ARTS 5356 Graduate Advanced Photography  
Instructor: Amanda Breitbach

Course Description
ART 5356 - Advanced Photographic Processes is a three-credit course designed to deepen advanced students’ knowledge and ability in photography. This semester will be devoted to digital processes, including photo capture, negative scanning, use of editing software, and fine printing. Students will be expected to refine their skills in making and printing photographs, with the final product of an outstanding portfolio of personal work. Readings/films on photography and presentations on historic and contemporary photographers 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 outside of class to complete. We will also analyze and write about photographs, critique each others’ work, and discuss relevant readings/films as a group. These activities require the active participation of every student and are a significant portion of the student’s grade.

My expectations for graduate students are higher than for undergraduate students, particularly when it comes to developing the conceptual content of your work. That said, I recognize that you are still a student whose ideas and artistic practices are developing. To help you grow and learn, I require that you submit a brief (1-2 page) artist statement for each critique this semester. This statement should include examples of contemporary and historic artists who have influenced your work and an description of how the process you are using is suited to your content, as well as some analysis of the ideas you are presenting and how the aesthetic characteristics of your photographs support those ideas. For each classroom critique, including the final critique, you will present 2-5 more images than the undergraduate students, with the goal of having a solid portfolio of work by the end of the semester. Your work may change direction over the course of the semester; it is perfectly acceptable for your statement and the content of your images to change substantially.

Course Objectives
- Students will practice thinking carefully while making a photograph, using their technical ability to control the final outcome
- Students will build on skills editing photographs using Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop
- Students will learn to correctly scan photographic negatives for digital printing
- Students will refine their approach to photographic printing and learn to carefully consider presentation as a vital component of a finished artwork
- Students will learn about relevant historical and contemporary photographic work
- Students will learn about and practice interpretation and analysis of photographs, verbally and in written form
- 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 (there are a limited number of cameras available for check-out)
- Portable external hard drive
- 1 sample pack of inkjet papers for face-to-face students OR sample orders from 2 different digital printing services for remote students
- Roll or sheet paper adequate for assignments & critiques for face-to-face students (approximately 50 prints, at least 11x14”) OR final prints ordered from digital printing service for remote students

Recommended Supplies and Equipment
- Personal Computer with Adobe Lightroom & Adobe Photoshop Software
- Tripod

Where to Buy Supplies - Don’t forget to register as a student for discounts!
- 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.

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. 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.

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, presentations 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**
Students are expected to do their own 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. Questions are always welcome. 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, laptops, 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.

**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 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 and critiques</td>
<td>technical, conceptual and aesthetic qualities of images, effort and risk taking, reading questions and discussions</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation and Exhibition Review Paper</td>
<td>research, content, structure, and delivery</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
<td>attendance, critique participation, preparation for class</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Portfolio</td>
<td>final prints - technical, conceptual and aesthetic qualities professional presentation website</td>
<td>20%</td>
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Extra Credit:
For extra credit, students may write a reflection on a photographer’s lecture or a monograph book of photographs. 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.