

Digital Photography – Art-137-81  
3 Credit Hours, Tuesday, 6:00pm – 8:54pm  
WINTER 2018  
Jackson College – LeTarte Center-Hillsdale, Rm. 15  
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Office Hours: Before and After class and by appointment

**Course Description:**

This course demonstrates how to use and handle a digital camera, capturing the image, editing and processing images for output - such as printing, or preparing images for upload to the Internet for websites or social media platforms. The class will include techniques and instruction on layout, composition, rules of design, history of photography, and Photoshop® or image altering program applications.

**Prerequisite(s):**

None

**Course Goals:**

Jackson College is an institution of higher education whose mission is to assist learners in identifying and achieving their educational goals. The Studio Art Department @ JC works towards this shared goal by helping our students become working artists in their chosen fields.

**Course Outcomes:**

- **Demonstrate knowledge of the vocabulary of 2D art creation.**
- **Work comfortably with a wide range of media in a variety of studio settings and assignments.**
- **Demonstrate the ability to synthesize formal, technical, and conceptual thinking in a single project in the 2D realm.**
- **Demonstrate basic research skills and an ability to employ these skills in the service of writing about, talking about, and making art.**
- **Demonstrate advanced technical skills in certain areas consistent with the student's own artistic interests and artistic voice.**
- **Document work and maintain a portfolio.**
- **Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of art materials and equipment usage and of safety hazards of art materials and tools in the classroom.**

**Our course incorporates a specific General Education Outcome (GEO) established by the JC Board of Trustees, administration, and faculty: GEO 6: - Understand aesthetic experience and artistic creativity.**

**GEO's goals are in concert with four-year colleges and universities and reflect input from the professional communities we serve. GEOs guarantee students achieve goals necessary for graduation credit, transferability, and professional skills needed in many certification programs.**

**Learning Outcomes for Studio Art Classes meet expectations for GEO 6:**

- Explains the historical, cultural, and social contexts of works in the fine arts (art, music, and theater) and/or works in the humanities (literature).
- Applies methods of analysis and interpretation for works of art via writing, speaking, or performance.
- Confidently and fluently uses genre-specific language to support critical reflection.
- Initiates and sustains a discussion of the creative, cultural, and historical contexts within which an artist works and the artist's resulting creative choices.
- Articulates a personal critique of an artist's work, based upon aesthetic standards.
- Approaches a work of creative expression with openness and interest; appreciates the world of the creative imagination as a form of knowledge expressed in formal discussion or writing.

**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* 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, Cengage. 2013 This book is also available in Digital format to rent or purchase: CengageBrain.com, ISBN13: 978-1-305-25872-3

**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 = 94 – 100	2.0 = 72 - 77
3.5 = 89 – 93	1.5 = 66 - 71
3.0 = 84 – 88	1.0 = 60 - 65
2.5 = 78 – 83	0.5 = 55 - 59
0.0 = 0 - 54	

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**. 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.

**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 **15– 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) Photo Journalism                     |
| 4) Rural/Landscape                  | 12) Song Interpretation/Mood             |
| 5) Urban/ Architecture              | 13) Mandalas                             |
| 6) Night                            | 14) Impossible Objects                   |
| 7) Sports/Action                    | 15) Black and White with a hint of color |
| 8) Seasonal (Summer!)               |  |

**Final Portfolio** – this will include your titled 15 – 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, May 1<sup>st</sup>. 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:**

- 1/16/18 Intros, read over syllabus, get to know your camera, **Composition Assignment done together in class.** Transfer, saving and printing photos. Discuss Self Portrait Techniques.
- 1/23/18 **Self Portrait due**
- 1/30/18 **Macro (close-up) due**
- 2/6/18 First Artist Paper Due \*\*\*\*\* and Rural/Landscape due**
- 2/13/18 **Field Trip – Urban/Architecture Due**
- 2/20/18 **Night Photo and Sports Action Due**
- 2/27/18 **Seasonal Photo Due**
- 3/6/18 Second Artist Paper Due\*\*\*\*\* and Animal Photo Due**
- 3/6/18 **Photo Collage (Done together in Photoshop, in class)**
- 3/12 – 3/18 *No classes, Spring Break!!!!***
- 3/20/18 **Photo Journalism Due**
- 3/27/18 **Song Interpretation (Mood/Emotion) Photo Due**
- 4/3/18 Third Artist paper Due\*\*\*\*\* and Mandalas Due (Done together in class)**
- 4/10/18 **Impossible Objects Due**
- 4/17/18 **BW, hint of color Due**
- 4/24/18 Prepare portfolio for Final**
- 5/1/18 Last Day, final critique by appointment\*\*\*\*\*Portfolio Due**

**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)

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>1pt Paper Length</b>	<b>1pt Photos</b>	<b>1pt Vocabulary</b>	<b>1pt Content</b>
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 <b>two</b> photos, one of the <b>photographer</b> and one of the <b>photo</b> 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>

	<b>1pt Grammar</b>	<b>1pt Work Cited</b>	<b>1pt On Time</b>	
	<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>	

