

Digital Photography 1 PGY 2800C Section 001

Pre-req: ART 1201C

Florida Atlantic University- Fall 2013

Tuesdays/Thursdays from 4-6:50pm

Arts and Humanities (AH) Rm. 206

Professor: Sharon Lee Hart harts@fau.edu

Office Hours: T/R 3-4pm and by appointment in VA 116 (room 116H)

Course Description:

This course offers a basic introduction to the principles underlying both digital and traditional photography. Through assignments, lectures, and critiques students develop aesthetic, technical, and conceptual skills with the digital camera. Access to a digital camera with manual exposure capabilities is required

Course Objectives:

- Develop an understanding of the technical basics of photography- including camera controls/composition
- Gain knowledge about basic color theory and black and white imagery as they apply to photography
- Develop an understanding of the technical basics of image editing software and printing.
- Develop the ability to use photography to communicate an idea visually.
- Enhance critical writing skills and visual literacy that allow for the evaluation of the content and aesthetics of a photograph
- Develop an appreciation for the medium through the study of past and contemporary photographers.
- Gain and/or strengthen research skills and have a strong sense of how to research utilizing the FAU library resources

Learning Methods:

Formal demonstrations, hands on practice, readings, field trips, lectures, research projects, class discussions, photographic assignments in and out of class and critiques.

Attendance and Class Assignment Policy:

Attendance is required and each unexcused absence after the first absence will result in a half grade deduction from your final grade. Special exceptions, including religious observances and other exceptions that are officially recognized by the University, must be discussed and accommodated in advance on an individual basis with me. Only properly documented University-approved activities, cases of documented illness, and observance of religious holidays will constitute excused absences. In the event of any absence, you are responsible for all material covered during the missed class period and any assignments that are given during your absence. It is your responsibility to read over the assignments/projects thoroughly (project sheets will be posted on Shutterfly), research the photographers noted, and ask any questions you have about the assignment in a timely manner.

Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late assignments are penalized a full letter grade for each day late and will not be accepted after three days have passed. The Final project will not be accepted late. If your assignment is not prepared, you are still required to be at the group critique. Failing to be present on a due date will hurt both your project grade and your participation grade. Critique days provide an opportunity for you to gain feedback and insight from your classmates and instructor. Likewise it denies your peers your valuable voice and opinion if you are absent.

Classroom Behavior, Decorum and Civility

In order to create a constructive and dynamic class atmosphere together, you will be expected to participate in class work and discussions throughout the entire scheduled class time, be respectful and tolerant of other people in the classroom (regardless of their gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability), and be focused and motivated towards success.

- All cell phones must be turned off while class is in session- absolutely no usage will be permitted during class.
- Computers used in the lab are for working on class projects, not checking personal Facebook pages, email, etc.
- No work can be stored on the computers. All work must be stored on an external drive.
- No side conversations during lectures, critiques, or when another student is presenting work.
- Some material shown during class lectures or work done by fellow students may deal with religion, sexuality and other potentially controversial subject matter. It is necessary in a creative, academic environment that we do not censor works of art and show respect when sharing ideas and opinions.
- A portion of your participation grade will reflect the degree to which you participate in the group critiques.
- No food or drink around the computers. Wash your hands before using the keyboards.

Statement of Academic Integrity:

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf

Plagiarism:

All academic work, written or otherwise, submitted for credit in this course, is expected to be the result of your own thought, research, manipulation, manual effort or self-expression. If you submit work purporting to be your own, but which in any way borrows ideas, manipulation, organization, wording or anything else from another source without appropriate acknowledgment of the fact, you are guilty of plagiarism. Plagiarism includes reproducing someone else's work, whether it be a published article, an artwork, or a project from a friend. Plagiarism also includes the practice of employing or allowing another person to alter or revise the work which you turn in as your own. You may discuss assignments among peers or with an instructor or tutor, but when the actual work is done, it must be done by you and you alone. Unintended plagiarism is still plagiarism. To ensure that you do not fall victim to that in anyway, please see me if you have any questions.

For written work: When your assignment involves research in outside sources of information, you must carefully acknowledge exactly what, where, and how you have employed them. If the words of someone else are used, you must put quotation marks around the passage in question and add an appropriate indication of its origin. Making simple changes while leaving the organization, content and phraseology intact is plagiaristic.

Note: All photographs turned in for this class must specifically be made for the assignment given and you must be the photographer. You may not under any circumstances turn in old photographs or photographs made by someone other than yourself. This includes self-portraits or any image where you are including yourself in the frame. You **MUST** be the one to push the shutter or set the timer. Photographs that are turned in that violate the aforementioned policy will result, at minimum, in a zero being assigned for the project grade.

Students with Disabilities:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who, due to a disability, require special accommodation to properly execute course work must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) -- in Boca Raton, SU 133 (561-297-3880); in Davie, LA 240 (954-236-1222); in Jupiter, SR 110 (561-799-8010) -- and follow all OSD procedures.

