ART 1602C: **Honors Photoshop, 3 credits**

M & W 9:30 – 11:40; HA 103 & AD 122



**Instructor Information**

Instructor: Dorotha Lemeh

Associate Professor of Visual Art

Office: HA 106

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 8:30 to 9:10; 11:45 to 12:35; 4:20 to 5:20 & by Appt.

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**Course Description**

This course serves as a fundamental introduction to Photoshop’s image editing techniques. In this class students gain a working knowledge of the software used most often by professionals in photography, graphic arts, film, animation, web design and visual arts industries. Through lectures/presentations, readings, and project assignments, students explore the real world application of Photoshop software’s ability to assist in creating visual works through duplicating & combining image layers. To move this class beyond technical skill development, theme-based projects will be introduced through out the semester. Group critiques, discussions, plus question & answer sessions are all a part of the class exchange. No previous knowledge of Photoshop is required. However, students must have some knowledge of Mac and/or Windows operating systems.

**Honors Distinction:** This course contributes to the Honors College curriculum as it is designed to fit into an interdisciplinary curriculum in the liberal arts and sciences that includes team taught courses and courses that emphasize critical thinking and writing across the disciplines. It differs substantially from the non-Honors version, since the writing component of the course will be much more demanding, and will prepare students for work on their professional portfolios and their **Honors Thesis**. Students will be exposed to vocabulary of a specifically theoretical nature, and will be expected to comprehend these new concepts and to deploy these new terms in their own critical thinking and writing in relationship to their visual works. Using current digital technology, students will make use of up-to-date software and other equipment utilized by today’s creative industries. Most importantly, this course will reflect the interdisciplinary nature of Honors education and will inculcate critical attitudes and skills that will teach you how to learn for yourself.

**Learning Goals:**

1. Understand the fundamentals of Photoshop
2. Become familiar with Photoshop smart filters, layers, and selection tools
3. Learn how to successfully combine images into stunning artistic composites

**Required Text:**

McClelland, Deke and Katrin Eismann. (2001) Photoshop Studio Secrets. NY: Wiley

Weinmann, Elaine and Peter Lourekas. (2012) Photoshop CS6: Visual Quickstart Guide.

CA: Peachpit Press

**Recommended Text:**

Shufflebotham, Robert. (2012) Photoshop CS6: Master the Key Techniques and Get Creative!

United Kingdom: Easy Steps Publishers

**Additional Requirements of this course:**

**Lectures, Museum & gallery exhibitions**

Students may be asked to attend art exhibitions at various on or off campus venues such as art galleries, museums or art fairs. Lectures and or film screenings may also apply.

**Required:** For the semester register with one of the following training workshop services:

**Lynda Training**

<http://www.lynda.com>

Option #2:

**Kelby Training**

(Understanding your digital camera as well as Photoshop)

<http://www.kelbytraining.com>

**Use of Portable Storage:**

For this course students ***are required* to purchase and bring to every class a 16G or 32G USB flash or portable hard drive**. The HC cannot be held responsible for lost project assignments left on the iVAHD Lab or other FAU computers so make certain that prior to powering down the computer transfer your information on to a portable drive or USB flash.

**Computer Software:**

Though helpful, students *are not required* to purchase the latest Photoshop software for this course. If students prefer, on their own laptops, to subscribe to Adobe Photoshop in the “Creative Cloud”, then the prices associated with those services are located on their official website found here:

[http://www.adobe.com/products/creativecloud.html]. Also be sure to read the membership terms & agreement page available on the Adobe’s webpage regarding the student purchase & use of CC software. [http://www.adobe.com/creativecloud/buy/students.html].

Note: In class and homework assignments can be completed in the interdisciplinary Digital Collaborative Learning Lab in AD 122. Photoshop is a cross platform application, so even if your personal Windows PC is used to work on an image, files can be moved from the PC to the Macs used in the classroom.

**Grade Assessment:** *Visual & Written Assignments, Class Participation, Performance, and Attendance*

**Letter Grade Number Grade**

A 95-100

A- 90-94

B+ 87-89

B 82-86

B- 79-81

C+ 76-78

C 65-75

C- 60-64

D 50-59

F0-49

**Visual Assignments: 60%**

Digital Media, Powerpoint & Poster Presentations including though not limited to the following:

* Accuracy of visual representation. Creative imagining & a willingness to think outside of the box.
* Mastery of technical tools, software and techniques
* Overall improvement of submitted work over the course of the semester
* Visual assignments handed in on time

**Written Assignments: 20%**

* Student assessments, Discussion papers & on-line blog/journal

**Class Participation: 20%**

* Class participation means coming to class having completed the assigned visual project, the student art assessment, and assigned readings. It also means being prepared to ask and answer questions on artworks, artists, and art theories viewed, read or discussed. It also may mean working in small groups during these discussions and participating in student centered group critiques. *Class participation is looked on as a vital part of student learning and engagement and therefore is graded.* Lack of class participation in class discussions will result in the lowering of your grade by 20%.

