

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

A. Division:	Humanities
Department:	Art
Course ID:	ART 158x4
Course Title:	Basic Photography
Units:	3
Lecture:	2 Hours
Laboratory:	3 Hours
Prerequisites:	None

B. Catalog Description:

A basic course in photography including photographic terminology such as composition, tonality, color relationships and elements of balance; hands-on experience with cameras and studio equipment; analyses of great photographs; the development of visual literacy; and the development of an understanding of photography's relationship to the world of visual imagery. This course may be taken four times.

C. Schedule Description:

A basic course in photography including photographic terminology, hands-on experience, analysis of photographs, and the development of visual literacy and imagery.

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: Four

III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS:

- A. Read and critically evaluate the content of photographs
- B. Distinguish between and use the options provided by the camera to create an unique, photographic image
- C. Comprehend and apply principles of staging, lighting, developing, and printing so as to best communicate his or her intended visual message
- D. Analyze photographs for composition, values in light and shade, illusion of depth, shape-to-shape relationships, texture, and three-dimensional transformation
- E. Compare and analyze the historical, current, and future directions of the use and meaning of photographic imagery.

Upon completion of the first semester, students should be able to:

- A. Demonstrate the mechanics of a 35mm camera to include:
 - 1. identify parts of the camera
 - 2. define different exposure techniques
 - 3. create unique photographic images
- B. Illustrate different techniques in staging and processing photographs to include:
 - 1. apply the principles of lighting
 - 2. practice film and print processing capabilities
 - 3. produce an intended visual image
 - 4. translate three-dimensional volumetric object into a two-dimensional image
- C. Analyze the content of a photograph
 - 1. determine the importance of a title of a photograph
 - 2. assess the subject and background
 - 3. interpret the activity

- D Evaluate photographs with visual literacy
 1. describe values of light and shade
 2. interpret illusion of depth
 3. classify shape-to-shape relationships and texture
 4. analyze the historical, current and future periods of photography
 5. compare and contrast art photography with commercial photography

Upon completion of the second semester, students should be able to:

Address the above objectives, but with different photographic papers and film speeds

Upon completion of the third semester, students should be able to:

- A. The student will use the view camera and infrared film in their photography
Assignments
- B. The student will submit a portfolio at the end of the semester

Upon completion of the fourth semester, students should be able to:

- A. The student will continue the use of the view camera and infrared film
- B. Touch on the basic concepts of use of the digital camera and use of color
- C. Submit a portfolio at the end of the semester, demonstrating their expertise as a 4th semester student

IV. CONTENT:

- A. Introduction
 1. Camera and film
 2. Loading Film into the camera
 3. Focusing and setting the exposure
 4. Exposing the film
 5. Deciding on subject matter
- B. Camera
 1. Basic camera controls
 - a) The shutter
 - b) The Aperture
 2. Using shutter and aperture together
 3. The major types of cameras
 4. Choosing a camera
 5. Special-purpose cameras
 6. Keeping the camera steady
 7. Photographer at work: dance photography
- C. Lens
 1. From pinhole to lens
 2. Lens focal length
 3. Special-purpose lenses
 4. Focusing your lens
 5. Focus and depth of field
 6. Perspective
 7. Choosing lenses
 8. Getting the most from your camera and lens
- D. Light and film
 1. Selecting and using film
 2. How film responds to light
 3. Using filters
- E. Exposure
 1. Exposure basics
 2. How to meter
 3. Using exposure

- F. Developing the negative
 - 1. Processing black-and white film
 - 2. Processing black-and-white roll film
 - 3. How film processing affects your picture
 - 4. Exposure and development: under, normal, over
 - 5. Intensification and reduction
 - 6. Photographer at work: another angle on sports
- G. Printing the positive
 - 1. Black-and white printing: equipment and materials you'll need
 - 2. Making a black-and white print step by step
 - 3. Evaluating density and contrast in a print
 - 4. Papers that control contrast
 - 5. Dodging and burning in
 - 6. Cropping
 - 7. Archival processing for maximum permanence
 - 8. Toning for color and other effects
- H. Finishing and mounting
 - 1. Spotting to remove minor flaws
 - 2. Mounting a print
- I. Special techniques
 - 1. Making close-up photographs
 - 2. Copying techniques
 - 3. Pinhole photography
 - 4. Special printing techniques
 - 5. Alternative processes
 - 6. Making an image on high-contrast film
- J. Color
 - 1. Color: additive or subtractive
 - 2. Color photographs: three image layers
 - 3. Choosing a color film
 - 4. Instant color film
 - 5. Exposure latitude: How much can exposures vary?
 - 6. Color balance
 - 7. Developing color film
 - 8. Making a color print from a negative
 - 9. Making a color print from a transparency
 - 10. Photographer at work: advertising photography
- K. Lighting
 - 1. Direction of light
 - 2. Degree of diffusion: from hard to soft light
 - 3. Available light – outdoors
 - 4. Available light – indoors
 - 5. Artificial light
 - 6. Main light: the dominant source
 - 7. Fill light: to lighten shadows
 - 8. Lighting with flash
 - 9. Simple portrait lighting
 - 10. Multiple-light portrait setups
 - 11. Lighting textured objects
 - 12. Lighting reflective objects
 - 13. Lighting translucent objects
 - 14. Using lighting
- L. Digital Imaging
 - 1. Pictures into pixels
 - 2. Equipment
 - 3. Editing

