

Digital Photography – Art-137-81 and CIS-137-81
3 Credit Hours, Tuesday, 6:00pm – 8:54pm
September 6 – December 20, 2016
Jackson College – LeTarte Center-Hillsdale
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Course Description:

Students will learn and develop basic skills in camera operation, editing, manipulation, storing and printing images. Comprehension in composition, layout, and the principles of design will be demonstrated in creative photography.

Course Goals:

- Develop technical camera operation of photography, including f-stops, depth of field, good composition, proper focus and exposure
- Gain knowledge of proper editing, saving, and printing images
- Learn about the art of photography through the study of history and contemporary artists
- Understanding of lighting in photography

Course Outcomes:

- Identify the basic parts of your camera and explain each function
- Able to photograph and apply knowledge of properly exposed and focused images
- Apply different depths of field in your images
- Apply and demonstrate your knowledge of stopped action or blurred motion photography
- Create consistent exposed images
- Identify and apply elements of design in the composition of images
- Increased creativity in your assignments
- Use and define photographic terminology
- Evaluate and critique photographs on the technical and aesthetics components
- Learn and demonstrate the correct white balance and resolution for each situation
- Learn to identify the histogram and what it means
- Demonstrate how to download files from memory card and save on a flash drive
- Demonstrate how to make simple corrections on an image and use the Photoshop tools
- Demonstrate how to color balance and use levels to correct tonal exposures

Methods of Instruction:

There will be instruction, demonstrations, presentations, and group discussions and critiques. Student work will be critiqued in a group and individual settings. There is a possibility of a Field Trip (TBA). Students will be able to think critically for each situation and will know how to manage the unexpected.

Materials:

A digital SLR or point-and-shoot camera that has manual capabilities with 10 mega pixels or more. Batteries for camera, camera manual, tripod, storage card, card reader flash if not on camera and a portable USB drive to save your work, notebook and folder. Textbook: Long, Ben. *Complete Digital Photography* 7th or 8th Edition, Cengage. 2013

Classroom Policies:

Regular, punctual attendance is expected. Absences will affect your daily grade. Being more than 10 minutes late counts as an absence and leaving before the last half hour of class counts as an absence. Only 2 absences are allowed and will be excused at the final critique. Assignments for that day however will be incomplete unless emailed to me before class on the day you missed. No cell phones during instructional times. Bring your camera, manual, memory card, card reader and batteries to class every day. Pay attention in class. No sleeping, reading, Face Book, texting, or other homework in class. Dress for the weather, as we will be spending time in and out of class on locations to take photos, be prepared!

Grades:

Grading will be done as follows. Project completed on time, creativity, composition, and craftsmanship. Grades will be averaged with artist's reports, photography images, attendance, participation, class critiques, and final portfolio. **You must attend the final portfolio critique in order to receive a final grade for the class!**

Grading Scale:

4.0 = excellent work, advanced technical development, creative, in focus, and good exposure/lighting.

3.5

3.0 = good work, some room for technical improvement, better than average, one technical issue.

2.5

2.0 = average work, average technical skill and concept, two technical issues

1.5

1.0 = below average work, little technical competence, numerous issues

0.5

0.0 = failure, now work handed in

All prints will be submitted on time each week, and printed in ~ 8 x 10 format. Each photo assignment is worth 3 points for a total of 60% of the entire grade. Three artist reports are worth 7 points a piece for 20% of the grade. Class critique and participation is worth 4 points for a total of 4% of the grade. Final critique of overall semester photos is worth 16 points for 10% of grade. Participation is ½ point for each class, for a total of 6% of grade.

Total Points earned = 130 pts.

Failure:

I will NOT accept ANY LATE assignments, NO EXCEPTIONS!

Turning in work done by anyone other than you is a cause for failure of an assignment, (photographic or photographer report). The work has to be done during the **present semester**. No cell phone photos. Please read the Jackson College Academic Honesty Policy, you can find it on the JCC website.

