**Photography 1**

**ART 285 Intro to darkroom**

**Instructor: Leah Sobsey**

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**Monday & Wednesday 9 – 11:50am**

**Office hours Monday and Wednesday 3-4pm or by appointment**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

In this introductory black and white photography course, we will explore the fundamentals of the photographic process through technical and creative instruction. We will cover camera functions, film processing, and darkroom printing. Video and slide presentations of historical and contemporary artists will be woven into class time. Critiques will be held for each assignment to encourage dialogue and understanding about the images that evolve over the semester.

Students will receive hands-on learning in the darkroom and will participate in engaged classroom critique. Significant time is spent in dialogue in response to lectures and assigned research of historical and contemporary photographers. Assignments aid in the technical understanding of the medium and motivate students to explore and develop their own interests and ideas. Students are expected to come to class on time, prepared and ready to engage in thoughtful, constructive critique.

**METHODS OF INSTRUCTION AND LEARNING**

1. Lectures/demonstrations

2. Studio problems

3. Assignments

4. Finished print critiques

5. Readings and gallery visits

6. Final project/ critique

**EVALUATION**

When evaluating student photographs, I am looking at the technical aspects of the work, as well as the formal and the conceptual. I am also looking at effort, improvement, commitment and risk taking when evaluating work.

Participation is different from attendance. Preparation along with active and constructive contribution to the conversation during peer critiques is critical to the participation grade, as is arriving to the classroom on time. One important note about critiques: we critique the work, not the person making the work. **Please turn off cell phones and Internet access during lecture and critique times. If you are texting or on the computer during lectures and critiques, you will be asked to leave and marked absent.**

**Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated. Plagiarism, turning in old images or images from other classes or assignments is not acceptable. Anyone caught cheating will be reported to the dean of students and will receive a failing grade in the course**.

**GRADING**

Grades will be determined as follows:

5 Assignments 50% (5 x 10%)

Presentations 10%

Participation in class critiques, discussions, and labs 20%

Final project 20%

The following are examples of portfolio grading:

**A** Superior quality work with a high degree of inventiveness and quality of visual solutions displaying an advanced understanding of the medium

**B** Quality of work is slightly lower in inventiveness and quality of visual solution, but still above average

**C** Average work quality, but not considered inferior

**D** Below average quality of work

**F** Failure to meet minimum standards for the course

Grade delineation:

**A** = (90-100%) The student fulfills all course requirements and performs at a superior level.

**B** = (80-89%) The student fulfills all course requirements and performs at an above-average level.

**C** = (70-79%) The student fulfills all course requirements and performs at an average level.

**D** = (60-69%) The student fulfills all course requirements, but performs at a below-average level.

**F** = (59% and below) The student fails to fulfill all course requirements and performs at a poor level.

The final composite grade, after adjustments for absences and late assignments, becomes the course grade. If assignments are turned in on time, they can be reworked for a better grade. Unless arrangements are made in advance, late assignments will be deducted a letter grade every class period until the assignment is turned in.

Attendance is mandatory for all classes. Three or more unexcused absences will result in the lowering of your grade by one letter for each unexcused absence.

**ORIGINAL WORK**

 Some work for this course may be an extension of previous projects. However, work submitted for critique must be created this semester for this course. If you submit work that you did not make, or work you produced for another class, your images will be turned in for an academic dishonesty investigation. Should you have questions about this policy, feel free to ask.

# **STUDIO ETIQUETTE**

You will be working in a photography studio and darkroom using materials that are out for all to use. Please keep in mind that others must also work in this space. Clean up after yourself and follow all cleanup policies covered in class. Please do not leave work, chemicals, trays, wet prints, dry prints, materials, etc. lying around the darkroom. Find a space to stow your stuff and keep it there. If you continually have to clean up after someone please let me know, and I will address the problem. If you repeatedly disregard common courtesy, I will ask that you drop the class.

**TEXT**

*Black and White Photography: A Basic Manual* by Henry Horenstein

**ASSIGNMENTS**

8/16 Intros

8/21 Bring your 35mm camera to class and 1 roll of film

8/23 Demo/lecture

8/28 Demo/lecture

8/30 Demo/lecture

9/4 NO CLASS LABOR DAY

9/6 First roll of film exposed

9/11 Library Assignment due/ Bring in negative sleeves and binder

9/18 Aperture Shutter film and contact sheet due

9/20 Lab day

9/25 Lab day

9/27 5 prints due (Aperture shutter assignment on RC paper)

10/12 5 prints due (Light/Frame and Filter Test assignment on fiber paper)

10/9 Fall Break

9/23 Assignmnt Light Frame Due

10/16 Presentations

10/18 Presentations

11/8 6 prints due (Portrait/Self Portrait assignment on fiber paper)

11/22 NO CLASS THANKSGIVING

11/27 6 prints due (Emulation assignment on fiber paper)

11/29 5 prints due (Alternative process assignment due on fiber paper)

11/29 Final Presentations on fiber paper, spot toned and presented in a portfolio

Please note:

Response papers on the readings are due *at the beginning of* class on days where indicated. Please find the readings on the course website.

Selected readings: John Berger, Susan Sontag, Peter Galassi, and Roland Barthes.

Response papers on gallery visits will be due *at the beginning* of the class that follows the visit.

FINAL CRITIQUE IS THE LAST DAY OF CLASS, November 29th

**SUPPLY LIST**

Supplies can be ordered from Southeastern Camera, BH Photo, or approved sites

Southeastern Camera in Carrboro/Chapel Hill

(919) 933-7757

<http://www.secamera.com/>

Student pricing:

110.00 (20) Rolls of HP5-36 (5.50 ea)

22.00 (1) Ilford 8x10/25 Sheets RC/Pearl

110 (1) Ilford 8x10/100 Sheets Fiber/Glossy

7.00 (1) Printfile 35-7B/25 sheet pack

13.00 (1) Photo Negative Storage Binder

5.00 (1) Lens Cleaning Cloth

267.00 plus tax = 287.03

B&H Photo in NYC

(800) 947-7785

<http://www.bhphotovideo.com/>

See also

<http://www.freestylephoto.biz/index.php>

<http://www.adorama.com>

**>>>**DO NOT PURCHASE B&W FILM THAT SAYS PROCESS C41

**All assignments with the exception of the first should be printed on fiber paper.**