

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
DEPARTMENT OF ART

COURSE OUTLINE

**Art (ART) 235 L60**  
**Introduction to Photography**  
**Summer 2013**

Class Dates: Monday, Wednesday, Friday; July 3rd to August 14<sup>th</sup>  
(no class on Monday August 5<sup>th</sup>)

Class Times: M/W 8:00-12:30, F 8:00-10:00

Rooms: SS018 (Social Sciences Lab) & AB 651

Instructor: Brandy Dahrouge Email:  
badahrou@ucalgary.ca  
Website: [www.brandydahrouge.com](http://www.brandydahrouge.com)  
Office: AB 643  
Office Hours: Fridays after class and by appointment  
Skype: I can be available through Skype with prior arrangements.

**Course Description**

*"An introductory course in current photographic methods including: digital photography, digital image processing, film photography, film developing and printing and the presentation of photographs in both digital and paper-based media." - University Calendar*

This course is about art. It includes an introduction to the medium of photography and its historic and cultural context in relation to present day technological advancements in artistic practice. Our exploration will start with: the invention of photography (late 1800's), early equipment and techniques, principles of film photography, and the resulting digital revolution that has made photography ubiquitous with modern life. This is a studio-based class focusing on experiential and participatory learning activities including: making your own photographic artwork using analog and digital based technologies, developing your creative rationale for the work you make, and publicly presenting that work in a professional manner. In addition, we will examine the technical, aesthetic, and conceptual considerations of photographic artists and attempt to put them into practice.

**Antirequisite**

Not open to students with 300-level credit or above in photography. Credit for only one of Art 235, 335 or 336 will be permitted.

**Learning Objectives:**

- To become acquainted with select examples of photography and artists working within the field
- To identify and apply technical photographic principles in the operation of a SLR camera
- To recognize and explore the aesthetic elements of visual design in order to create images that communicate artistic ideas
- To become familiar with digital image processing and basic manipulation/adjustment techniques
- To gain experience in basic techniques of darkroom development, print finishing, and presentation
- To begin to question, evaluate, write, and speak about photography and your images.

## Textbooks and Readings:

I recommend "A Course in Photography" by Barbara London and Jim Stone 8th or 9th edition. This book is available in the library. There is a version more geared toward digital processes titled "A Short Course in Digital Photography" by the same authors (1st or 2nd editions). It is available for purchase in the Bookstore and on loan in the library. Additional readings and articles to be announced throughout the course.

## Required Materials

- Uninterrupted use of a digital SLR camera (a camera with full manual operation and removable lenses). No point-and-shoots or iPhones.
- USB stick to transport your files
- Memory card reader or cables (for your camera) to transfer image files
- A full-sized sketch book for class notes, project designs and ideas, etc.
- Various art supplies including: photographic paper, mat board, dry-mounting tissue, drawing pencils, sketchbook, supplies for making a pinhole camera

## Supplementary fees

Students may be required to attend gallery showings; students will be responsible for their own transportation costs and admittance fees. You may be required to print your final assignment images at a professional photo lab. There is a "supply fee" for darkroom chemistry usage. Students can expect to pay around \$100 in supplemental and supply fees for this course.

Items you will need to purchase:

- A box of 8x10 black and white RC (resin coated) photographic paper from: The Camera Store (802 11th Ave S.E. 403-234-9935) or Vistek (1231 10th Ave S.W. 403-244-0333). Show your student ID to receive a 10% discount. You will need at least 25 sheets. You may want to split a big box with another student. **DO NOT OPEN THE BOX UNTIL YOU ARE IN THE DARKROOM!!!**
- **Darkroom Chemistry Fee: \$20 to be paid at the start of term to the Woodshop and collect a receipt**
- A **large** coil ring sketchbook with blank pages (8.5x11 inches or bigger) - can be found at the main bookstore
- Various supplies for building your pinhole camera. Depending on your design, items may include: sewing needles, spare lens caps, black electrician tape, sandpaper, tin shears, tin sheeting (Home Depot), tin/wood/cardboard box, basic tools, utility knife, glue, etc.
- Various supplies for the presentation of your images: mat board, photo corners, drymount tissue (all should be available at the main bookstore).

