

David Stichweh
Art 151
Beginning Photography
Summer, 2009
M. W. 5:30-8:00

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course examines the basic materials, processes and aesthetic appreciation of photography, and introduces the fundamentals of creating digital photographic images. The course emphasizes creative seeing, developing basic digital photographic skills, and establishing a vocabulary for interpreting and evaluating visual images.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To understand digital photographic materials and processes.
2. To develop technical photographic abilities in digital exposure and printing.
3. To develop skills in visual perception, creative image making, and photographic communication.
4. To develop a vocabulary for describing, interpreting and evaluating photographic images.

MEANS OF ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

1. Classroom lectures, demonstrations, textbook readings exploring digital photographic materials and processes.
2. Computer lab demonstrations and student assignments in the areas of digital exposure, basic and advanced printing, and basic image manipulation.
3. Photographic assignments to visually explore specific themes and subjects, a student defined final project.
4. Viewing photographs to evaluate design and composition, classroom and individual critiques of each project.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course students will be able to:

1. Correctly expose digital images.
2. Make digital images of good technical quality utilizing basic image manipulation.
3. Visually communicate ideas and impressions through photographic images.
4. Discuss and evaluate the technical and expressive qualities of photographic images.

Photography is about perceiving the familiar with fresh eyes.

--Gary Monroe, photographer

To me, photography is an art of observation. It's about finding something interesting in an ordinary place...I've found it has little to do with the things you see and everything to do with the way you see them.

--Elliott Erwitt, photographer

GENERAL COURSE OUTLINE

Readings: CD = Compact Disk

WEEK I

- June 15 Course Introduction: establishing Objectives, Goals, Expectations, Cameras, Aperture and Shutter *CD 88-89*, Lenses *CD 149-164*
- June 17 Depth of Field *CD 95-96*, Basic Digital Camera Operation, Basic Exposure, **Exposure Assignment #1** *CD 19-24, 90-95, 97-98* BRING CAMERAS

WEEK II

- June 22 Meet the printers, Make and view Index Prints of Exposure #1, Controlling Exposure *CD 99-111*, **Exposure Assignment #2**, BRING CAMERAS AND PAPER
- June 24 View Index Prints of Exposure #2, White Balance and Exposure Adjustments *CD 108-111, 134-138*, **Exposure Assignment #3**, Basic Image Printing *CD 242-243, 248-251*, **Print Assignment #1**, BRING CAMERAS AND PAPER

WEEK III

- June 29 View Print Assignment #1, Characteristics of Ink Jet Paper, *CD 252-256*, Basic Digital Printing Controls, **Print Assignment #2**, BRING PAPER
- July 1 View Print Assignment #2, Make Print Reference Book, Visual Exploration of Color *CD 132-144*, **Color Project**

WEEK IV

- July 6 View Color Project, Elements of Visual Design, **Shape Project**
- July 8 Photographic Film and Digital Media *CD 29-40*, Individual Critiques of Print Projects 1 & 2 and Color Project

WEEK V

- July 13 View Shape Project, Visual Exploration of Light *CD 145-148*, **Light & Shadow Project**
- July 15 "Where is photography to be found?" An Image Search. Meet in Library, Meet two photographers

WEEK VI

- July 20 View Light & Shadow Project, "How do you decide which images to print?" Selecting and Sequencing Images
- July 22 Brief History of Photography, the Final Project, Introduce the Portfolio Project

WEEK VII

- July 27 Select Images for the Portfolio Project, Basic printing with Photoshop, BRING MEMORY CARD
- July 29 Sequence Portfolio Project images, Construct Portfolio book, Individual Critiques of Shape, Light & Shadow Projects

WEEK VIII

- Aug. 3 Exploring the Creative Process, Photo Monoprint Workshop, BRING MEMORY CARD AND PAPER FOR PRINTING
- Aug. 5 Critique Final Projects

