

ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY II COURSE SYLLABUS

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CLASS TEXT

Photography the Ninth Edition by London, Stone, and Upton

DIGITAL SOFTWARE USED

Adobe Creative Suite CS6

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Advanced Photography course is designed for students who are seriously interested in the practical experience of photography and wish to develop mastery in the concept, composition, and execution of their ideas. Students will submit a final portfolio at the end of the school year for their final evaluation. In building the portfolio, students experience a variety of concepts, techniques and approaches designed to help them demonstrate their abilities as well as their versatility with techniques, problem solving, and ideation. Students also develop a body of work for the Concentration section of the portfolio that investigates an idea of personal interest to them.

GOALS

Encourage creative as well as systematic investigation of formal and conceptual issues in the Concentration and Breadth sections of the portfolio.

Emphasize making photographs as an on-going process that involves the student in informed and critical decision making to develop ideation.

Develop technical versatility and skills while using the visual elements and principles in compositional forms.

Encourage students to become independent thinkers who will contribute inventively and critically to their culture through their photography.

In the Breadth section, students will experience a variety of concepts and approaches to demonstrate their abilities and versatility with techniques, ideation, and problem solving. The Elements and Principles of Art are explored extensively in the Breadth section.

In the Concentration section, students develop a body of work that is derived from a planned investigation of an idea that is of personal interest to them. Students will use informed decision-making and problem-solving skills in an ongoing process to produce these pieces for the concentration.

GRADING

Portfolio Projects: 50-100 points each

Blog: 25 points each

Lab: 20 points per project

Final Exam: Combination of portfolio and written exam worth 15% of final.

Other assignments: 10-20 points each

SOCIAL MEDIA

Students will also need to keep an online blog via Flickr, the blog will describe their work. Blogs will be linked at our class website for easy accessibility. Posts will be described in detail in the blog post handout. Grammar will not be the main focus for grading, but the writing will need to be clear and understandable.

FINAL EXAM

At the end of each trimester you will have a written exam that will cover skills and techniques discussed throughout the trimester combined with a portfolio assessment.

OTHER

I will have other small assignments that will help with improving skills in the lab and in Photoshop.

HOMEWORK

It is expected that students will spend a considerable amount of time photographing outside the classroom, working on completion of assignments. Ideas for projects or solutions to problems should be worked out in a sketchbook both in class and outside of class. The sketchbook is an essential tool in recording ideas, capturing visual information, working on compositional issues, and just fooling around. Sketchbooks will be spot checked frequently for progress.

EXHIBITIONS/COMPETITIONS

Advanced Photography students are encouraged to participate in exhibitions and competitions. As well as any gallery shows that the class puts on.

ASSIGNMENTS/EVALUATION

Assignments that are open-ended in nature and that explore a variety of approaches to photography are made during the first Trimester. Assignments have end dates. Students should make every effort to complete work by the end date; however, there may be circumstances that cause an assignment to be delayed. It is important that students have a discussion with the instructor if work is going to be turned in late or they will miss a critique.

Work is evaluated in progress and in the finished state through critiques with teacher and peers in-group and individually. A grading rubric, which is distributed separately, provides the grading criteria for each assignment.

CRITIQUES

Critiques are an integral part of all classes. All students are brought together for critiques at regular intervals—generally when they have major assignments due. Each student must show his/her work and briefly discuss his or her intent. The class is then expected to provide positive feedback and offer suggestions for improvement. All students participate. The vocabulary of photography is introduced through the foundation classes as well as class lectures/discussions and is reinforced through the verbal and written critique. We have class critiques on the days work is due. These generally take the entire class to complete, sometimes more than one class period.

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB:

A part of being in this CTE course is being a part of the photography club. We will meet outside of normal school hours twice a month. These dates will be announced at the beginning of each month starting in October. If you cannot make these dates, come see me to make special arrangements.

FIELD TRIPS

The first field trip we will be taking is to the Art Prize in Grand Rapids, I am planning for the 9th or 10th of October. I am planning a multitude of other field trips throughout the year both during the school day and outside of the school day. These are to be announced and any input from the class is appreciated.