## Book Store Summer Hours

Monday to Friday 9:00am -  
5:00pm Saturday 10:00am -  
5:00pm

## Course Activities

This course is part lecture and part lab. It may include: demonstrations, slide shows, guest presentations, gallery visits, group discussions, and student presentation of work. In keeping with other studio courses within the Department of Art, class time may be used to practice skills and

individually work on artistic techniques. This is not a course where you take vast amounts of notes, memorize a collection of terms and dates, and then reproduce them for an exam. Artistic practice requires just that - practice. Art students regularly put in double the amount of hours outside of the classroom as they do inside. A diligent and regular commitment is the only way to develop your artistic eye and the required skills to realize your vision.

## Safety Requirements

- Closed-toed shoes are required in the darkroom, mounting room, and wood shop. **No flip-flops or sandals.** Protect yourself and your clothing by wearing long pants with an old T-shirt or apron.
- Food and drink are not permitted in the darkroom or the computer lab
- **No contact lenses** in the darkroom. Wear your glasses.
- Do not use your hands to grab prints out of the chemistry baths. Use the tongs provided.
- **Anyone with respiratory health concerns or possible allergies to chemicals** should identify themselves to the instructor at the start of the term. If allergies or chemical irritations in the darkroom occur during the course, please notify the instructor immediately. A safety orientation will be given at the start of the course.
- **Darkroom work must be completed during our class times and no unsupervised hours will be provided.** Therefore a limited number of days at the start of the term will be provided for the completion of assignments. **Use this time wisely.**

## Assignments and Evaluation

Sketchbook	20%	The sketch book is where your creative ideas are held: your recipes for images, project designs, reflections on lecture topics, collections of images you admire, ideas you would like to explore, creative discoveries, exposure times, drawings, your research, and notes. This book is to be built throughout the duration of the course and <b>handed in with your mid-term and final projects.</b> A good rule of thumb is one page per day. Further specifications will be provided.
Test <b>July 19th</b>	20%	A written exam on photographic terminology, technical principles, creative concepts, and readings.
Mid Portfolio <b>July 26th</b>	30%	This submission includes: the shadow-gram assignment, your pin-hole camera and designs, relevant camera negatives, and your final prints presented in a professional manner. Assignment specifications will be provided.
Final Portfolio <b>Aug 14th</b>	30%	This submission includes: a series of printed digital images from a technical based assignment, and a series of printed images from a creative/conceptual assignment. Assignment specifications will be provided.

Quality and craftsmanship in the presentation of all submitted materials is considered in the grading process.

Please hand in your assignments directly to your instructor. If this is not possible, you can use the drop box outside of AB 608. Assignments that are put into the drop box will be date-stamped and placed in the instructor's mailbox. **Note:** It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment.

## Final Exam

There is no final exam in this course.

## Tips for Success in This Course

This course is in art, and we will explore how to use the camera to create art. We will discuss what this means and you will be given many examples. Art requires you to think about what you are creating, analyze why you are doing it, and decide what you hope to say by achieving it.

*Think about what you are photographing and why.* As art creation is our goal, subject matter such as pretty pictures of your dog, cat, children, stuffed toys, boyfriend/girlfriend, or your car will not suffice.

Avoid multi-tasking. This means *not* photographing your math homework and handing that image in for our course. Or, photographing your trip to the mall, your walk/drive home from the University, you making dinner, you and your buddies sitting around watching football, or you washing your car. Do not hand in images of things you would be doing anyway. **Create something original and specific for your assignments.**

**Work hard, challenge yourself, do your best, and don't make excuses.**

**Pre-existing photographs from other courses, or images taken outside the dates of this course, will not be graded and may result in a failing grade on the assignment.**

### Late Penalties

Assignments handed in late will incur a 10% per day deduction unless prior arrangements with the instructor have been approved.

### Grading Method/Grading Scale:

Grades are earned through hard work. They are not bargained for. There are no "easy A's".

