108-01 Photography I

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Photography I is an introduction to the art of shooting traditional black and white photography and modern SLR digital color photography. This course is also an introduction to the fine art of digital imaging as a practical and artistic enhancement to basic photography. Photography will be discussed as both a fine art form. An introduction to digital techniques and digital photographic printing will also be covered in this course. The act of “seeing” and photographic composition will be developed in this class.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**
- To develop a solid understanding of a 35mm SLR camera with both film and digital
- To develop a solid understanding black & white darkroom techniques.
- To gain a beginning understanding of basic digital techniques, including Photoshop.
- To develop new insights about photographic compositions.
- To develop a sense for good craftsmanship, execution, and presentation of work.
- To be able to critique a photograph in an articulate and thoughtful manner.

Assessment is based on the following objectives:

**PROCESS**
- Commitment to each stage of the process
- Evolution and development of idea

**CREATIVITY**
- Diverse research, brainstorming, and approaches
- Historical, social, and contextual awareness

**FORMAL**
- Compositional structure & 2D understanding
- Synthesis of subject matter and form

**TECHNICAL**
- Presentation & craft
- Development of project-specific technique

**COMMUNICATION**
- Class Participation
- Responsive, pro-active, and motivated

**CLASS PROJECTS**

**FILM**
1. Alphabet City
2. Objects/Repetition & Groups
3. Reflection/Shadow
4. Portrait
5. *Nighttime

**DIGITAL**
6. Exercise: Retouch
7. Personal Narrative
8. Tiled Landscape
9. Collaboration

**SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that each student obtain a student membership to the Cincinnati Art Museum. The student cost is $25. Although admission to the museum is now free, membership provides access to the museum library which is an important art and video resource.

- www.bhphotovideo.com, CommArts, Aperture Magazine
- Cord Camera [Montgomery] or Ritz Camera [Rookwood Commons]
- *On Photography*, Susan Sontag
- *Criticizing Photographs*, Terry Barrett
- *Camera Lucida: Reflections on Photography*, Roland Barthes
1. Fully adjustable (w/manual mode) SLR 35mm camera. Do not buy or bring an automatic camera that does not have a manual override. May include a zoom lens, but not required.

2. 20 Rolls of 400 speed Black and White film: Ilford HP5.

3. 8 x 10 inch paper: Please buy the Ilford RC Satin or Pearl (Semi-gloss).

4. 25 Clear Negative (35mm) Storage Sheets. Try to get the dual contact sheet and negative sheet.

5. Optional 3 Inch Binder for negative sheets, contact prints, photographs, and projects.


7. Scissors and No. 11 Xacto Knife for cutting negatives and film.

8. 1 Workshop Apron (optional - could just be work clothes.)

9. 1 Pack Epson Premium Photo Glossy Paper (50 sheets). For digital prints. You could split with a friend. You’ll need this the second half of the class.

10. Notebook to keep class notes and your journal about photography and visual perception.

11. USB drive to store files.

12. Black Foam Core (TBD)

13. Photographer’s magnifying loupe for viewing negatives, film, and prints.

14. Rubber Gloves (optional)

NOTE: Your lab fee covers the photographic chemicals necessary to develop and print your film throughout the semester.

Students are allowed a maximum of 2 absences - NO EXCEPTIONS! *Every absence after this will result in a one letter grade deduction from the final grade.

2 tardies = 1 absence. If you are more than 5 minutes late, then you will be marked as tardy.

Do not miss critiques, project presentations, or scheduled appointments with the instructor, they will not be repeated. If you do miss, first contact another classmate for the information.

ANY missed critiques, final or intermediary will be a 10 pt. deduction from the project grade.

Grading Scale & Policy

A = 90 – 100%
B = 80 – 89%
C = 70 – 79%
D = 60 – 69%
F = 59% and Below

1) PROJECTS: 70%. Each project is worth 100pts. See the attached “Project Evaluation Form”
2) QUIZZES = 25%. Quizzes are 10pts. each. There will be a quiz for each reading. If absent you may retake the quiz for half the points.
3) Final Notebook & CD = 5%. The final notebook should be 20 single-sided full pages of notes. Do NOT mix chapter notes with class notes, they will not be accepted as class notes. The Final CD will comprise all of your work from the semester both the scanned images of your black and white photographs as well as the digital photographs.

Additional Rules and Policies

If you do have to miss a class, find out from a classmate what we went over. Although most of the assignments will be online, check with a classmate - things can change.
Even if you are absent you are still responsible for turning in assignments on that day.
Review the University Plagiarism policy.
Late work is 10 pts. a day, not per class. Don’t expect any leniency with this.
No extensions and no incompletes are possible.
Be self motivated. No passionless students. Take risks.
No complaining about long crits.
No whining about anything - could result in point deductions.
Email me other students if you have questions, then me.
If you are unclear about an assignment, then ask, don’t wait until the day of to tell me that you didn’t get it or didn’t have time to finish it.

Note: The right to add to or delete from this syllabus is reserved by Professor Gibson.