Required Supplies:

- Notebook for taking notes in class & in the field
- A binder to store all class materials
- A digital camera (a DSLR 12 megapixels or higher with manual capabilities and RAW capture is highly recommended)
- Camera instruction manual and camera bag are required
- A minimum of one 4g-8g-memory card for camera (check camera manual for details)
- Flash drive 4GB or higher
- External hard drive - you may also use Google Drive, Dropbox, etc. to store files
- Inkjet paper (type TBD).
- Recommended (but not mandatory): Tripod, flash, lenses, external card reader and a lens cleaning kit

Purchasing Locations:

Web: B&H Photo Video (www.bhphotovideo.com), Calumet Photographic (www.calumetphoto.com) Freestyle Photographic Supplies (www.frestylephoto.biz), Adorama (www.adorama.com) Local: Delray Camera Shop, 186 NE 2nd Ave Delray Beach, FL 33444 (561) 278-3331
Calumet Photo 1001 N Federal Hwy Fort Lauderdale, FL (954) 764-6555
The Pro Shop for Photographers 417 Clematis St, West Palm Beach, FL 561) 253-2605
Best Buy 20540 State Road 7, Shadowood Square Boca Raton (561) 477-5367

No Required Text

Recommended Texts:

A Short Course in Digital Photography (second edition) by Barbara London and Jim Stone
Light and Lens: Photography in the Digital Age by Robert Hirsch
The Adobe Photoshop CS6 Book for Digital Photographers by Scott Kelby
Adobe Photoshop CS6 Classroom in a Book
A History of Women Photographers by Naomi Rosenblum
Posing Beauty: African American Images from the 1890s to the Present by Deborah Willis
The Photograph as Contemporary Art by Charlotte Colton
Criticizing Photographs by Terry Barrett
The Photography Reader by Liz Wells
Why Art Cannot Be Taught: A Handbook for Art Students by James Elkins
The Business of Photography: Principles and Practices by Mary Virginia Swanson
On Being a Photographer: A Practical Guide by David Hurn and Bill Jay
After Photography by Fred Ritchin
Seeing is Believing by Errol Morris
101 Things to Learn in Art School by Kit White
Letters to a Young Artist by Peter Nesbett, Sarah Andress and Shelly Bancroft
Photography After Frank by Philip Gafter
Vitamin Ph (New Perspectives in Photography) by TJ Demos
Street Photography Now by Sophie Howarth
The Pink Glass Swan by Lucy Lippard
The Ongoing Moment by Geoff Dyer
Photography At The Dock: Essays on Photographic History, Institutions, and Practices by Abigail Solomon-Godeau
The Education of a Photographer Edited by Charles Traub
Taking the Leap by Cay Lang
Seven Days in the Art World by Sarah Thornton
*I am happy to recommend books in your area of interest-please ask!

Blackboard & Shutterfly

We will be using the online services of both Blackboard and Shutterfly during this semester for assignments, readings, and image submissions. I will give you brief instructions on how to use these websites, but it is your responsibility to fully learn and understand each of these websites before it is time to upload images and other information. All assignments, projects, and readings I give will be posted to Shutterfly. Your grades will be posted on Blackboard or handed to you in class. On the first day of class you will need to open a (free) Shutterfly account and send a request to be added to our class page. Type: faudigitalphotography1.shutterfly.com into your computer browser's address/URL bar. This will send you to the Shutterfly request page and will you be prompted to press the "ask" button. Once you do this, I will approve your request and you will have access to the site. Please post a photograph of your face as your profile picture. You can do this by going to "edit profile" and adding or changing the picture. This is due this evening by 10pm.

The Shutterfly share site that the class will be using is a community website for this class and limited other faculty to use and view. You should not download, copy, or print any images that are not your own without express written consent from the photographer/owner. Any break in these terms will be considered a violation of copyright and will result, at minimum, in a failing grade.

Grading:

Students should expect to spend a minimum of four hours per week outside of class working on projects and assignments. This includes shooting, image processing, researching, and writing. The following will be considered when grading assignments: Aesthetics, clarity, technical craft, adhering to project guidelines, submitting work on time and in full, and exploration of idea.

60% Projects and assignments

10% Tests

20% Final project

10% Participation

Academic Calendar

August 30th: Last day at 5 p.m. to drop/add courses without consequences

September 2nd: Labor Day –No classes

September 13th: Last day to submit application for degree

October 18th: Last day to drop a course or withdraw without receiving an "F" in each course

November 11th: Veteran's Day-No classes November 28th-Dec. 1st: Thanksgiving –No classes December 4th: Last Day of Classes

December 5th-11th: Final Exams

List of Class Topics and Assignments:

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Week 1 | Intro to Course – Discuss course objectives, supplies, and assignment overview
Purchase supplies; bring cameras and camera instruction manual to the next class, Reading 1 |
| Week 2 | Discuss Reading/lecture on the history of photography, intro to camera, assignment 1 |
| Week 3 | Review assignment 1, Camera controls/drawing with light demo, assignment 2 |
| Week 4 | Field trip to the Museum of Art-Ft Lauderdale (related assignment/reading) Composition/critique discussed, in class critique |

Week 5	Sally Mann, “What Remains”, crit drawing with light Motion lecture-related assignment
Week 6	Depth lecture-related assignment, crit motion assignment
Week 7	Crit depth assignment/White balance demo (related assignment/reading)
Week 8	B&W mindset explored (related assignment/reading), intro to Photoshop/Bridge, Individual midterm meetings
Week 9	Crit B&W assn, Color lecture/demo (related assignment/reading), Photoshop Demo, Intro to printing
Week 10	Crit Color assn, “On Looking” project introduced, reading, proposal due
Week 11	Discuss “On Looking” project proposal, Lab time, demos, printing
Week 12	Lab time, demos, in process critique
Week 13	Lab time, Photoshop demo
Week 14	Lab times, final artist statement edit, Thanksgiving break, “Picture Black Friday” project
Week 15	Final critique, class book or print exchange, end of the semester celebration

*Research paper/presentation on a photographic genre will be assigned. Dates TBD.

Deadlines and projects are subject to change – students will be notified in class well in advance.