Percentage	Grade	G.P.A.	Grade Definition
96-100	A+	4.0	Outstanding
90-95	A	4.0	Excellent-superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
85-89	A-	3.7	
80-84	B+	3.3	
75-79	B	3.0	Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-74	B-	2.7	
65-69	C+	2.3	
60-64	C	2.0	Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject matter.
55-59	C-	1.7	
53-54	D+	1.3	
50-52	D	1.0	Minimal pass – marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49	F	0	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

## Internet and Electronic Communication Device Information

This course is held in a computer lab and we will use computers for image manipulation. However, our class time is not the time to update your Facebook status, complete assignments for other courses, or surf the Internet. Resist the temptation for distraction! **Respect the learning environment of your peers and the teaching environment of your instructor.** I may ask you to leave the room if you are disrupting the class in this way.

Please turn off your mobile phone and do not use it in class.

## Email Communication

I can be reached by email between the hours of 9 am and 5 pm on weekdays. I may not respond to emails sent on weekends or holidays. I will try to reply to your email within 48 hours of receipt.

## Academic Accommodation

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/46>

## Academic Standing

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html>

## Deferral of Exams/Term Work

It is possible to request a deferral of term work or final examination(s) for reasons of illness, accident, family or domestic affliction, or religious obligations. Please check with Enrollment Services if any of these issues make it impossible for you to sit an exam or finish term work by stated deadlines.

**A Doctor's note must be provided for late or missed assignments** in order for the student to be eligible for credit. If an absence is known in advance, it is the student's responsibility to make arrangements (in writing) to hand in work **ahead of the due date**. It is the student's responsibility to catch up on content missed due to not attending lectures and demonstrations.

For more information go to [http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/deferred\\_final](http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/deferred_final)

## F.O.I.P.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

## Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly document its origins and authorship is a serious academic offense. Failure to do so is considered Academic Misconduct and will include: failure of the assignment, failure in the course, and possible suspension or expulsion from the University.

**For written work**, you must document not only direct quotations but also where the ideas you write about originated. This includes any ideas you have paraphrased in your own words. References must be indicated in the body of your document - a reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources.

Written assignments for this course are evaluated based on content, clarity of ideas, grammar, and solid writing skills. If I cannot read your assignment or understand its contents, I cannot grade it.

Please make use of spell check and re-read your assignments (or have someone proof-read them) before handing them in. If you struggle with written English, please seek help from the Student Writing Centre. I check all written assignments for accurate references.

**For visual materials**, all sources and creators must be documented. Image plagiarism can include: downloading images from the Internet and submitting them undocumented (or as your own) for an assignment, copying someone's image idea without crediting the source, and failure to document images included in your written work. These are serious offenses and are treated as plagiarism. I check all submitted visual materials (including your assignment photographs) for originality and authorship.

Please consult your instructor or Writing Support Services (at the Student Success Centre) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support> or <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

### **Student Misconduct**

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

### **Student Union and Student Ombudsman**

For more information go to <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>  
For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

### **Portfolios and Assignments**

The Department of Art will not assume responsibility for lost or stolen portfolios or course work given to instructors for grading, or for work posted on bulletin boards in the art building. All unclaimed work will be disposed of two weeks after the end of classes.

### **Ethics**

Whenever you perform research with human participants (i.e., surveys, interviews or observation) as part of your university studies, you are responsible for following university research ethics guidelines. Your instructor must review and approve of your research plans and supervise your research.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/cfreb>

### **Campus Security/Safewalk**

Call 220-5333 anytime. Help phones are located throughout campus, parking lots and elevators; they connect directly to Campus Security - in case of emergency, press the red button.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

### **Lockers**

The Art Building lockers are administered by the Students' Union in 251 MacEwan Student Centre.

There are various shapes and sizes of lockers for rent. Please write down the barcode numbers (top left of each locker) for the locker shape that you require and bring this list with you to the SU office between 8:30a.m. and 4:30p.m., Monday-Friday. Lockers must be vacated by the end of term.

For more information go to <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

### **Emergency Evacuation**

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts. Stop by SS110, call us at 220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre at 220-5881 or visit them on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrollment Services at 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.