

Harding Fine Arts Academy

Course syllabus for Advanced Photography 2008-2009

Instructor: Mr. Bayer
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Course Description:

This class concentrates on many areas of photography including technical skills, creativity, composition, computer/digital imaging, and alternative processes. Control of photo equipment and techniques, experimentation, problem solving, and portfolio development are critical to the course. Students will learn to use line, mass, value (tone), contrast, color, and composition consciously in the creation of images. A big part of photography lies in one's ability to organize the visual chaos of the visible world. Students will learn to clarify, simplify, and present one's environment with intention and control. Students will learn to go beyond just taking pictures and accepting whatever comes out of the camera to making photographs through careful observation of form and light.

Course Objectives:

- Develop strategies for seeing, expanding ideas formally and conceptually, designing and working in two- and three- dimensions.
- Gain knowledge of the basic visual forces that can be used to activate a composition, including:
The Elements of Art: line, shape, value, color, space, texture and time/movement.
The Organizing Principles of Design: unity, variety, balance, scale/proportion, emphasis, rhythm and repetition.
- Understand the usage of psychological, emotional, intuitive, spontaneous, and rational judgments in the process of visual organization.
- Enhance visual literacy, cultural and historical awareness, aesthetic sensitivity and the development of greater skills.
- Develop design vocabulary, methodology , and judgment skills that will implement further study in the visual arts.
- Develop basic technical skills needed for completion of well-crafted and imaginative work.

Classroom Expectations

- Students will respect themselves, others, art, and school property.
- Students will be tolerant of diversity and accepting of the rights of other students to hold different views.
- Students will know when it is time to listen, to talk, or to work.
- Students will sit in assigned seating if talking becomes a problem.
- Students will keep the classroom clean and will treat art supplies and property in a respectful and appropriate manner. (if you damage something you will replace it)

- Students will conserve art supplies.
- Students will follow all school expectations, rules, and regulations.

Cell phones, food and drink are not allowed in class.

EVALUATION:

Work and progress is evaluated through critiques, class participation/attendance, work product, work habits, creative process, written reflections and quizzes. Each assignment will be considered based on the following:

Concept awareness

Presentation, including craftsmanship and basic media methodology.

Ability to use the Art Elements and Principle of Design in a relative manner in order to achieve compositional goals.

Originality of design/solution to design problems.

Design “Process” including: preparatory sketches, source material collection, revisions, notes, other support material in evidence of formal and/or conceptual growth, and overall development of design toward greatest level of visual clarity.

Participation in studio and contribution to the learning environment of this course.

Grade Criteria:

A=(90%-100%)

Exceptional effort/work; demonstrates excellent grasp of technical and visual skills; outstanding idea development; inventive solution

B=(80%-89%)

Good effort; work demonstrates good grasp of technical & visual skills; solid idea development; inventive solution

C=(70%-79%)

Acceptable effort; work demonstrates average grasp of technical & visual skills; acceptable idea development

D=(60%-69%)

Below average effort; work does not demonstrate average grasp of technical & visual concepts; below average idea development

F=(Below 60%)

Unacceptable effort; work does not demonstrate grasp of technical & visual concepts; unacceptable idea development; missing elements of assignment

A grade will be given for each project, the grades will then averaged to show the cumulative grade.

It is the student’s responsibility to acquire any makeup work. This should be done before and after class only.

For a project to be graded it must have your name and class information on the back. No name or class information no grade.

Projects may be reworked after they have been graded and turned in at a later date to raise a low grade.

Maintaining a positive attitude will help your grade!!!!

Academic Honesty

Academic dishonesty and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Do not claim a piece of art as yours unless you did it. Use of another artists work needs to go beyond duplication, before the work can be claimed your own.

Required Materials

I will be supplying most materials for the year. I ask that the students bring the following:

- #2 pencil (not mechanical)
- Eraser (white work best)
- Sketchbook (spiral bound, between 8.5x11 or 9x12 no larger)
- Folder (to hold handouts)
- Hard back book for altered book (this can be a book picked up at a thrift store, any kind)
- Shoe box (for storing any other materials brought to class)
- Old T-shirt (to protect clothes from spills)

Most Items can be bought at Wal-mart or any hobby store, if you need financial assistance getting items please see Mr. Bayer. Some items are available on a limited basis.

Art Shows

All students will be participating in the annual Winter Arts Fest. More information about the Winter Arts Fest will be given out when it becomes available.

I encourage all students to attend art openings or gallery shows thought the year and will post dates. Learning about art is not isolated to the classroom and every opportunity should be taken to expand one's knowledge about the subject .

Health and Safety

Students need to be aware of all health hazards and safety issues. Some materials we will be using can be toxic and need to be used with care. No spray products may be used in the room. Never pour harmful materials down the drain. Always use caution when cutting with an Exacto knife or razor blade, cut away from the body. I will always be looking out for your safety, but do your part in maintaining a safe and healthy working environment.

Parents and Students

To help make this year productive and fulfilling, I ask that parents and students donate items to help in the creation of artworks. Most of these items are things you would most likely be throwing away. So please save these items and donate them to our visual arts program. A list of items will be included at the back of this syllabus, please keep it so you can be reminded of what we need. I believe in having good parent teacher relationships, so please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Students will need to keep a copy of this syllabus with them when they come to class. Students should always come to class prepared and ready to work.

Items to be saved and donated

(anything you can give would be appreciated)

Please Save:

Egg cartons	Left over acrylic or latex house paint
Plastic containers	Spray Paint
Baby food jars (cleaned and washed)	Canvas
Plastic straws	Left over wall paper
Shoe boxes	Glue (all types)
Wood scraps	String/yarn
Cardboard and mat board	Tissue paper
Buttons and beads	Paper towels
Empty thread spools	Kleenex
Magazines/Newspapers	Tracing paper
Sticks and dowels	
Tongue depressors	
Toothpicks	
Fabric scraps	
Colored telephone wires	
Paper towel rolls and toilet paper rolls	
Nylon stockings	
Felt	
Odd socks and gloves	
Clothespins	
Wire clothes hangers and other types of wire	
Old pillow cases and sheets (cleaned/washed, please)	
House hold objects good for still lives	

Please read this entire syllabus then sign below acknowledging receipt and compliance. Return this portion to Mr. Bayer by Friday August 15th.

Thank you

Parent Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date