ARTS 1356 Digital Photography for Non-Majors  
Instructor: Amanda Breitbach  
Mondays/Wednesdays 5-7:40 p.m.  
Art 131

Course Description
ARTS 1356 Digital 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 (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 prints ordered from a digital printing service for remote students

Recommended Supplies and Equipment

- A Short Course in Digital Photography by Barbara London and Jim Stone
- Personal Computer with Adobe Lightroom Software
- Tripod

Where to Buy Supplies

- B&H Photo  
  www.bhphotovideo.com/edu
- Adorama  
  www.adorama.com/
- Freestyle Photo  
  http://www.freestylephoto.biz

* Plan ahead to allow for shipping times and register as a student for discounts and specials
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.

Masks and Physical Distancing
For the safety of all students and faculty, masks (cloth face coverings) must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times in this class and appropriate physical distancing must be observed. Students not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be asked to leave the class. All incidents of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students who are reported for multiple infractions of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing may be subject to disciplinary actions.

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. 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.

Attendance and Participation
Attendance and class participation are a significant portion of the student’s grade. Students are expected to participate in class presentations, demonstrations, and critiques whenever possible - whether that participation is remote or face-to-face. Discussions and other group activities take place during class time and are not repeated for those absent. Students are expected to participate actively in class, speak up during critiques, ask questions, and demonstrate engagement in the subject. It is the student’s responsibility to read the schedule and prepare for class by completing assignments and readings on time. Students who are not prepared for class or do not actively participate in critiques and discussions will receive lower grades for participation.

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.
Harassment and Discrimination
One of my priorities is to create a safe learning environment. If you experience harassment or discrimination that makes you feel unsafe or 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 percentage points) will be deducted from assignments turned in up to one week after posted due dates. Assignments more than one week late will not be accepted.
REDOING ASSIGNMENTS: Students may reshoot or reprint any 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. All submissions are due by Nov. 30.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Evaluation criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>technical, conceptual and aesthetic qualities of images, effort and risk taking, reading questions and discussions</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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, preparation for class</td>
<td>15%</td>
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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).

Instructor Contact information:
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Office hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 3:30-4:30 p.m.