

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
DEPARTMENT OF ART

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE

**ART (ART) 235 – Lecture and Lab 1
Introduction to Photography and Digital Imaging
Summer 2019**

Lecture: Tue, Thur, 9:00-11:45, SS 018

Lab: Tue, Thur, 12:00-14:50, SS 018

Instructor: Gerry Straathof
Office Location: 648 Art Building
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Web Page: N.A.
Office Hours: Wednesdays, room 648; 11:30pm-12:30pm

Course Description

An introductory course in current photographic methods, including digital photography, digital image processing and the presentation of photographs.

Prerequisites &/or Co-requisites

N.A.

Notes:

It is expected that the student will have their own advanced digital camera. This should allow for removable lenses, and easy access to manual controls through dials. The department will NOT provide digital cameras for students.

CELL PHONE CAMERAS CANNOT BE USED FOR THE ASSIGNMENTS IN THIS COURSE.

The computer lab (SS018) has a “no food or drink” policy. There are NO exceptions.

Objectives of the Course

Upon completion of the course, students will have a familiarity with the photographic process and an understanding of the behaviour of lenses and image formation. They will also have learned about the components of a digital workflow including organization and storage of files and manipulation of digital images for clarity and use. Students will also have gained some knowledge of the expressive possibilities and visual language of photography and of conceptual and compositional techniques.

The emphasis will be on digital photography, but theory of other photographic techniques will be examined, and historical photographs studied.

Textbooks and Readings

There are no text books for this course.

Readings, material and links for information will be available through D2L.

Assignments and Evaluation

Student assignments will be marked on an ongoing basis. Assignments and projects will be evaluated based on following instructions and meeting set project objectives and goals, as well as self-motivated research skills.

10%	Assignment 1: Elements of Design. Due Monday July 8th at 5:00pm.
10%	Assignment 2: Depth of Field. Due Monday July 15th at 5:00pm.
10%	Assignment 3: Motion Studies. Due Wednesday July 17th at 5:00pm.
10%	Assignment 4: Composition in Photography. Due Monday July 22nd at 5:00pm.
10%	Assignment 5: Multiple Choice Exam – 20 Questions. Thursday July 25th 9:00am.
5%	Assignment 6a: Experimentations for final project. Due July 31th.
5%	Assignment 6b: Refinement for final project. Due Aug 7th.
25%	Assignment 6: Final Project. Due Aug 12th.
15%	Participation.

- ***ALL Assignments will be turned in on D2L by the required time to be discussed in class.***

Class participation is necessary for completion of this course and is 15% of your final grade. If you are not in class for the discussions and critiques, you will lose 3% of the class participation marks. There is an expectation that all students will be present for critiques of the final assignment, so this is not factored into the participation.

It is not necessary for students to achieve a passing grade on any particular component of the course in order to pass the course as a whole.

Writing

Writing competency is not a factor of the student's grade, but some assignments may require putting ideas in written form or speaking about work. Clarity and understanding of this material is necessary for the instructor to understand what is being discussed.

Registrar-Scheduled Final Exam – NO

Note: It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of or any relevant documentation regarding each submitted assignment.

All assignments will be submitted in an electronic format through D2L with the requirements as indicated in class. Image based assignments will require the format as outlined in class. There will be a strong reliance on Photoshop for manipulation of files, and every publicly available computer on campus, including the ones in the lab, will have Adobe or Microsoft Office programs. Students may use other programs IF they can produce the format described in class.

Late Assignment Policy

Late assignments will not be accepted or evaluated. The time frame between receiving files and preparing them for discussion is tight. If the assignment is not received on time it cannot be prepared.

Additional Information

It is expected that the student will have their own advanced digital camera. This should allow for removable lenses, and easy access to manual controls through dials. Cameras must also be capable of saving in RAW format. The department will NOT provide digital cameras for students. Students may contact the instructor for more information.

Course Activities

Week 1 - Introduction

July 2. **Lecture:** Introduction to the mechanics of how cameras operate and the various forms of digital cameras, their sensor size and file formats. It is expected that the student has a digital camera by the second class, and that they have read the manual enough to understand the settings for Aperture, Shutter Speed and ISO, and how to use the internal light meter and white balance settings.

Lab: Instructor available for consultations on camera suitability if required.

July 4. **Lecture:** A discussion on the Elements of Design with the goal of introducing some stylistic choices for subject matter in a photograph. The lecture will provide the basics for transferring images from the digital camera to the computer. This class will also explain the process of how assignments are to be handed into D2L for grading.

Lab: There will be an opportunity for taking photographs on campus, uploading them to the computer and reviewing them based on their context as preparation for the first assignment. The first assignment will be discussed at this time.

Week 2 – Camera Basics

Assignment 1 is due at 5:00 pm on Monday, July 8. Assignment 1 is a refinement of the Elements of Design exercise from July 4th but is not limited to the University Campus. Late assignments will not be accepted.

