

Instructor: Vanessa Fischer

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Course Title: *Introduction to Cell Phone Photography*

Description: The goal of this course is for you to learn about your own artistic process and interest in art. Each week you will be introduced to a new topic or idea as well as a new photography technique. Each week you will be given a photography assignment to illustrate that topic or idea using the new and previously learned photography techniques. Each week students must photograph a minimum of 20 images and submit their best 5 for every assignment. Each week students will engage in a critique, presenting the work they created, explaining the meaning or importance of the work. All students will give feedback to the student presenting. Each week students will be graded on their work through a rubric: the work must show the new idea and skills learned that week. Each week one student will give an artist presentation.

Learning Outcomes: At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Master the basic functions of their phone camera, and the application of basic photographic techniques (such as rule of thirds, focus, lighting and exposure and framing) in order to consistently produce well-exposed digital images through lectures, in-class instruction and assignments.
- Recognize the basic aesthetic qualities of a well-made photograph - light, composition, color, and focus - and apply to the capture of digital images through lectures and group critiques.
- Employ strategies for upload & organization of digital files and methods for archive & backup of data.
- Apply editing techniques for digital photographs, incorporating photo editing software for broader adjustments, along with an overview of basic editing techniques for finer adjustments or more radical manipulation of the image through assignments and supervised lab time.
- Demonstrate appropriate technique for export of digital files and differentiate standard photo file formats (jpg, TIFF, RAW, etc) and the intended uses for each format. Optimize digital files for their intended use -- printing, web-based applications, etc.
- Recognize printing strategies and techniques and use the digital print as a means of stylistic expression through the production of their own images, lectures and critiques.
- Articulate the technical and conceptual underpinnings of theirs and their fellow students work through class discussions and critiques.
- Develop culturally responsive learning skills when evaluating contemporary photography through lectures, readings and discussions.

Expectations: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner. This means attend class every day and be on time, be prepared for class, turn in all assignments on the date that they are due, do your very best on all class assignments and exercises even those that are not graded, and be courteous and respectful to fellow students and the professor. I have very high, yet attainable expectations for my students; these are reflected in the course workload and grading scale.

Attendance Policy: Regular attendance in all classes is required. Students are expected to arrive on time and remain in class for the entire period scheduled. The responsibility for work missed due to any type of absence rests with the student. A failing grade may be assigned to any student who attains less than 80 % of class meetings (3 classes of a course meeting once per week). Any exceptions are

Grading Policy:

5% Class Participation
5% Artist Presentation
90% Homework & Classwork Projects

Artist Presentations:

Every week two to three students will give a presentation to the class about one artist they are drawn to. For this project you need to:

1. Research one artist.
2. Present background information about that artist (a short biography).
3. Choose one body of work to tell the class about, show the images using google slides or other presentation applications.
4. Explain why you choose this artist or body of work.

Critiques:

Critiques will occur every week or at the end of a project. During a critique you will share what you are creating or have completed. You will receive feedback from your classmates about your work. Comments should be polite, supportive and informative. Help each other create your best work possible during critiques.

Materials

Cell Phone Camera OR Digital Camera

Sketch book: This is where you should free-draw, make practice sketches, write down your notes or thoughts for art class, keep a log of artists you like and cut and paste in anything that inspires you or interests you.

Course Schedule:

WEEK 1

In Class:

- Introductions
- Introduce and review syllabus
- Introduce Artist Presentations
- In class partner interview
- Learn basic photo storing method
- Discuss editing and the importance of deleting

Homework Project: Portraiture, Who Are You?

1. Take a photographic portrait of your partner based on in class interview.
2. All students are required to have 1-3 successful images 20 images in total and no self-portraiture.
3. Choose three possible artists you would like to present.

WEEK 2

In class:

- Critique final image of Portraiture, Who Are You?
- Assign Artist Presentations
- Introduce the Rule of Thirds and the frame
- Critique final image of Portraiture, Who Are You?

Homework Project: Set up a variety of objects that are important to you like a still life. Treat these objects like a relic. Photograph them using the rule of thirds.

WEEK 3

In class:

- Introduce the focus and the focus tool
- Critique Rule of Thirds Precious Objects Assignment
- Artist Presentation

Homework Project: Using the focus tool, the rule of thirds and conscious framing to photograph the food you eat. Set up with care.

WEEK 4

In class:

- Introduce exposure and the exposure tool.
- Critique Rule of Thirds Precious Objects Assignment
- Artist Presentation

Homework Project: Using the rule of thirds, focus tool and exposure tool take a series of photographs of different junk drawers in your home.