4. Merging photography and illustration
5. Photographer at work: photojournalism
6. Personal expression
7. Advertising
8. Digital imaging encounters ethics
9. Pictures on the internet
10. Pictures on a CD-ROM

M. View Camera

1. Inside a view camera
2. View camera movements
3. Controlling the image
4. Equipment
5. Process
6. Loading and processing sheet film
7. Using a view camera

N. Zone System

1. Zone system scales
2. Zone scale while metering: placing a tone, seeing where other tones fall
3. How development controls contrast
4. Photographer at work: using the zone system

O. Seeing photography

1. Basic choices
2. Basic design
3. Additional choices
4. Looking at and talking about photographs
5. Showing your work to editor's and others

P. History of photography

1. The invention of photography
2. Daguerreotype: "Designs on Silver Bright"
3. Calotype: pictures on paper
4. Collodion wet-plate: gelatin emulsion/roll-film base
5. Color photography
6. Early portraits
7. Early travel photography
8. The photograph as a document
9. Photography and social change
10. Photojournalism
11. Photography as art in the 19th century
12. Pictorial photography and the Photo-Secession
13. The direct image in art
14. The quest for a new vision
15. Photography as art in the 1950's and beyond

V. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. Lecture
- B. Class and group discussion
- C. Demonstrating photograph techniques
- D. Field trips
- E. Critical evaluation of photographs, slides, and articles
- F. Written assignments
- G. Class presentations

VI. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Class Discussion: In your group, discuss the important aspects of staging. Be prepared to share your responses with the class.

- B. Written Project: Select a photograph for analysis. Discuss the photographer's use of lighting, staging, composition, and exposure. Prepare a 3-4 page paper detailing your analysis.
- C. Photography Project: Compile a photographic portfolio which includes the following:
 - 1. Photograms: two images that best illustrate a photogram
 - 2. Aperture control: a) depth of field—make a photograph which has the subject matter from eight feet to infinity; b) selective focus—make a photograph in which the main subject is in focus
 - 3. Portraiture: three photographs to best represent a professional portrait
 - 4. Dream: two photographs to best illustrate a dream
- D. Field Trip: Select one of the photographs from among those observed at the museum we visited. Prepare a three-page paper that describes the object's historical context, age, style, form, proportion, and scale. Describe what prompted you to select this photograph.

VII. EVALUATION:

- A. Methods of Evaluation
 - 1. Objective and subjective examinations (for lecture and text assignments). Typical questions include:
 - a) Discuss and explain photography's relationship to social change.
 - b) Explain how lighting techniques differ when illuminating textured, reflective, and translucent objects.
 - 2. Subjective evaluation of student writing (field trip reports, term paper): Students are graded on their ability to apply course material to the analysis of a photograph, to organize the material in a coherent fashion, cite sources, and write clearly.
 - 3. Subjective evaluation of student photographs. Students are graded on their ability to apply course concepts to their photographs.
- B. Frequency of Evaluation
 - 1. One midterm examination
 - 2. One final examination
 - 3. One portfolio with at least four projects
 - 4. One term paper

Upon completion of first semester, students will be evaluated based on their ability to:

- A. Demonstrate the mechanics of a 35mm camera
 - 1. Identify parts of the camera
 - 2. Define different exposure techniques
 - 3. Create unique photographic images
- B. Illustrate different techniques in staging and procession photographs
 - 1. Apply the principles of lighting
 - 2. Practice film and print processing capabilities
 - 3. Produce an intended visual message
 - 4. Translate 3 dimensional volumetric object into a 2 dimensional image
- C. Analyze the content of a photograph
 - 1. Cite the importance of a title of a photograph
 - 2. Assess the subject and background
 - 3. Interpret the activity
- D. Evaluate photographs with visual literacy
 - 1. Describe the values of light and shade
 - 2. Interpret illusion of depth
 - 3. Classify shape to shape relations and texture
 - 4. Theorize the historical, current and future of photography
 - 5. Compare and contrast art photography vs commercial photography

Upon completion of second semester, students will be evaluated based on their ability to:

- A. Submit a total of 10 photographs demonstrating the ability to
 1. use 35mm camera controls
 2. understand paper qualities
 3. differentiate between types of film
 4. use different lighting techniques
 5. apply compositional principles
- B. Prepare a written report on a photo of student's choice
- C. Submit an essay detailing photos viewed at a gallery/museum of their choice

Upon completion of third semester, students will be evaluated based on their ability to:

- A. Submit 12 photographs demonstrating use of view camera with
 1. use of view camera controls
 2. understanding of infrared film equipment
 3. application of compositional principles
 4. treatment of communicative concepts
- B. Submit a written report based on photography from a visited gallery/museum

Upon completion of fourth semester, students will be evaluated based on their ability to:

- A. Submit 12 photographs for student portfolio and slide presentation with attention to professionalism and expertise in
 1. use of the view camera
 2. use of infrared film
 3. use of lighting equipment
 4. attention to compositional principles
 5. use of color film
 6. uses of the digital process

VIII. TYPICAL TEXT(S):

- A. London, Barbara (Ed); Upton, John; Kobre, Kenneth; Brill, Betsy. Photography (7th edition). Prentice Hall: 2001.
- B. Gassan, Arnold G. and Meek, A. J. Exploring black-and-white photography. McGraw-Hill, 1992.
- C. Suess, Berhnhard J. Creative black-and-white photography: Advanced camera and darkroom techniques. Allworth Press, 2003.

IX. OTHER SUPPLIES REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. Adjustable 35mm camera
- B. Film
- C. Paper