Instructor Information

Name : Beckwith Thompson
OC Email : bathompson@odessa.edu
OC Phone # : 432-335-6497

Course Description

Introduction to the basics of photography. Includes camera operation, techniques, knowledge of chemistry, and presentation skills. Emphasis is on design, history, and contemporary trends as a means of developing an understanding of photographic aesthetics. The student will assess and select equipment, supplies, and techniques to incorporate basic theories of film, exposure, development, filters, and printing. Students will use efficient learning techniques to acquire and apply creative knowledge and to communicate with others. Lab fee required.

Prerequisites/Corequisites

COMM 1318 or ARTS 2356 or its equivalent.

OCIs

(OCIs 1, 2, 4,)

Course Objectives

1. COURSE PURPOSE:

This is a studio course introducing the possibilities of photography as an artistic medium. Topics include a multicultural historical focus on photography as a 20th century artistic medium; application of fundamental photographic theory, methods, materials, equipment and techniques; black and white film processing and printing; aesthetic and ethical issues and processes of digital photography and computer manipulation of photographs. Problems include organization and direction of field assignments and the use of photographs as a medium for artistic expression.

2. COURSE GOALS:

Photography I is designed to extend each students basis of visual knowledge, critical thinking skills, and working disciplines already developed in design and drawing so that by the end of the semester he or she will:

- a. possess a higher level of perceptual awareness
- b. have translated perceptual awareness into plastic form
- c. have demonstrated confidence in and strategies toward individual creativity
- d. have demonstrated sensitivity for the psycho-physiological language of photography
- e. have demonstrated knowledge of contemporary and historic artistic models
- f. have demonstrated knowledge of art as cultural information
- g. have performed exercises in visualization and critical thinking
- h. have performed refined, higher level technical practices

A. Fundamental photographic theory and history of photography.

- B. Film processing and darkroom printing.
- C. Black and white shooting and developing.
- D. Aesthetic and ethical issues in photography including the manipulation of photographic imagery.
- E. Terminology and vocabulary development relevant to becoming visually literate.
- F. Critical thinking strategies for analyzing works of art history and evaluating photographic works done in the classroom.

* Indicates integrated Core Curriculum Skills (Math, Reading, Communication, Technological Literacy and/or Critical Thinking)

***** send web tests to: bathompson@odessa.edu & include your email address on the web test when you send them.

Pop Quizzes will be randomly given in class.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: After completing the course, the student should be able to demonstrate competency in: 1.0 applying darkroom safety practices; 2.0 perform record keeping activities; 3.0 conduct darkroom operations; 4.0 performing camera work; 5.0 calculate exposure setting; 6.0 perform basic darkroom work; 7.0 produce black and white prints; 8.0 process photographic paper; 9.0 finish and mount prints; 10.0 clean and maintain a darkroom; 11.0 convert traditional photographs into digital files

METHOD OF EVALUATION: The final grade for the class is based on a combination of shooting assignments, exam grades, participation in the critiques, and the final portfolio. There will be written quizzes and a mid-term exam covering the technical aspects of photography. Your shooting assignments will have two grades. The top one is for the technical aspect (how well the picture is printed) and the bottom grade is for the aesthetic aspect (how well the picture relates to the assignment). **Please note that all shooting assignments must be completed. And any late work will automatically be lowered ONE letter grade.** That means IF your work is truly "A" quality work, the highest grade you can make if it is late is a "B", which is still preferable to a zero. If your work is average ("C"), then the highest you can make is a "D". If you hand in your work on time, you can redo assignments. We will routinely have class critiques as a way of reviewing and improving work. **You will be graded on the work that you are presenting, your presentation, and your active participation** in the critiques of other students' works. A portfolio is required at the end of the semester.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: YOUR attendance is the single greatest predictor of your success. **Student attendance at every class is expected. Four or more absences will result in the lowering of your course grade by one letter.** Please see the instructor regarding anticipated absences or conflicts due to college sponsored activities. **Again, please note that late assignments will be graded down one letter grade.** Effective Fall Term 2010, student absences will be recorded from the day the class meets. Regular and punctual attendance in all classes and laboratories, day and evening, is required. Students who are absent for any reason should always consult with their instructors. **Also, both tardiness and early departure from class may be considered forms of absenteeism.** In all cases, students will be held responsible for completion of course requirements covered in their absence. Additionally, it is the student's responsibility to drop a course for nonattendance. Course instructors establish policy with regard to attendance in their respective syllabi and may drop a student for excessive absences. Absences are counted regardless of whether they occur consecutively. Failure to officially withdraw may result in a failing grade for the course. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw officially from a class by submitting a completed Withdrawal Form to the Registrar's Office.

EXPECTATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENT – FACE TO FACE LEARNING

To help make the learning experience fulfilling and rewarding, the following Expectations for Engagement provide the parameters for reasonable engagement between students and instructors for the learning environment. Students and instructors are welcome to exceed these requirements.

Reasonable Expectations of Engagement for Instructors

1. As an instructor, I understand the importance of clear, timely communication with my students. In order to maintain sufficient communication, I will
 - provide my contact information at the beginning of the syllabus;
 - respond to all messages in a timely manner through telephone, email, or next classroom contact; and,
 - notify students of any extended times that I will be unavailable and provide them with alternative contact information (for me or for my supervisor) in case of emergencies during the time I am unavailable.
2. As an instructor, I understand that my students will work to the best of their abilities to fulfill the course requirements. In order to help them in this area, I will
 - provide clear information about grading policies and assignment requirements in the course syllabus, and

- communicate any changes to assignments and/or to the course calendar to students as quickly as possible.
3. As an instructor, I understand that I need to provide regular, timely feedback to students about their performance in the course. To keep students informed about their progress, I will
 - return classroom activities and homework within one week of the due date and
 - provide grades for major assignments within 2 weeks of the due date or at least 3 days before the next major assignment is due, whichever comes first.

Reasonable Expectations of Engagement for Students

1. As a student, I understand that I am responsible for keeping up with the course. To help with this, I will
 - attend the course regularly and line up alternative transportation in case my primary means of transportation is unavailable;
 - recognize that the college provides free wi-fi, computer labs, and library resources during regular campus hours to help me with completing my assignments; and,
 - understand that my instructor does not have to accept my technical issues as a legitimate reason for late or missing work if my personal computer equipment or internet service is unreliable.
2. As a student, I understand that it is my responsibility to communicate quickly with the instructor any issue or emergency that will impact my involvement with or performance in the class. This includes, but is not limited to,
 - missing class when a major test is planned or a major assignment is due;
 - having trouble submitting assignments;
 - dealing with a traumatic personal event; and,
 - having my work or childcare schedule changed so that my classroom attendance is affected.
3. As a student, I understand that it is my responsibility to understand course material and requirements and to keep up with the course calendar. While my instructor is available for help and clarification, I will
 - seek out help from my instructor and/or from tutors;
 - ask questions if I do not understand; and,
 - attend class regularly to keep up with assignments and announcements.

ACADEMIC ETHICS: You are expected to create, edit, process and print your own assignments and take tests without notes or other outside assistance. **All work is expected to be your own.**

THIS CLASS IS A FILM CAMERA CLASS using a black and white film wet darkroom process. You must own, buy or have use of a manual capacity 35mm FILM camera that can swap out lenses. See the information below in the Notes section regarding lenses. A point and shoot camera without the capacity to swap out lenses is not permissible. A cell phone camera is not permissible. A digital camera is not permissible. The department has some older cameras available for checkout, though these are also used for replacement cameras when students send off their camera to be fixed. **Students are responsible for any checkout equipment.**

*** (Note: older editions with a different ISBN are also available and can be bought or borrowed). **PHOTOGRAPHY**, Barbara London, Prentice Hall, 2010, 10th Edition, (or current)
 * ISBN-10: 0205711499 * ISBN-13: 978-0205711499

