ART 317 Digital Photography Instructor: Christopher Talbot

Tuesday, Thursday 8 - 10:40 a.m. Art 131

Prerequisite: ART 217 Intro to photography

Course Description

This course builds on the foundation of the skills learned in the darkroom in Art 217. We will learn how to migrate skills from traditional darkroom photography and film cameras into a digital photographic workflow.

The topic of study this semester is digital photography. Digital camera technique, file management, workflow, and digital printing will be covered. We will discuss issues relevant to digital photography and how it is both different from and similar to traditional photography. This course will prepare you to be able to work in digital photographic methods with confidence in future courses where proficiency in these techniques will be presumed of all participants. In addition to these technical goals, artistic merit, aesthetics and a conceptual understanding of the significance of digital photography to the context of a work of art will be of great importance.

A. Program Learning Outcomes:

- Undergraduate students will demonstrate proficiency in studio foundation skills as they relate to the elements and principles of design.
- Undergraduate students will exhibit a high level of proficiency in the use of materials, techniques and media.
- Undergraduate students will demonstrate understanding of contemporary art issues through exploration of synthesis of content, problem solving and creativity.
- Undergraduate students will define and state knowledge of Art Historical precedents.

B. Student Learning Outcomes:

- Students will show their competence darkroom techniques by producing high quality work.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to integrate design principles with the constraints of the photographic format.
- Students will be able to explain the importance of photography in today’s visual culture and art-making.
- Students will explain their work to their classmates and other viewers, demonstrating their comprehension of both formal and conceptual artistic concerns.
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 use technical aspects of photography, such as shutter speed and aperture, to control 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 or a 16 inch roll of the same paper.

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)

Imagingspectrum.com

- B&H Photo

- Adorama- Freestyle Photo

www.bhphotovideo.com/edu


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.

Attendance:
Class absences are not to exceed 6 contact hours in a studio class without consequence. A student will not receive credit for any studio class when missing 18 contact hours or more (this includes excused and unexcused absences).

Photo Area Attendance Policy:
Class attendance is mandatory; punctuality is expected. Attendance is taken in the first 10 minutes of class; if you are not present, you are marked tardy. If you do not arrive after another 10 minutes, you are absent. Three unexcused absences will result in a final letter grade of no greater than a C. Two tardies/early departures equal one unexcused absence. Excused/unexcused absences will be determined by the professor. Absence during a critique, failure to turn in a project during a critique, or missed quizzes will result in an automatic F for that project. Late
projects will not be accepted. Students are responsible for making up missed work.

All absences should be prearranged. Please let me know when you have an unusual circumstance when you cannot attend. Some of you will prefer to do the bulk of your work at home or at another location. This does not excuse you from meeting with the class. Your participation in the group is important, and good communication with me helps me help you accomplish what you need to do.

**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.

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university polity on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

**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 May 1.

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes and F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Evaluation criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Studio assignments</td>
<td>technical, conceptual and aesthetic qualities, effort and risk taking</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibition Review paper and Photographer Presentation</td>
<td>research, content and delivery</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical Exam</td>
<td>accuracy</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<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>
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**Instructor Contact information:**

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