WEEK 5

In class:

- Introduce Documentary style of photography and the history of artists who use this style.
- Introduce artists who photograph the daily ritual
- Critique Exposer in Junk Drawer Assignment
- Artist Presentation

Homework Project: Document and event or daily ritual that is taking place in your home or outside of your home using documentary style and all your photography techniques you have learned thus far.

WEEK 6

In class:

- Introduce Abstraction
- Review techniques that can create abstractions.
- Critique Documentary Style Assignment
- Artist Presentation

Homework Project: "Alphabetography" create an abstracted image by using your techniques to capture an image that shows the individual letters of your name.

Part two, photograph abstract images using your techniques.

WEEK 7

- Introduce depth of field (short versus long)
- Critique Abstraction "Alphabetography" Assignment
- Artist Presentation

Homework: Take your camera for a walk and document your neighborhood using short and long depth of field.

WEEK 8

- Introduce Tableau Style
- Critique Depth of field Assignment
- Artist Presentation

Homework Project: Photograph your safe space as a tableaux. A safe space is a place you go and feel like you can wind down and just be yourself.

WEEK 9

- Introduce color editing
- Realistic Color Editing

- Unrealistic Color Editing
- Discuss ways color effects an image
- See artist examples who use color to show an emotion or feeling.
- Artist Presentation

Homework Project: Photograph the three-color schemes. Color Edit your photos to look realistic. Color Edit others to look unrealistic, decide which you prefer.

WEEK 10

- Introduce light editing: realistic versus unrealistic
- Introduce Low Key Light Versus High Key Light
- Critique color scheme and color editing assignment
- Artist Presentation

Homework: Use lighting to set a type of mood or emotion. Photograph in low key light and photograph in high key light, decide which you prefer. Edit your photographs to look realistic. Edit some to look unrealistic, decide which you prefer.

WEEK 11

- Introduce Black and White editing
- Critique Light and light editing assignment.
- Artist Presentation

Homework: Photograph a subject matter you are most excited about and with the intention to edit your photos to Black and White: How does black and white effect the feeling of your images ?

WEEK 12

- Introduce the double exposure editing technique.
- Critique Black and White editing assignment
- Artist Presentation

Homework Project: Photograph a subject matter with the intention of layering your images as a double exposure.

WEEK 13

- Critique Black and White editing assignment
- Artist Presentation
- Introduce final project portfolio.
- Students work on a portfolio of your best photos from each homework project.

Homework Project: Students work on their final portfolio.

WEEK 14

- Group critique of final portfolio.

Homework Project: Students make any final edits to their final portfolio.

WEEK 15

- One on one critique of final portfolio.

General Rubric:

GRADING RUBRIC:	100 – 93% 4 YOU GO ABOVE AND BEYOND KEEP IT UP	92 – 80 % 3 YOU FORFILL THE TASK BUT YOU COULD GIVE ALITTLE MORE	79 – 66 % 2 YOU DO BELOW AVERAGE WORK AND NEED TO DO MORE	65-LOWER 1 YOU DO NOT DO ANY WORK AND YOU NEED TO SEE ME TO COME UP WITH A PLAN TO HELP YOU
PROJECT STEPS, DIRECTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS.	Student has a complete understanding of project and expectational skills with media.	Student has a very good idea of class project and has average to above average skills.	Student has average to barely grasping the directions, shows some skill.	Student does not meet expectations, shows little artistic skill.
LEVEL OF ORIGINALITY AND CREATIVITY.	Students work shows unique and individualistic, innovative work.	Students work shows mostly original work.	Students work shows some originality but mostly complied or slightly altered.	Students work shows no original ideas.
DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ELEMENTS.	Student has complete understanding and use of design principles and elements.	Students work had average to high level use of design principles.	Student demonstrates unclear use of design principles and elements.	Student demonstrates little to no concept or thought our use of design principles or elements of art.
TEAM WORK AND COMMUNICATION WITH OTHERS.	Students always contributes to discussion and works well with others.	Students contributes to class discussion most of the time and works with others.	Students seldom contributes to class and or is sometimes uncooperative.	Students shows no attempt to communicate and or is argumentative.
ATTITUDE IN CLASS, ATTENTION AND ATTENDANCE.	Students is very helpful positive and considerate, is an active learner, makes up missed work.	Students is helpful in class and makes up missed work.	Students is not helpful and sometimes uncooperative shows little to no responsibility in making up missed work	Students is uninvolved, disruptive shows no responsibility in making up missed work.