**Attendance**

* **Regular attendance is not only expected, it is graded.** All students are expected to come to class, be on time, and have assignments completed. Every absence after 3 will result in the lowering of the overall grade by10%. Six absences will result in a grade of "D" after 8 absences a grade of "F" is earned.
* 4 absences = highest grade is a B+  
  5 absences = highest grade is a C+  
  6 absences = highest grade is a D

7 absences = automatic failure

**Policy on makeup exams/quizzes, papers and handing in late work**

**Visual assignments not completed due to missed classes**:

Work not completed due to missed classes, tardiness, or ineffective use of time *has to be made up outside of class*. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday open lab is a good time to make up work. Weekend entry into the Art or Computer labs is possible when you contact the on campus University Police. Remember that only students in the class are allowed in the space. Be sure to bring your Owl card.

**Turning in Late Visual Assignments**:

At times a student may have unforeseen events impact on the handing in of her or his artwork by the assigned due date. A student can request an extension, however, the extension (depending on the reason) may or may not be granted. Such an extension will be decided on a case-by-case basis and is subject to the instructor’s approval of such an action. Though numerous reasons for an assignment‘s incompletion exists **20% will be subtracted** from the final grade for a work that has not been granted an extension or submitted a day after it is due. After one week 30% will be subtracted from the final grade.

**Redoing/Resubmitting Visual Assignments**:

At times a student may want to redo a project assignment based on new insights, experimentation, clarification of the project after a critique, or other valid reasons. The student is encouraged to redo the work or enhance the art piece at any time during the semester. This must take place outside of the class period during open art or computer lab time! If resubmitting the project for grade reconsideration the resubmission can only be done once per assignment. A designated time for the redo will be provided & after that time period has lapsed no work will be considered.

**Digital and Electronics in and outside of the Classroom**

Students are encouraged to bring digital cameras, laptops, ipads, wacom or bamboo tablets, digital video cameras and other electronic devices to class for the sole purpose of creating art images. This is a time for working towards completing class assignments and not viewing your email, texting, watching on-line videos, checking facebook or any other form of non-academic activity. Abuse of such a privilege may lead to banning these items from the class.

**Computer and Art Labs – Absolutely *No FOOD or DRINK in the computer labs*!**

Using the art and computer labs outside of assigned class time is an integral part and necessary component of this course. Computer labs that have photoshop are located in AD 122 on the 1st floor of the AD building. A list of students who are to be allowed to enter the Art Lab after hours will be submitted to the proper authorities for approval. If your name is not included on the list be sure to notify the instructors, otherwise entry into these spaces will be prohibited.

**Code of Academic Integrity policy statement**

*Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty 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 University Regulation 4.001.* <http://www.fau.edu/divdept/honcol/academics_honor_code.htm>

<http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf>

**Students with Special Needs**

*The rights of students with disabilities are protected under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).* Please consult the University website for additional information concerning Disability Services: <http://www.osd.fau.edu> . *In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework 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); or in Jupiter, SR 110 (561-799-8010) – and follow all OSD procedures. Any student with a documented disability or special need, who requires reasonable accommodations for assignments will need to contact Disability Services Office at the beginning of the semester.* <http://www.osd.fau.edu/Rights.htm>

**Class Room Etiquette**

University policy on the use of electronic devices states: “In order to enhance and maintain a productive atmosphere for education, personal communication devices, such as cellular telephones and pagers, are to be disabled in class sessions.”

**Course Schedule At-A-Glance**

The allotted time for each session is 2 hours and 50 minutes. Come prepared each session with the equipment needed to closely observe, render/illustrate, digitally capture, photoshop, and write about the visual project assigned. Also come prepared to discuss any outside reading assignments provided.