SUPPLY LIST FOR BASIC PHOTOGRAPHY

- 1 100 foot roll of Kodak Tri-X 400 film. **If only 50 foot rolls are available, you will need (2) 50 foot rolls of film. OPEN ONLY IN THE DARK. Any other kind of film is not permissible as our lab chemistry is set up for Tri-X.
- 5 reusable film canisters (I suggest that you get a few more as they are inexpensive and allow you to have more rolls rolled and ready to be exposed)
- 1 16 x 20 sheet of WHITE foam core or poster board
- 1 package of clear plastic negative files
- 1 small bottle of lens cleaner and lens tissue paper
- 2 large hand towels (can get old ones from a thrift store)
- 1 combination lock (need 1st week of classes)
- 1 roll of masking tape
- 1 thin black (Sharpie) marker

CAN BUY LATER *****

- 1 100 sheet box of **Ilford Multigrade IV RC DELUXE** paper in the **Pearl surface** (need by 4th week of classes)
OPEN ONLY IN THE DARK. You can get a 25 sheet box at first, though it will cost more in the long run.
- 2 thin accordion style (not slippery) folders with stretch band and flaps (Dollar General type store)

CAN BUY EVEN LATER *****

- 1 00000 spotting brush
- 1 package of Seal brand dry mount tissue
- 10 11x14 archival mount boards (also available at the OC Bookstore)

NOTES *****

These photo supplies can be easily found at either:

D & D Photo ph: 552-0131; 2121 E. 42nd (behind Walgreens).

OR

Odessa Camera ph: 550-0211; 4400 Tanglewood (behind Music City Mall).

Some of you may be purchasing your first camera for this class. There are countless quality cameras on the market and I suggest that you look and price carefully. Some retailers and manufacturers offer a package that includes a zoom lens instead of the 50 mm lens. Regardless of what model of camera you purchase, please consider that while zoom lenses do offer variable focal lengths from 35 mm to 80 mm to 105 mm, they do not provide a wide aperture size. This may require the use of a flash or a tripod when a 50 mm lens would allow you to hand hold the camera. Also, zoom lenses are not as bright, so they are difficult to hand hold and focus in low light situations. Plus a zoom does not offer a depth of field scale on the lens. In the beginning, **I suggest you avoid a zoom.**

b)You are encouraged to buy the following *optional* books/materials

Course Requirements (Lectures, Assignments and Assessments)

Summary of Assignments & Activities

Item(Name)	Type	Description	Due
<i>intro week</i>	Discussion		
Read Ch 1 & 2	Discussion		
lecture on major camera components and light controlling devices on the camera	lecture		
<i>distribution of loaner cameras</i>	<i>assigning of OC equipment to students</i>		

[illegible]

Grading Policy

Each week, I will return classroom activities and homework within one week of the due date and provide grades for major assignments within 2 weeks of the due date or at least 3 days before the next major assignment is due, whichever comes first. Late assignments receive a 10% deduction for each day they are late. Assignments more than 5 days late will not be accepted. Technological issues will not be considered as valid grounds for late assignment submission.

Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability Services at 335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

Learning Resource Center (Library)

The Library, known as the Learning Resources Center, provides research assistance via the LRC's catalog (print books, videos, e-books) and databases (journal and magazine articles). Research guides covering specific subject areas, tutorials, and the "Ask a Librarian " service provide additional help.

Student E-mail

Please access your Odessa College Student E-mail, by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. All assignments or correspondence will be submitted using your Odessa College email.

Student Portal

Please access your Odessa College Student E-mail, by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. All assignments or correspondence will be submitted using your Odessa College email.

Technical Support For Blackboard username and password help and for help accessing your online course availability and student email account contact the Student Success Center at 432-335-6878 or online at https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk_form.htm.

Important School Policies For information regarding student support services, academic dishonesty, disciplinary actions, special accommodations, or student's and instructors' right to academic freedom can be found in the Odessa College Student Handbook..