

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
DEPARTMENT OF ART

COURSE OUTLINE

Art (ART) 336.01

Introduction to Digital Photography

SPRING 2014

Monday, Wednesday, Friday; 14:30 – 18:20; May 14 to June 4, 2014.

Instructor: *Kristine Thoreson*
Office Location: *AB 648*
Office Phone: *T.B.A.*
E-Mail: *knthores@ucalgary.ca*
Web Page: *N/A*
Office Hours: *By Appointment MWF*

Course Description

Fundamental technical and aesthetic considerations in the use of the still Digital Single Lens Reflex (DSLR) camera and basic use of the microcomputer in support of digital image processing in art.

Prerequisites &/or Co-requisites

None

Antirequisite(s):

Credit for both Art 336 and 337 will not be allowed.

Objectives of the Course

This course is an introduction to DSLR photography, digital image processing and image manipulation techniques for use in art practice. We will explore fundamental technical and aesthetic considerations in the use of the still camera. Basic use of the microcomputer in support of digital image processing and the necessary software will be examined.

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be familiar with the rudiments of Digital photography and will have developed the technical skills necessary to produce quality photographic images. In addition, the student will have some understanding of the expressive potential of the photographic medium.

Textbooks and Readings

Required readings will be provided as needed.

Assignments and Evaluation

There is a mid-term exam in this course. Marks are based on term work plus the exam. Completion of all assignments and projects is a minimum requirement for a passing grade in this course. Details are provided below.

* Note: It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment. 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.

**This is a tentative course schedule that is subject to change, if required.
Course Activities will include at least the following topics and assignments:**

Week 1:

Introduction to course and review of course syllabus
Lecture and Group Work – “From Popular to Professional, Genres of Photography in Context”
Lecture and Group Work – “Contemporary Photography, Schools of Thought and Practice”
Case Study: Richard Avedon and Sally Mann

Week 2:

No Class Monday May 19th – Victoria Day
Lecture and Group Work: “Applied Photographic Choices, camera operation and creative controls”
Lecture and Individual Work: “The Photo Essay, personal, political & social”

Week 3:

Lecture and Individual Work: The Photo Essay in progress
Lecture and Group Work: “Truth in Photography and Digital Imaging, Historical Context and Contemporary Relevance”
Mid-term test in concepts and terminology; May 28

Week 4:

Lecture and Demonstration: Non-destructive editing in Adobe Photoshop, preparing a file for print.
Final Photo Essay Critique

Assignments:

- 25% Each student must participate in weekly group work sheets (4 in total).
- 50% Each student must complete one photo essay (minimum 5 images) on a topic of their own choosing, but subject to my approval. Assignment specifics will be provided on a separate sheet before the second week. Due Week 4
- 25% One multiple choice, short answer and long answer mid-term test on concepts and terminology; May 28.

Registrar-Scheduled Final Exam:

NO

Late Assignment Policy

No late work will be accepted.

Additional Information

A DSLR (Digital Single Lens Reflex Camera) is required for this course and point and shoot cameras and smart phone cameras are not permitted.

Approved optional &/or mandatory supplementary fees

N/A

Course Activities

Grading Method/Grading Scale:

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.

Studio Procedures

The creation of art can be a dirty process and a studio is only workable if everyone cooperates in keeping it clean. Out of respect and consideration for your class-mates and other users of the space, it is expected that everyone will participate in keeping the studio clean and tidy.

Internet and Electronic Communication Device Information

Please refrain from using personal communication devices during lectures out of respect for everyone in the classroom.

Academic Accommodation

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

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 Enrolment Services if any of these issues make it impossible for you to sit an exam or finish term work by stated deadlines.

For more information go to http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/deferred_final

F.O.I.P.

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

Writing/Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. 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. 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>

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/>

Models

In this class students may be expected to draw from nude models. A student electing not to do so must notify the instructors IN WRITING of his/her concerns.

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>

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. 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 2nd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

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

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