Assignments:

Fine Art Photographer Reports – There will be **three** fine art photographer papers due throughout the semester. Your paper should be 1-2 pages in length, 12 pt times New Roman, double spaced, with work cited/page and image of photographer and one of his/her photos on a separate piece of paper. The paper should not be a bibliography of that person, but what you have learned and/or like about their work. All papers should be complete sentences and free of grammar errors.

Due dates are 9/27, 10/25, 11/29. I will accept except all reports early, but no late papers will be accepted. The papers are due at the beginning of class. Email the paper before class if you won't be in class the day it is due. No exceptions.

There are a total of **16 – 8x10 photographic assignments** for the semester.

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1) Composition | 9) Animal |
| 2) Self Portrait | 10) Collage |
| 3) Macro (close-up) /Depth of Field | 11) Song Interpretation (Mood/Emotion) |
| 4) Rural/Landscape | 12) Photo Journalism |
| 5) Urban/ Architecture | 13) Impossible Objects |
| 6) Night | 14) Mandalas |
| 7) Sports/Action | 15) Black and White with a hint of color |
| 8) Seasonal (Summer!) | 16) Sparty Travels |

Final Portfolio – this will include your titled 16 – 8x10 photo assignments presented in a presentation folder. Be prepared to talk about why and how you photographed each assignment as well as use photographic terminology. Demonstrate that you know the photographic terminology and what artist inspires you. **Final Critique will be by appointment on Tuesday, December 20th. Failure to appear the last day will result in failure of the class.**

Academic Help: Please contact me if you are struggling, I will be happy to meet with you and help you understand.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities – Students with disabilities may contact the Center for Student Success to file accommodation needs within two weeks start of the semester at 517-796-8415.

Class Calendar:

- 9/6/16 Intros, read over syllabus, get to know your camera, **Composition Assignment done together in class.** Transfer, saving and printing photos. Discuss Self Portrait Techniques.
- 9/13/16 **Self Portrait due**
- 9/20/16 **Macro (close-up) due**
- 9/27/16 First Artist Paper Due ***** and Rural/Landscape due**
- 10/4/16 **Field Trip – Urban/Architecture Due**
- 10/11/16 **Night Photo and Sports Action Due**
- 10/18/16 **Seasonal Photo Due**
- 10/25/16 Second Artist Paper Due***** and Animal Photo Due**
- 11/1/16 **Photo Collage (Done together in Photoshop, in class)**
- 11/8/16 *Class Canceled tonight. Go Vote!!!!!!***
- 11/15/16 **Photo Journalism Due**
- 11/22/16 **Song Interpretation (Mood/Emotion) Photo Due**
- 11/29/16 Third Artist paper Due***** and Mandalas Due (Done together in class)**
- 12/6/16 **Impossible Objects Due**
- 12/13/16 **BW, hint of color Due**
- 12/20/16 Last Day, final critique by appointment*****Portfolio Due Sparty Travels Due with final portfolio**

Caveat: Please be flexible. The lecture and field trips could change due to weather and the needs of the class.

How to do an Artist Report:

The paper should be about a particular photographer that inspires you. Explain what it is about the photographer's work that interests you. Mention a particular photograph of his/her that you like. Talk about the composition techniques the photographer used, the emotions and/or feelings that the photo evoked in you, the lighting, etc.

Fine Art Photography Paper Rubric –
7 points possible (20% of total grade)

| CATEGORY | 1pt Paper Length | 1pt Photos | 1pt Vocabulary | 1pt Content |
|--------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Paper Requirements | <p>The text of the paper is at least 1 page, double spaced.</p> <p>The photos are on a separate piece of paper.</p> | <p>There are at least two photos, one of the photographer and one of the photo that is being written about.</p> | <p>The paper content uses photographic and compositional terms.</p> | <p>There is a small paragraph about the artist with the main focus of the paper analyzing the photo(s) that is/are being written about.</p> |

| | 1pt Grammar | 1pt Work Cited | 1pt On Time | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| | <p>There are 2 or less grammatical errors.</p> | <p>The work is cited for the web site or book that was referenced.</p> | <p>The paper is turned in at the beginning of the class the day it is due.</p> | |