FINAL EXAM PERIOD - Aug. 10 Individual critiques of Final Projects

ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Date Given</u>	<u>Date Due</u>
Exposure #1	6/17	6/22
Exposure #2	6/22	6/24
Exposure #3	6/24	6/29
Print #1	6/24	6/29
Print #2	6/29	7/1
Color Project	7/1	7/6
Shape Project	7/6	7/13
Light & Shadow	7/13	7/20
Portfolio Project	7/22	7/29
Final Project	7/22	8/5

METHOD OF EVALUATION

Evaluation will consist of five technical assignments, three photographic projects exploring specific themes, and a student defined final project. Specific grading criteria will be given with each assignment or project. The final grade for the course will be determined as indicated below:

Exposure Assignments I-III -- Credit (-5% if not completed)	
Print Assignments I & II -- Credit (-5% if not completed)	
Color Project	- 20%
Shape Project	- 25%
Light & Shadow	- 25%
Final Project	- 30%

Because projects are critiqued in class, assignments are to be turned in at the beginning of the class period (5:30) on the date due. Late assignments will result in the reduction of one full letter grade. Assignments more than two weeks late will not be accepted and will receive the grade of zero (0). Photographic projects turned in without index prints will be considered incomplete and will receive the grade of zero (0). Plus (+) and minus (-) grades will be used in designating the final grade for the course.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance and active participation are essential in order to meet the objectives for the course. Two absences are permitted. For every absence in excess of two, two points will be deducted from the final grade. Appointments with the instructor which are missed will be counted as an absence.

CLASS AND STUDIO TIME

CLASS – The class meets Monday and Wednesday 5:30-8:00. It is expected that each student has scheduled these hours for class only and that there are no time conflicts with other activities.

STUDIO – This is a studio course within the Art Department. Your “studio” time will be when you are photographing, and when you are at your computer or in the classroom uploading and printing your images.

TEXT: The Textbook of Digital Photography CD

MATERIALS

A. Inkjet Photo Printing Paper

Size: 8.5x11

Brand: **EPSON only** if using the classroom printers.

Paper made by printer manufacturer if using your own printer.

Do not purchase Epson Presentation Paper. (Premium Presentation is OK.)

Surfaces: (your choice)

1. Glossy
2. Luster, Semi Glossy, Semi Matte
3. Matte

Where to purchase paper: Office Max, Staples, Cord Camera, other photo stores.

B. Extra batteries for your camera. (AA batteries for those renting a camera.)

C. Two (2) letter size envelopes or folders for turning in projects.

Rental fee on digital cameras - \$15.00 (uses 4 AA batteries)

OFFICE

Location: A123

Phone: 823-1463

E-mail: Dstichweh@otterbein.edu

“The camera has but one eye—the lens. It can record only a fragment of the visual world. The photographer provides a second eye. This is the eye of selection. The artist has a Third Eye—the eye of creative imagination. It is the Third Eye that can penetrate into our inner world.”

Anonymous

This photography course will help you understand the first eye, develop the second eye, and discover the Third Eye.

COURSE PHILOSOPHY

GUILDING PRINCIPLE - Photography is as much about the creation of a photographer as it is about teaching or learning a particular set of skills.

In following this principle we identify ourselves not just as a Photography Class, but as a Creative Partnership: persons who together will discover the technical and visual aspects of photography, explore the creative process, and experience ourselves as creative image makers.

The following guidelines govern our involvement in this Creative Partnership:

1. We are committed to learning and developing the tools of our craft: the technical knowledge and skills of photography.
2. We are committed to learning and developing the visual structure of photography: the “language” by which photographs communicate.
3. We are committed to discovering, exploring, and expressing our own individual ways of seeing and responding to the world.
4. We respect each other’s opinions and visions.
5. We trust each other to make honest comments in giving feedback about our work.
6. Our feedback will build on strengths, not focus on weaknesses.
7. We are not in competition with each other.
8. We embrace our failures and our successes as equal parts of our learning.