Week one: Photoshop

Day 1: review of syllabus

Lecture: Getting Started - Photoshop Basics

Introduction to selection tools

Discussion: Keyboard short cuts & Creating Files

Read Chapter I in Weinmann and Lourekas’ Photoshop CS6: Visual Quickstart Guide

**Additional Resources**

Peachpit: <http://www.peachpit.com> /

<http://www.peachpit.com/creativeedge/>

<http://www.peachpit.com/newsletters/index.aspx>

**National Association of Photoshop Professionals**

<http://www.photoshopuser.com>

Day 2: Selection tools continued

Read: Chapters 2 & 3 in Weinmann and Lourekas’ Photoshop CS6: Visual Quickstart Guide

Week two: Capturing Images

Day 1: Lecture: Introduction to Layers

Discussion: Tiff, Gif, JPEG, RAW & PDF

Presentation: Copyright and ethical issues concerning the use of Photoshop

In class: Assignment 1

About the assignments: How to email your images

1. No larger than 300 dpi
2. Save in .tif format (PSD is sometimes too big & jpeg flattens the image)
3. Send the information to my gmail account or burn on a CD and hand it in.

Read Chapter 4 in Weinmann and Lourekas’ Photoshop CS6: Visual Quickstart Guide

Day 2: Class discussion about the readings. Continue Assignment 1.

In class critique: Analysis & Reflection

Week three: **QUIZ 1**

Day 1: Introduction to RAW, Adobe Bridge and Layer Masks

Class Discussion - RAW, Adobe Bridge and Layer Masks

Read Chapter 5 in Weinmann and Lourekas’ Photoshop CS6: Visual Quickstart Guide

Day 2: Layer Masks continued. In class assignments provided.

Read Chapter 7 in Weinmann and Lourekas’ Photoshop CS6: Visual Quickstart Guide

Week four

Those pesky panels in Photoshop

In class: Assignment 2 - Workspaces & Using a Wacomb Tablet

Discussion: Workspaces & Using a Wacomb Tablet

Critique: Analysis & Reflection

Read Chapters 10 & Chapter 11 in Weinmann and Lourekas’ Photoshop CS6: Visual Quickstart Guide

Day 2: The History Palette, Blend Modes and Smart filters

Read Chapter 12 in Weinmann and Lourekas’ Photoshop CS6: Visual Quickstart Guide

Week five

In class: Assignment 3 - Using Artistic Filters in Photoshop

Discussion: Panels, Filters, and Layers

Critique: Analysis & Reflection

Read Chapters 1 - 5 in McClellan & Eismann’s Photoshop Studio Secrets

Week six

**Quiz 2**

Day 1: Creative Imaging Techniques: Combining Images

In class: Assignment 4 - Transformation

Read Chapters 6 - 10 in McClellan & Eismann’s Photoshop Studio Secrets

Critique: Analysis & Reflection

Day 2: Color. Discussion: Printing - RGB & CMKY

Read Chapters 11 - 14 in McClellan & Eismann’s Photoshop Studio Secrets

Week seven

Creative Imaging Techniques & Color continued

In class: Assignment 5 - Texture

Read Chapters 15 - 17 in McClellan & Eismann’s Photoshop Studio Secrets

Critique: Analysis & Reflection

Complete and turn in Assignments 1 – 5

Week eight

In class: Assignment 6 - Invention

Critique: Analysis & Reflection

Read Chapters 18 - 19 in McClellan & Eismann’s Photoshop Studio Secrets

Week nine

In class: Assignment 7 – Visual Movement

Critique: Analysis & Reflection

Read Chapter 20 in McClellan & Eismann’s Photoshop Studio Secrets

Weeks ten through thirteen

In class: Assignment 8 - Animating in Photoshop

Read Chapter 15: Animations & Slices in Weinmann and Lourekas’ Photoshop CS6

Complete and turn in Assignments 6 & 7. Critique: Analysis & Reflection

Week Fourteen through sixteen

Final assignment 8 due

Student Presentations

In class discussion and critique.

**List of Materials**

Some of these items you can purchase at one of the following stores: Best Buy, B & H, Staples, Walmart, Office Depot, or Amazon

Digital camera (Extremely useful, though not required) Note: Other digital capture tools (iPad or

iPhone/Smart phone) can be used.

Journal, 50 to 100 pages

Portable external Hard Drive (up to 1 TB USB 3.0)

32G Memory Stick/flash drive (if unable to afford portable hard drive)

Box of CD/DVD discs

4 DVD Memorex Slim hard cases

[http://www.staples.com/Memorex-DVD-Slim-Cases-25-Pack/product\_566411?externalize=certona]

50 to 100 sheets of 8 x 10 Photographic Paper

**Bibliography**

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