ART 492 Photography for Non-Majors
Instructor: Amanda Breitbach
Tuesdays, Thursdays 5-7:40 p.m.

Course Description
ART 497 - Photography for Non-Majors is a three-credit course that will introduce non-majors to the art of photography. This class includes hands-on practice with digital cameras and computer software while providing an introduction to photography as a fine art medium. Students will learn basic camera operation, digital file management, image editing and printing in the service of expressing ideas. An introduction to historical and contemporary work and concepts in photography will complement and inform these pursuits.

We will learn actively in this class - by DOING and MAKING. Most assignments will be studio-based and will require time spent outside of class to complete. We will also analyze and write about photographs, critique each others’ work, and discuss relevant readings as a group. These activities require the active participation of every student.

Course Objectives
• Students will learn about photographic seeing, including composition, light and color.
• Students will become familiar with their digital camera’s manual controls.
• Students will learn how technical aspects of photography, such as shutter speed and aperture, affect the aesthetic qualities of an image.
• Students will learn how to import and manage digital image files using Adobe Lightroom.
• Students will learn how to edit digital images for screen display and digital printing.
• Students will learn about historical and contemporary photographic work and concepts.
• Students will learn about and practice interpretation and analysis of photographs.
• Students will engage in constructive critiques that focus on technical, aesthetic and conceptual aspects of their work.
• Students will actively participate in discussions relating to assigned readings/films.

Required Supplies and Equipment
• Digital Camera with manual exposure and focus controls, resolution of 8 MP or higher (if you don’t have your own, there are a limited number of cameras available for check-out)
• Portable external hard drive
• AT LEAST 1 box, 50 sheets 8.5x11” Epson Premium Lustre paper
• 1/2 sheet 32”x40” 4-ply white Museum Board (share a full sheet with one other person)

Recommended Supplies and Equipment
• A Short Course in Digital Photography by Barbara London and Jim Stone
• Personal Computer with Adobe Lightroom Software

Where to Buy Supplies
LOCAL:  - SFA Bookstore - basic art supplies, hard drives, textbooks, etc.
ONLINE: (Plan ahead for shipping times and register as a student for discounts and specials)
  - B&H Photo  www.bhphotovideo.com/edu
  - Adorama  www.adorama.com/
  - Freestyle Photo  http://www.freestylephoto.biz
**Classroom Behavior Policy**

Discussions in critique and of historical and contemporary artwork may involve challenging and sensitive topics including identity, race, religion, and sexuality. Students are expected to maintain a mature and respectful attitude toward their peers and the instructor. Any student who behaves in a way that intimidates or disrespects others will be asked to leave the room and may be referred to university judicial affairs.

**Attendance and Participation**

Students are expected to attend all classes. Demonstrations, discussions, presentations and other group activities only take place during class time and are not repeated for those absent. Lateness to or early departure from class will count as a half absence. Students are expected to participate actively in class, speak up in critiques and discussions, ask questions, and demonstrate engagement in the subject. It is the student’s responsibility to read the schedule and prepare for class each day by completing assignments and readings on time.

**Academic Integrity**

I expect the highest standards of integrity from students in my class. Students are expected to do their own academic work. We will discuss how to properly cite ideas and quotations from sources, as well as how to reword an idea in your own language. Any student involved in cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty may be subject to disciplinary action. Papers or presentations with plagiarized content will receive a grade of 0.

**Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact me for a confidential discussion of their individual needs for academic accommodation. Stephen F Austin State University is committed to making every possible effort to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester.

**Mobile Device Policy**

When class is in session, students are expected to be engaged in learning, note taking, critique or discussion – not using mobile phones, tablets, or other portable devices for recreation. Using devices in class for any purpose other than note taking is distracting to other students and the instructor. **Students using devices for any purposes other than those directly related to class will be asked to leave and will lose participation points in their final grade.**

**Harassment and Discrimination**

As an instructor, one of my priorities is to create a safe learning environment. If you experience harassment or discrimination that makes you feel unsafe or that interferes with your ability to learn, please feel welcome to talk to me. As a faculty member, I have a legal responsibility to share information regarding sexual misconduct or crimes that occur on campus with the university’s Title IX compliance officer, who will offer affected students appropriate counseling and support services. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting the SFA Counseling Center, 936-468-2401, the Family Crisis Center of East Texas - SFA Office, 936-468-SAFE (7233), or the 24-hour crisis hotline at 1-800-828-7233.
Grading:
Grading scale: 100 – 90% A, 89 – 80% B, 79 – 70% C, 69-60% D, 59% and below F
LATE ASSIGNMENTS: One letter grade (10 points) will be deducted from assignments turned in up to one week after posted due dates. Assignments turned in more than one week late will not be accepted.
REDOING ASSIGNMENTS: Students may reshoot or reprint an assignment if they are dissatisfied with the work that they present in critique, although this does not guarantee an improved grade. Late assignments may not be redone. Re-submissions are due no later than Dec. 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Evaluation criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Studio assignments</td>
<td>technical, conceptual and aesthetic qualities, effort and risk taking</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographer Presentation</td>
<td>research, content and delivery</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Exam</td>
<td>accuracy</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
<td>attendance, critique participation, reading discussions, preparation for class</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>written proposal work prints &amp; contact sheets final prints - technical, conceptual and aesthetic qualities</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Extra Credit:
For extra credit, students may write a reflection on a photographer’s lecture or an exhibit of photography. Following the event, email the instructor a 1-2 page written reflection that briefly describes, analyzes, interprets, and evaluates the work. For guidance, refer to Terry Barrett’s principles of criticizing photographs (link available on D2L).
Listed below are upcoming artist lectures and exhibits of photography in Nacogdoches and the surrounding region. Students may write about one show marked with ** for extra credit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exhibits/Lectures in Nacogdoches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SFA Faculty Exhibition + **show by Dr. Bill Nieberding, Sep 14-Oct 21 Cole Art Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World War I Poster Exhibition, Oct 31-Jan 5 Cole Art Center, Ledbetter Gallery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
** FREE Fort Worth Bus Trip Sept. 29** will take students to the Kimbell Art Museum, Amon Carter, and The Modern. Trip includes lunch and dinner! Sign up outside the art office.

**Opportunity!**

SPE South Central conference

**THIS, THAT, or the OTHER** Considering Emerging Trends and the Vernacular in Photography
Baylor University - Waco, Texas  |  October 13 - October 15, 2017

Sign up to travel as a group at meetings of the SFA Photo Club

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exhibits/Lectures outside Nacogdoches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>In Passing : Genevieve Gaignard</strong>, Sept 8-Oct 22, Houston Center for Photography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Curve</strong>, Sept 8-Oct 22, Houston Center for Photography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Homelands and Histories: Photographs by Fazal Sheikh</strong>, through Oct 1, Museum of Fine Arts Houston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Polaroid Project</strong>, June 3 - Sept 3, Amon Carter Museum of Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nature/Culture</strong>, July 15-Dec 10, Amon Carter Museum of Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Misty Kealer: Haunt</strong>, Sep 23-Nov 26, Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Edward Steichen: In Exaltation of Flowers</strong>, Sept. 2-May 13, Dallas Museum of Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Various lectures</strong>, South Central SPE conference, Oct. 13-15, Waco, TX</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Instructor Contact information:**
Amanda Breitbach                        office/studio: Art 123A
breitbaca@sfasu.edu                   Office hours: Mondays, 2-4 p.m.