

An exploration of the fundamental principles, techniques and applications of camera-based image making.

Course Objective:

Upon successful completion of the course the student should be able to do the following.

1. List the major components of the basic camera
2. List the factors that govern photographic exposure and describe their effects
3. Demonstrate the effects and control of depth of field
4. Demonstrate the effects and control of shutter speed
5. Illustrate proper placement of plane of focus
6. Describe the compositional properties of a photographic image
7. Evaluate the visual qualities of photographic images
8. List ways that a photograph can effectively communicate an idea or concept
9. Demonstrate the ability to critique photographic work
10. Analyze the differing qualities of digital and conventional silver halide images
11. List resolution requirements and output options for photographic images

Required Equipment:

You must use either a digital camera or a 35mm SLR film camera. A suitable tripod is highly recommended. You will create photographic prints for this class. The format for the prints will be outlined in class. You will have several choices on how to create your prints, including use of a high quality printer of your own, and/or photo services at PJs Camera, Walgreens, Costco, etc. Be prepared to purchase supplies throughout the course. Expect to spend over \$100. Materials may include: photographic printer paper, color printer ink, mat/mounting boards, 35mm film, and associated processing and printing. Acquire two simple folders for work handed in.

Required Textbook:

Photography 8th Ed.. London, Upton, Stone, Kobre, Brill. 2004. ISBN: 0131896091

Photography 9th Ed.. London, Upton, Stone, Kobre, Brill. 2008. ISBN: 0131752014

Photography 10th Ed.. London, Stone, Upton. 2010. ISBN 13: 9780205711499

Pages assigned for reading in the 9th edition are in parenthesis.

Pages assigned for reading in the 10th edition are in italics.

<http://prenhall.com/london> - companion website.

Class Format:

This class will include lectures, classroom demonstrations, and assignments. Completed assignments will be critiqued, graded and returned.

Grading Criteria:

Photo assignment grades are earned based on the quality and timeliness of your work. Composition, technical finish, how well the work meets the criteria of the assignment, and whether it's turned in on time or not, are considered in grading. Assignment grades, quiz grades, exam grades, and your attendance and participation will be involved in computing your final grade. Attendance will impact your final grade (more below). Basic technical expectations of prints turned in: in focus, properly exposed, well presented (formatted). Formatting of prints will be outlined in class.
On all work handed in, write: your name, date and assignment title.

Final Grade Interpretation:

A --Excellent. The student performs in a consistently active, accurate, and creative manner. An ability is demonstrated not only to master the course material, but to synthesize and evaluate what was learned. Assignments are presented on time and well executed. Participation in class is at the highest level.
B --Very Good. The student is able to master the course content and often demonstrates creative thought and independence, but does not give evidence of a consistency in excellence. Assignments are not always presented on time, and sometimes lack initiative. Participation in class is at a moderate level.
C --Satisfactory. The student meets all course requirements but demonstrates no initiative in synthesizing, expanding on, or applying course material. Assignments are all completed but not on time. Some effort is made to participate in class discussions and activities.
D --The student has not met all course requirements yet has demonstrated minimal learning. Classes are attended regularly and some effort is made to complete assignments and participate in class.
F -- The student has failed to meet minimal course requirements. Absences are excessive, assignments are missing, late, and/or poorly executed, etc.

Student Responsibilities:

Bring camera to at least the first 8 meetings. Read the pages of the course textbook as assigned in this syllabus. Attend all classes. Don't be late!

Absences will result in potentially dropping your final grade. ***Absences will not be excused unless written exemption is obtained from the dean of your college indicating exceptional circumstances deserving special consideration.*** No exceptions will be made for employment, family obligations, illness, etc. Nine (9) absences will result in a grade of F for this course, for failure to meet the minimum course requirements. Five (5) absences *in a row* will result in a grade of F for this course, for failure to meet the minimum course requirements.

Assignments are due as outlined. Assignments will not be accepted after deadline dates and you will receive no credit for the assignment. Up until the deadline, an assignment can be redone to try for a better grade. Assignments will not be accepted via email. Students are advised to complete work on time.

Academic dishonesty in any form, including falsifying research or plagiarizing, will result in immediate dismissal and a grade of F for this course.

Students missing an exam on the date it is given must come prepared to take the exam after the dismissal of the next class period. It is the responsibility of the student to remind the instructor that a make-up exam is needed. Make-up exams will not be given after the grace period. No exceptions will be made for employment, family obligations etc. No make-up exam is given for the Final Exam.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, I ask students with blue cards to identify themselves to me as soon as possible to discuss individual accommodations.

Circumstances may cause the syllabus to change. Any such changes will be announced in class.
9th edition pages are in parenthesis. 10th edition pages are in italics.

M August 23 - Introduction and Orientation.

Read for next class: 2-36, 92-107, 199-205, 208 (66-77, 162-169, 172-173) 2-35, 66-89, 155-159, 164

W August 25- The Camera.

