Instructor: Chad D. Smith, Assistant Professor  
Office Location: J-233  
Office Hours: By Appointment  
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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:  
No Textbook – There will be handouts and reading assignments

Course Description:  
This course examines traditional wet darkroom techniques, including film cameras and processing, exposure, development and printing silver-gelatin paper. The student will explore gelatin films, papers and processing techniques and how they relate to perception and content in traditional black-and-white photography. With an introduction to large-format photography, this course covers densitometry, zone system, view camera movements as it pertains to Architectural and Landscape photography, and basic tungsten studio lighting with an emphasis on studio still life.

Student Learning Outcomes:  
At the conclusion of this course students should be able to demonstrate the following:  
- an understanding of the anatomy of a view camera  
- the ability to use the view camera's perspective and focus controls  
- the ability to process sheet film correctly  
- the understanding of controlling contrast level via film processing  
- the ability to control contrast level via studio lighting  
- a basic knowledge of the Zone System.  
- be able to put into practice the rules of composition and design.  
- how to analyze and interpret photographic images through written essay.  
- effectiveness in critiques by participation in critical evaluation regarding their own work and the work of others.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments  
This course will consist of a series of photographic assignments and exercises to assist the student in achieving the objectives of this course. Each week students will work on various combinations of shooting, lab work, written assignments, and participate in all critiques.
**Grading:** “Grades are not given, they are earned”.
Students will receive a numerical grade that will be determined by performance on critiques, assignments, quizzes, class and lab participation. These will be added up at the end of the semester and 100% of the total amount will be averaged for the semester’s final grade. All assessments, attendance, etc will count a total of 100 points each with the exception being Final Review. The Final Review will receive three grades in each of the following categories: Creativity, Technique, and Presentation and each will count a total of 100 points. At the end of the semester all the grades will be averaged and the following scale will be used: A = 100-90, B = 89-80, C = 79-70, D = 69-60 and F = 59 to 0.

**Safety:**
Students taking this course and working within the TAMU-Commerce photographic lab facilities must comply with all safety protocols. The chemicals used during this course are dangerous and could have health consequences if not treated properly and with respect. Students cannot use TAMU-Commerce photographic lab facilities until that have gone through the chemical safety training.

### SUPPLIES / TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Students will have excess to darkroom and processing equipment, and provided with film cameras, tripods, light meters, 4X5 film holders, chemistry, and matte board.

Students will need to provide the following:

**Note:** The quantities below are minimal, please be prepared to purchase additional items during the semester.

- **Two (2) boxes Ilford HP5 plus – 25- 4X5 inch sheets** Note: don’t open the box!
  (Order online or at most camera stores in Dallas, approximately $30.00 per box)

- **One (1) box Ilford HP5 plus – 100- 4X5 inch sheets** Note: don’t open the box!
  (Order online or at most camera stores in Dallas, approximately $150.00 per box)

- **Two-Three (2-3) boxes of Ilford Multigrade IV Deluxe MGD.44M Black&White Variable Contrast Paper, 8X10, Glossy, 100 sheets** Note: don’t open the box!
  (Order online or at most camera stores in Dallas, approximately $60.00 per box)

- **Two (2) boxes of Multigrade Fiber Based, Variable Contrast Black&White Paper, 11 X14”, Glossy, 50 Sheets** Note: don’t open the box!
  (Order online or at most camera stores in Dallas, approximately $81.00 per box)

- **45-50 pages, Print File Archival Storage Page for 4X5 negatives, holds 4 negative per page**
  (Print File brand is approximately $20.00 per 100 pages)

- **One (1) Field Notebook for taking notes in the classroom, lab and in the field.**

- **One (1) Heavy Black T-shirt (note can be used, but must be made of thick material)**

- **Masking tape and Sharpie (marking holders)**

- **Plastic Lab Apron & Surgical gloves** (check Wal-Mart or Eckerd’s)

- **Couple of medium size Towels. (Old towels will work)**
COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:
Please contact me through email or make an appointment.

Email: chad.smith@tamuc.edu
Office Hours: By Appointment

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Specific Course Procedures:

Procedures & Policies for Submission of assignments

A. **Due Date:** All assignments and exercises are due on the date and time given by the instructor. Work that is late will have its' grade reduced by 10 points for each class period it is late. All work handed in after critique will be considered late, including partially completed assignments. It is your responsibility to inform the instructor of any problems that might make a project late well before the due date. Five minutes before class is not good enough. If the work is not turned in by the fourth class period, the student will be given an "F" for that assignment. It is the student's responsibility to turn the work in; I will not ask for it or track you down.

**Note:** All images must have been produced (shot, processed, printed, etc.) during this semester and can only be used for this class.

B. **Print Submission:** All work must be produced during this semester. No images from previous classes can be submitted. All photographs will be printed and presented in a professional manner. Work must be handed in at the beginning of the critique designated for that particular assignment to be counted “on time”.

**Note:** An incomplete grade may be granted if a student has some difficulty working on an assignment. The student must inform the instructor of the difficulty before the due date of the assignment to discuss the problem. More than 60% of the assignment must be completed. You will have one week (two class periods) from the original due date to complete the assignment. If the work is not turned in by then, the assignment will be counted as Late. If the work is not turned in by a total of 4 class periods from the due date, the student will be given an "F" for that assignment. Remember, it is the student's responsibility to get the work turned in on time.

C. **Resubmission of Assignments:** I encourage everyone to improve upon your work by re-working your assignments. Occasionally I may insist upon redoing an assignment. This should not be seen as a negative experience as school is the ideal environment to learn from your mistakes. **Please note that resubmitting work will not guarantee a better grade.**

Guidelines for resubmissions:
1. The project must have originally been turned in on time.
   **Note:** *Work handed in late or incomplete may not be resubmitted.*
2. Resubmitted assignments will be accepted up to two weeks after the original due date.
3. The new work must comply with the original project guidelines.
4. Make sure work is labeled with the assignment title.
5. The original work that was submitted initially must be included and marked clearly.
Attendance:
Attendance is required and is recorded at all class and lab meetings. Every student will be responsible for all information given during scheduled class and lab times. Attendance counts a maximum of 100 points. Students will start with 100 points and 10 points will be subtracted from the original 100 points for every day missed. You will lose 5 points for arriving after roll is taken and also for not being prepared for lab or class, i.e. “I don’t have anything to print, can I go Shoot?”. Note: A total of 4 absences from any class meetings (lecture or lab) could result in a failing grade ("F") for the course or dropped from the class. Excused absences are listed under Class Attendance (A13.02) in the A&M-Commerce Procedures. Verifiable excuses for absences must be turned into the professor in a timely manner.

University Specific Procedures:

ADA Statement
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu
Student Disability Resources & Services

Student Conduct
All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook)

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Your final grade will be derived from the following sources:

1. Class Participation:
The way you conduct yourself during lab and class is extremely important. You should come to lectures and labs with questions from the assigned readings and demos from the previous class. Taking notes on the procedures during demos is essential. During critiques I want to hear your thoughts and feelings about the photographs being presented.

2. Lab Participation:
Labs are the main stay to this course and will generally be devoted to learning the steps to the different process, etc.

3. Assignments and Exercises:
You will have weekly assignments that are graded on how well the specific problems have been solved. Each assignment, unless otherwise noted, will be given a numerical grade. Exercises will be graded on a pass/fail basis. All assignments handed in late will receive a lower letter grade.

4. Quizzes and Exams:
You will be given periodic quizzes on the demonstrations and lectures.

5. Final Project:
Students will submit a final project that will consist of prints from past assignments and new work.