

DC 125-701, 710 (online) Autumn 2017
DIGITAL STILL PHOTOGRAPHY
Tuesday, 600 – 915 PM
Lecture STDCT 331 Lincoln Park Campus

INSTRUCTOR: Andy Hoffman
Office: Classroom or by Appt.
Office Hours: 45 min before/after class
E-mail: ahoffma7@cdm.depaul.edu

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter. If a change occurs, it will be thoroughly addressed during class, posted under Announcements in D2L and sent via email.

Drop Dates:

Sep 19 (last day to drop without penalty)

Oct 24 (last day to withdraw)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to digital still photography. Students will explore concepts of photography as a descriptive and interpretive medium, discover relationships between individual photographers' choices and their own photographic work. Discussions of context and cultural meanings will deepen understanding of the role of still photography as a conduit for communication and value. Students will learn the fundamental concepts necessary to shoot, edit, and manipulate digital still photographs. Also, students will acquire the knowledge needed to analyze and interpret existing works. Students will be required to use their own digital still cameras as well as Adobe Photoshop for this course.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will be able to:

- Explain, in well-written prose, what a photograph is about and/or how it was produced
 - Articulate and explain the “content” of that work and/or its methodology of production.
- Comment on the relationship between form and content in photography.
 - What are the generic expectations of a good photograph?
 - How does a photographer complicate, enrich, or subvert such expectations?
- Assess the formal aspects of photography and put those qualities into words, using, when appropriate, specialized vocabulary employed in class and readings.
- Contextualize photography.
 - Do so with respect to other works of art in terms of defining its place within a broader style or genre.
 - Contextualize a photography in terms of contemporaneous aesthetic, social, or political concerns, discussing how these might shape the work's reception and how that reception might differ amongst various peoples and historical periods.

LEARNING DOMAIN:

This course has Arts & Literature Liberal Studies Credit. Courses in the Arts and Literature domain ask students to extend their knowledge and experience of the arts while developing their critical and reflective abilities. In these courses, students interpret and analyze particular creative works, investigate the relations of form and meaning, and through critical and/or creative activity, come to better understand the original audience that witnessed a work of art and how its meaning and significance changes over time. These courses focus on works of art or literature, however the process of analysis may include social, cultural, and historical issues. Genres covered in this domain include literature, the visual arts, media arts, the performing arts, music, and theater.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Light and Lens - Photography in the Digital Age, 2nd edition - Robert Hirsch

Publisher: Taylor & Francis - 2012

ISBN13: 9780240818276

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS:

External Hard Drive with at least 50GB of free space

Digital Camera** with appropriate media (SD or CF card)

USB Cable for Camera or Card Reader

Access to Adobe Photoshop CC

** Smart phone is acceptable but for certain assignments you will either need to borrow a camera or buy an app

COURSE POLICIES:

-Attendance and participation:

Each week's class consists of lectures and lab work; attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to attend each class and to remain for the duration. Coming 15 minutes late or leaving 15 minutes early constitutes an absence for the student. Three absences for any reason, whether excused or not, may constitute failure for the course. All absences will result in a reduction of the attendance/participation grade unless the absence is excused through the Dean of Students Office.

A discussion board has been created for the class D2L page. Students are encouraged to ask general questions or share photos there. **Students participating via the online section have no other way to interact with other students. As such, their participation grade will rely heavily on their use of that platform.**

-Assignments & Exercises:

Assignments and production exercises must be completed by the date to which they are assigned in the syllabus. Reasonable deadlines are given for completion for each assignment/exercise. Consequently, late work will not be accepted without prior consent of the instructor. **Assignments are due by 6:00pm on the date listed.**

-Examinations:

Students who do not take exams during the regularly scheduled time will receive a failing grade for exams unless they have contacted the instructor in advance to arrange for a make-up exam. Make-up exams will be administered by the College according to its make-up exam schedule.

-Plagiarism:

Plagiarism on assignments or cheating on tests are serious offenses and earn the student a failing grade for the class. There are no exceptions to this rule. If you are in doubt about the definitions of plagiarism, consult your student handbook. This goes for using pictures found on the internet instead of using your own equipment.

-Course Lectures/Reading Assignments:

Lecture presentations will occur weekly. The readings offer an opportunity for independent learning that supplements the lecture presentations. The instructor will use both the classroom and the readings. Lectures may introduce additional material not available in the readings, and the readings may explore concepts not mentioned in class.

-Students with Disabilities:

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential.

To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at: csd@dspace.edu.

Lewis Center 1420, 25 East Jackson Blvd.
Phone number: (312)362-8002
Fax: (312)362-6544
TTY: (773)325.7296

-Withdrawal and Academic Policies:

All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the University Academic Calendar. Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at: cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment.

-Content Changes:

Depending on time factors, the assignments projected for the term may require slight alteration or rescheduling.

-Sexual Harassment:

The policy as specified in the student handbook will be adhered to in this class.

GRADING:	
Attendance & Participation	15%
Syllabus Quiz	5%
Weekly Photo Assignments	10%
Quiz 1	10%
Midterm Project	15%
Quiz 2	15%
Final Project	30%

A = 100-93, A- = 92-90, B+ = 89-88, B = 87-83, B- = 82-80, C+ = 79-78, C = 77-73, C- = 72-70, D+ = 69-68, D = 67-63, D- = 62-60, F = 59-0. A indicates excellence, B indicates good work, C indicates satisfactory work, D work is unsatisfactory in some respect, F is substantially unsatisfactory work.

Course Outline

Week One Sept 12

Introduction to Course and Requirements

Photography Overview and Intention

Assignment #1

Syllabus Quiz

Read: Hirsch - Ch. 1

Week Two Sept 19

DUE Assignment #1 and Syllabus Quiz

Review Assignment #1

Composition Basics

Deep Space/Shallow Space and Depth of Field

Assignment #2

Read: Hirsch - Ch. 2

Week Three Sept 26

DUE Assignment #2

Review Assignment #2

Camera and Lenses

Assignment #3

Assign Midterm Project

Read: Hirsch – Ch. 3

Week Four Oct 3

DUE Assignment #3

Exposure and Light

Review Assignment #3

Assignment #4

Read: Hirsch – Ch. 4 - 5

Week Five Oct 10

DUE Assignment #4

Affinity, Contrast, and Line

Review Assignment #4

Read: TBD

Week Six Oct 17

MIDTERM PROJECTS Presented

Quiz 1

Read: Hirsch – Ch. 7

Week Seven Oct 24

All About Shutter Speed

Final Project: as assigned

Week Eight Oct 31

PHOTOSHOP Introduction

Read: Hirsch- Ch. 10

Week Nine Nov 7

PHOTOSHOP and DIGITAL COMPOSITING

Week 10 Nov 14

QUIZ 2

Work on Final Projects

Week 11 Nov 21

Final Projects Due