VIS 60 // INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY UC SAN DIEGO // FALL 2012

PROFESSOR

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Office Hours: Mandeville B112. Tuesdays 2:00 - 3:00 Course Calendar: www.shane-anderson.com/VIS60

This class meets on Tues/ Thurs in Pepper Canyon Hall 106 from 12:30-1:50pm. Sections will meet in Mandeville B 206, B 113 and B 114 (PRINT LAB) on T/Th and W/F

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a beginning course in the theory and practice of photography. This class will introduce students to digital photography techniques and concepts. This course teaches students to use digital cameras as inputs to a digital workflow, the use of Photoshop and related programs as a digital darkroom, and school output devices to make high-end output (prints, high resolution files, etc). Students will explore possibilities on how this way of working will open up new conceptual possibilities to their work. Last, students will develop an understanding of contemporary photo practice that underscores their ability to conceive, create, and exhibit their work, alongside improving their ability to critique themselves, their peers, and contemporary photographic practitioners. It is up to the student to bring their own energy, ideas, and focus to most effectively activate not only their own practice, but the classroom as a learning incubator for everyone involved.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance is mandatory in lecture and section. With the exception of extreme circumstances each absence above two will result in the lowering of your grade 10%, and missing four or more lectures and sections can result in failure of the course. Three tardy arrivals are equivalent to one absence. Incompletes will be considered only under extreme circumstances.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Emphasis of this course is both on completion of projects and class participation. Classroom interaction is vital to the learning process. Students will be expected to participate in all class activities. Lectures, tutorials, discussions and critiques will occur regularly. A grade will be given for class participation and involvement.

Grades will be figured on the conventional percentage scale. More importantly, grades are an important indication of how well you are doing in the course. "C" represents the minimum acceptable completion of the work and should be considered "average". You will have to do above average work or superior work to get a "B" or an "A", respectively.

A = Outstanding; pushing the limits of both the student's creativity and the assignment.

B = Thorough, thoughtful, and creative approach to the assignment.

C = AVERAGE; minimum project requirements met.

D = Poor; does not meet minimum requirements.

F = Fail; failure to complete the assignment.

GRADING CRITERIA

Participation 10 points

Assignment 1: 5 points - Technical Exercise

Assignment 2: 10 points
Assignment 3: 10 points
Assignment 4: 10 points
Artist Presentation: 5 points
Final Project: 25 points
Midterm Exam: 20 points
Quizes: 5 points

TOTAL — 100 pts

All assignments should be turned in complete and on time. All assignments except the final project may be redone for a higher grade, but late assignments will not receive an "A" unless the student's absence on the due date was excused. Late assignments cannot be redone. Executed well, redone assignments may increase the assignment grade by up to one letter grade.

TEXTBOOKS

Required:

Complete Digital Photography, Sixth or Seventh Edition by Ben Long (several copies on reserve in library) NOTE: There will also be required articles and handouts distributed in class or via e-mail.

Recommended:

Criticizing Photographs: An Introduction to Understanding Images by Terry Barrett

Adobe Photoshop CS6 for Photographers by Martin Evening

Supplies + Materials

Required:

- DSLR (digital single lens reflex) camera with at least 7.0 mega pixel capacity, manual exposure and focus controls, and RAW capability. Point and shoot or cell phone cameras are not acceptable for use in this course.
- Memory card with at least 2GB capacity
- Memory card reader
- blank CDs or DVDs
- 9"x12" envelopes to store and turn in your assignments
- Ilford Galerie Smooth Inkjet paper | 8 1/2 " x 11" | Glossy or Pearl (printers are profiled for this paper only)
- LetraTac and mounting board for final project

Recommended:

- A tripod is highly recommended
- External hard drive or a flash drive
- UV or Skylight 1A filter for lens
- Lens brush, lens cloth
- Gray card

PHOTO SUPPLY RESOURCES

George's Camera Exchange Nelson Photo - 2 locations 3837 30th Street @ University 1719 India St, S.D. (619) 297-3544 (619) 234-6621 7720 Fay Avenue, www.georgescamera.com nelsonphotosupplies.com

www.Calumetphoto.com Escondido www.kurtscamerarepair.com San Diego www.freestylephoto.biz Los Angeles www.samys.com Los Angeles www.bhphotovideo.com New York

CLASS CALENDAR

This calendar is subject to alteration, additions, and omissions at the teacher's discretion, including due dates for assignments. In the event that we should find ourselves ahead of schedule, a field trip to a gallery or museum housing a photo exhibition may be arranged. Please always bring digital files to be worked on and/or printed in case the lecture or section ends early. Otherwise, bring in your camera so that you can use the time to take photographs.

SEE www.shane-anderson.com/VIS60 FOR CALENDAR UPDATES

September 27

Review of syllabus / materials needed for class / Enrollment Homework: purchase course materials (especially a camera), read your camera manual and bring your camera to section next week

October 2

Lecture: Camera Basics / Exposure

Introduce Assignment #1 Film: The Impassioned Eye

Reading: Chapters 2 and 3 / The Photographer's Eye hand-

out

October 4

Lecture: Digital Files / Uploading, Bridge and Camera Raw Homework: Assignment #1 due in Section October 9/10

Reading: Chapters 6 in Text Introduce Assignment #2

October 9

Lecture: Intro to file storage and organization – using Adobe

Bridge / Introduce Assignment #2

Reading: Chapter 9 in text

Section: Assignment #1 DUE in section October 9/10

October 11

Lecture: Non-destructive Editing / Basic Digital Workflow

Reading: Read Chapter 21 in text

October 16

Lecture: Output / Photoshop Tools - Image Correction

Lecture: Composition Introduce Assignment #3

Film: Martin Parr from Contacts, Vol. 3

Section: Print lab procedures

October 18

Lecture: Understanding Lighting

Assignment #2 DUE in section October 18/19

October 23

Lecture: Local Editing vs. Global Editing

Demo: Dodging and Burning

October 25

Lecture: Artist Slides

Demo: Advanced Photoshop Tools

Section: Assignment #3 DUE in section October 25/26

October 30

Introduce Assignment #4

Artist Slides - Performance and Photography

Film: Cindy Sherman and Yinka Shonibare from Art21

Reading: Jennifer Dalton Look at Me: Self-Portrait Photoga-

phy after Cindy Sherman

November 1

Lecture: Artist Slides - Portrait

Film: Diane Arbus Midterm Review

November 6 MIDTERM EXAM

November 8

Lecture: Artist Slides

Introduce Artist Presentations

Section: DUE - Project #4 - Nov 8/9

November 13 Review Midterms Introduce Final Project November 15

Lecture: Contemporary Photographic Practices

(Construct)

Film: Florian Maier-Aichen from ART 21

Section: Final Project Proposals Due November 15/16 Section: Artist Presentations in section November 15/16

November 20

Demo: Masking / Composite

November 22

NO CLASS Thanksgiving Holiday

November 27

Lecture: Contemporary Photographic Practices

Demo: Advanced Photoshop Tools

November 29

Lecture: Black & White Workflow

December 4

Visiting Artist Lecture - Stuart Gow

December 6

Lab

Instructor in Lab

FINALS WEEK

FRIDAY DECEMBER 14

11:30 - 2:30 pm

DUE: Final Projects