M August 30 - Exposure Part 1. **Assignment #1 - Series, Due September 13**

W September 1 - Exposure Part 2. Focus. Printing. Read for next class: 38-65 (37-65) 36-65

M September 6 - No Class

W September 8 - Camera Lab - BRING YOUR CAMERA!!!!

M September 13 - Critique: Series.

W September 15 - Depth of Field. Lenses. Shutter Speed. Read: 255-286 (226-259) 220 -252

Assignment #2 -Motion, Due September 22

M September 20 - Lighting. Filters. Form. Read: 340-365 (318-343) 308-333

Assignment #3 -Light, Due September 29

W September 22 - Critique: Motion

M September 27 - Composition. Look at photographs: 366-399 (372-387) 334-379 (reading optional)

Assignment #4 - Still Life / Architecture, Due October 6

W September 29 - Composition Part 2. Critique: Light (Series deadline)

M October 4 - **EXAM #1**. Read: 168-185, 196 (138-149, 92) 136-147, 90

W October 6 - Critique: Still Life / Architecture (Motion deadline)

M October 11 - Color.

Assignment #5 -Touch of Color, Due October 20

W October 13 - Story Line

Assignment #6 -Story Line, Due November 2 (Light deadline)

M October 18 - Symbolism in Photography.

Assignment #7-Symbolism, Due October 27 (Still Life / Architecture deadline)

W October 20 - Critique - Touch of Color HELD IN STUDENT LOUNGE ON FIRST FLOOR

M October 25 - Photojournalism.

Assignment #8 -Photo Journal Story, Due December 1

W October 27 - Critique: Symbolism

M November 1 - Portraits.

Assignment #9 -Portraits, Due November 10

W November 3 - Critique: Story Line (Touch of Color deadline)

M November 8 - **EXAM #2**

W November 10 - Critique: Portraits.

M November 15 - Working in Photography

Assignment #10 -Written / Oral Presentation, Due November 22

W November 17 - Resolution and output options for photographic images (Storyline deadline)

M November 22 - Presentations of Written / Oral Assignment.

W November 24 - No Class

M November 29 - Presentations of Written / Oral Assignment.

Assignment #11 – Art Show: Portfolio Presentation December 8 (Portraits deadline)

W December 1 - Presentations of Photo Journal Story

M December 6 - Presentations of Photo Journal Story

W December 8 - **Art Show: Portfolio Presentation**

HELD IN STUDENT LOUNGE ON FIRST FLOOR

Monday, December 13 - FINAL EXAM 8:00 am (Photo Journal Story deadline)

You can check your progress in this class at any time. Please ask.

Most PowerPoint lectures are online at www.PaulShukin.com

To communicate via email: paulshukin@yahoo.com

Brief outline of assignments. Working from this list alone will not provide all the details for the assignment and the expectations of the work turned in. Further elaboration is made in class, in terms of number of prints, format, due date, and other technical and creative ideas specifically associated with the assignment. If you should miss the class when the assignment is given, talk to a fellow student, download the PowerPoint, and/or send an email.

Series: shoot photographs that share a common theme. Maybe the viewpoint is similar in each.

Motion: 1). capture “frozen” motion. For example, a ball in mid air without any blur.
2). capture “blurred” motion. For example, the streak of car headlights at night.
Something in the photograph should be “frozen” for contrast.

Still Life: *assemble* an interesting composition. Be creative with contents, light and background.

Architecture: *find* an interesting composition. Be creative with the quality of light and background.

Light: Make shadows (and associated light shapes/lines) the main emphasis of the photos.

Touch of Color: Contrast a small, relatively strong color against an otherwise limited palette.

Story Line: Tell a story using at least 3 pictures, beginning, middle and end. Think cinematically. This is something you make up (differs from Photo Journal Story). Have a friend or two help out. Don’t just describe a “gesture,” like eating an apple, or washing the dishes. The end should have a point that can be understood, so that viewers haven’t “wasted their time on a bad movie,” so to speak. The assignment is due roughly 3 weeks after it is presented.

Symbols: shoot to convey the ideas provided on a list. Add one idea of your own to the list.

Portraits: 1). Environmental portrait. Artifacts and surroundings tell about the person photographed.
2). Formal portrait. Get a nice expression in a simple formal, non-descript space.

Self Portrait: Consider the lighting, the objects, etc. you include, and what they “say” about you.
Don’t just point the camera at yourself and shoot.

Photo Journal Story: 1). “Photographer on the Spot” Photograph an event. Write a headline and tell the story in one or two paragraphs. Who, what, when, why....
2). Documentary. Tell about something/someone. Make your approach newsworthy.

Written/Oral Presentation: Find a photographer whose work you want to share with the class. Use the internet, books, magazines, PowerPoint, etc to make a 5 minute presentation. Write a couple of paragraphs about the photographer and why you chose him/her.

Portfolio Review: Show your best stuff, anything you are proud of. Consider showing work made outside of class, or make a new assignment for yourself (anything above could be redone).