

Photography I
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2011-2012
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Class Goals

Become comfortable using a manual SLR camera and B&W film

Become comfortable in the darkroom and working with chemicals

Understand basic composition and photographic techniques

You will need a binder to keep everything in. If you are in need of one, please get with me. I expect you to bring your binder, notebook paper and a pencil/pen to class every day.

Classroom Participation

Participation in class is extremely important and will be counted as part of your grade. Each student is expected to participate daily in class discussions, lectures and critiques. A great deal of information will be presented during the next several weeks. It is particularly important to be present for the demonstrations of camera and darkroom usage as you must complete your assignments, but will not be allowed to use them unless you are there for the demonstrations, have passed the quizzes and have returned your "HFAA Camera Check-Out Agreement". If you miss a class for any reason, it is your responsibility to get copies of the lecture notes, and to catch up before the end of the week. Please let me know if you are having difficulties, I will work with you if I can.

Critiques

You will be expected to participate in class by being in class, being vocal during discussions and being in presenting your work and analyzing the work of others. It is expected that everyone talk about each person's work during critiques or what ever subject matter is being presented. A strong discussion is comprised of varied viewpoints and tolerance for each other's opinions. Useful critiques will investigate both the strengths and weaknesses of an individual's work.

Critiquing means that we talk about both the successes and failures in work, not the student who created the piece. We will always attempt to constructively analyze work, however, you should try not to take anyone's comments personally. Critiquing in class is about trying to help you become a more successful photographer!

Grades

There are four components that comprise your grade.

Daily Participation and notebook – This grade is worth 1 point each day. It is either a pass or fail grade. Your notebook should contain lecture notes as well as your negatives and contact sheets. There will be times that I specifically request something be put in your notebook, but in order for you to get complete credit you would be wise to date all of the notes taken during lecture and store them in your notebook. I will be conducting spontaneous notebook checks, which will be either pass or fail.

Quizzes

Assignments

Final Project – Your final project will be a photo essay.

Assignments

I expect assignments to be done on time. We will be looking and talking about work continually once we start shooting and if work is not brought to class, you will miss the benefit of a class evaluation. If for some reason you are not able to completely finish work, I will expect the “work in progress” to be brought in. NEVER miss a critique for lack of work. I expect everyone to turn something in on the due date. For every assignment, you need to provide the following information and self-evaluation that should help you to prepare for class critique. Within this summary you should address the following issues:

- What settings did you use to shoot the piece?
- What are the lighting conditions?
- What are the strengths of the project?

- What could you have worked harder at?
- What changes would our make if doing it again?

This information will need to be written on notebook paper and turned in with the completed assignment. Each student will be given a page protector to use when handing in assignments, upon grading the assignments will need to be added to your binder.

I will ask to see contact sheets, but you should be bringing them to me as well. Always bring all of your negatives and contact sheets, and come to class prepared to print once we get in the darkroom. We have a small darkroom and will have to rotate usage of the enlargers. We will discuss how that rotation will work as time gets closer. Make sure that you have your work with you at all times so that you can work when darkroom space is available.

Final Project

You will create a photo essay of 5 images that demonstrate your capabilities using the camera and darkroom techniques you will have learned this year. Your 5 images must explain how to do something such as how to bake a cake or give a hair cut or it must tell a story. You will also need to produce and present a statement describing self evaluation of progress made in class.

The entire assignment must be shot on one roll of film, processed by you.

All images must be printed 5x7 size and to the best of your ability. They should be free of dust and spots, free of water spots and scratches.

They should be printed using filters with an attempt to bring out the most appropriate contrast level for the individual image

The finished images will be mounted on black poster board. Negatives and statements will be turned in with the mounted images.

More information about this assignment will be given after spring break.