PHO 209 Basic Photography II
COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2013

Instructor: Chad D. Smith, Assistant Professor
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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Due to the rising cost of photo textbooks that are outdated by the time of publication, there is no mandatory text. Instead of a textbook, it is recommended that students get a Lynda.com account, an online tutorial for software and photographic information.

Textbook Optional:
Photography, The Essential Way, Upton, Stone, London
Perfect Digital Photography, Jay Dickman, Jay Kinghorn
Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 4 Book, Martin Evening

Course Description:

Further in-depth exploration on photographic tools and techniques introduced in Basic Photography I, students in this course gain an understanding of color file conversion to black-and-white, advanced digital printing techniques, basic studio and speed lighting techniques, professional presentation of photographic work and investigation of critical issues in contemporary photography. The course uses a combination of lectures, demonstrations, assignments, field trips and critiques with an emphasis on the creation of a cohesive final project and web site
Prerequisite Pho 112

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course students should be able to demonstrate the following:

- put into practice file conversion from color to B&W RAW, using digital asset management software.
- how to make B&W inkjet prints by implementing technical software solutions.
- a better understanding of the anatomy of cameras, light meters, ISO, aperture, shutters, etc.
- editing and archiving of digital files.
- put into practice the rules of composition and design.
- an understanding of the photographic vocabulary and theory.
- how to analyze and interpret photographic images through written essay.
- effectiveness in critiques by participating in critical evaluations 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 and written assignments, participate in critiques of both student and professional works along with discussions, readings, etc.

Grading: "Grades are not given, they are earned"**.**

Students will receive a numerical grade that will be determined by performance on critiques, exercises, quizzes, blog site, web site, 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.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Students will have excess to a Macintosh OS X computer and print lab equipment with all the software needed to complete photographic assignments and exercises. Students will need to provide the following:

- **35 mm DSLR camera minimum of 12 mega pixels**
  Find the instruction manual and read it.
  Note: There are digital cameras in Check-Out for students to use.

- **Memory Cards for cameras, i.e. Compact Flash (CF), Secure Digital Card (SD card).**
  Note: Cameras in Check-Out do not come with memory cards.

- **One 500GB external hard drive (two hard drives would be better)**
- **Spiral notebook** for taking notes during class & Lab

Optional:

- **8.5 X 11 double-sided inkjet paper** (this is for making contact sheets)
- **13 X19 inch x inkjet paper (optional – some inkjet paper is provided)**
- **50 DVDs or CDs**
- **Memory Card Reader**

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:

Please contact me through email or stop by during my office hours.
Appointments are encouraged

Email: chad.smith@tamuc.edu

Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:00am to Noon and 2:00pm to 5:00pm

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific 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 shot, processed and printed this semester for this class only.**

B. *Print Submission:* All work must be from files that were produced during this semester. No images from previous classes can be submitted. All photographs will be printed on 11 X 14" or larger inkjet paper 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-shooting 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 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. **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 in class is extremely important. You should come to lectures and labs with questions from the assigned reading. Note taking during lectures and labs is essential. During critiques I want to hear your thoughts and feelings about the photographs being presented.
2. Lab Participation:
Labs will generally be devoted to learning software and inkjet printing.
3. Assignments and Exercises:
You will have weekly visual 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.
4. Quizzes and Exams:
You will be given periodic quizzes on the assigned readings, lectures and demonstrations plus a mid-term and final exam.
5. Final Project:
Students will submit a final project that will consist of prints from past assignments and new work.