July 9. **Lecture:** This class will include a brief description of how to critique before a discussion and critique of the first assignment. We will go through the ways to control depth of field, and more in-depth information regarding lenses and filters that are available. This class will also explore white balance and ISO settings and how they affect your image.

Lab: Experimenting with depth of field and a return to class for brief discussion.

July 11. **Lecture:** Explanation for creating motion blur in an image.

Lab: Experimenting with motion blur and a return to class for brief discussion.

Week 3 – Photographic Techniques

Assignment 2 is due at 5:00pm on Monday, July 15; Refinement on Depth of Field.

July 16 **Lecture:** Discussion of images from Assignment 2. Exploration on Compositional techniques in photography.

Lab: Exploration of compositional techniques on campus, return to class for brief discussion.

Assignment 3 is due at 5:00pm on Wednesday, July 17; Refinement on Motion Studies

July 18 **Lecture:** Discussion of Assignment 3. Discussion on Light Balance and introduction to Photoshop. A summary of terms that have been learned/used so far. Discussion of Assignment 4.

Lab: Exploration of photoshop using previously captured photographs.

Week 4 – Legendary Photographers

Assignment 4 is due at 5:00pm Monday, July 22; Composition.

July 23 **Lecture:** Discussion of Assignment 4. Presentation of selected historical photography projects. (W. Eugene Smith - Jazz Loft Project, etc.)

Lab: Exploration of narrative techniques with previously taken photographs.

July 25 **Lecture:** Multiple choice exam. Discussion on historical photography narratives.

Lab: Beginning of personal project considerations. One-on-one discussions.

Assignment 5: Multiple Choice Exam – 20 Questions. Thursday July 25.

Week 5 – Photographic Projects, Narratives and Storytelling

July 30 **Lecture:** Digital editing with photoshop. Brief layout discussion in InDesign. Discussion on notable techniques of color photography in projects.
Lab: One-on-one discussion about personal project.

Assignment 6a, Experimentations for Final Project due 5:00pm Wednesday July 31.

Aug 1 **Lecture:** Digital editing and layout questions and answers. Discussion on notable Canadian Photographers.
Lab: Work period for project.

Week 6 – Student Final Project

Aug 6 **Lecture:** Continued discussion on Canadian Photographers.
Lab: Work period for final project. Instructor is available for questions and discussions.

Assignment 6b, Refinement for the Final Project due at 5:00pm Wednesday Aug 7.

Aug 8 **Lecture & Lab:** Work periods for final project. Instructor is available for questions and discussions.

Week 7 – Student Final Project

Assignment 6, the Final Project is due at 5:00pm Monday Aug 12.

Aug 13 Discussion and presentation of final project.

CELL PHONES CANNOT BE USED FOR THE ASSIGNMENTS IN THIS COURSE.

As digital files and their organization is necessary for this course, a student may want to invest in a USB storage device or external hard drive. There is no guarantee that files uploaded to a lab computer will remain there between classes. A 16 to 64 gigabyte USB drive will make some parts of the class easier. All lab computers have a storage card reader, but students may find a USB card reader useful to get images from their camera storage card to a personal computer.

Grading Method/Grading Scale:

Percentage	Grade	G.P.V.	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/classroom is only workable if everyone cooperates in keeping it clean. Out of respect and consideration for your classmates 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

During the lecture, the use of cellphones and updating social media, etc., is not allowed.

Academic Accommodations

The student accommodation policy can be found at ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

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 about deferring a final exam go to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

For more information about deferral of term work go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>
http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/deferred_termwork15.pdf

F.O.I.P.

For more information go to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

Writing/Plagiarism

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Support Services can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

For more information go to

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

or

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

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. Visual art projects submitted for course credit must be produced by the student specifically for this class. Students must not submit projects if credit has or will be provided for it in another class. This includes re-worked assignments from previous or concurrent courses, unless permission is provided in writing by the instructor. Additionally, the student is asked to be mindful of using visual sources from the internet, ensuring that that material is not derived from any on-line or other available source, and that appropriate copyright permission is granted, when required.

Lockers

The Art Building lockers are administered through the Student's Union's used bookstore, Bound and Copied. Lockers are rented on a first come, first served basis. Due to the shortage of lockers, and the high demand, students cannot hold more than one locker at a time. All of the details on renting a locker and your responsibilities can be found on the Locker Rental Agreement at

https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/locker_rental_agreement_2010.pdf

Lockers for all sessions can be rented through my.ucalgary.ca. Once you're in the Student Centre, click on **Other Academic Services** and choose **Locker Reservation**.

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.

Note - All unclaimed work will be disposed of.

Note - Studio spaces, bulletin boards and display areas need to be cleared 2 weeks after the last day 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/pubs/calendar/current/e-5.html>

or

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/chreb>

Campus Mental Health Resources

[SU Wellness Centre](#) and the [Campus Mental Health Strategy](#)

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>

Student Misconduct

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

Student Ombudsman

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

Student Union

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

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Stop by SS102, call us at 220-3580 or email us at ascarts@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 3rd 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.