

Art 250: Photography I, Fall 2020
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Catalogue Description

Basic instruction in the creative use of the camera and printing techniques. Instruction in basic principles and darkroom experience. Emphasis on photography as a fine art, stressing beginning visual awareness and craft.

Art Department Program Goals implemented in Art 250

- Students will acquire competent knowledge and skills in various art media, concepts and methodologies.
- Students will solve visual problems at a competent level, including understanding/application of the elements of art and principles of design.
- Students will utilize and apply critical thinking skills to communicate ideas for their intended audience at a competent level in visual, oral, and written formats.

Student Learning Outcomes in Art 250

- Understand and apply the elements and principles of design as they relate to photography's ability to impose a frame upon the three-dimensional world and translate it into two dimensions.
- Acquire and apply beginning photography knowledge and skills by using analog photographic equipment and processes.
- Acquire knowledge of the history of photography and contemporary photography by looking at other artists' photographs.
- Analyze photographs, both verbally and written, through critique and self-reflection.
- Approach image making from a conceptual perspective by using the camera's frame to create content.

Course requirements

- Four graded assignments (worth up to twenty-five points each) consisting of proof sheets, edited jpg files, and a narrative word document uploaded to canvas are required. One scheduled "individual meeting by appointment" with Lesley about work in progress is required to submit each assignment (non-consultation submissions will not be accepted/excepted). Submissions without required number of proof sheets, required number of jpg files, or narrative word documents are incomplete and earn up to seventy percent of possible points. Late assignments (due by the following assignment's due-date) earn lower scores.
- Attendance and participation are required and are comprised of peer reviews, scheduled individual zoom meetings, and scheduled class zoom demonstrations and lectures. Students are required to sign up, prepare for, and attend one "individual meeting by appointment" before each critique; students are also required to perform two anonymous peer review critiques for each assignment. Students coming to class meetings more than 30 minutes late will be marked "absent." Students leaving class meetings early will be marked "absent." Being up to thirty minutes late to class meetings three times counts as one absence. Having more than two unexcused absences, demonstrating notable lack of participation in class discussions and peer reviews, and/or demonstrating notable lack of preparation for individual meetings will lower a final grade.

Final grade breakdown (100 points possible)

A 93-100; A- 90-92
B+ 88-89; B 83-87; B- 80-82
C+ 78-79; C 73-77; C- 70-72
D+ 68-69; D 63-67; D- 60-62

Suggested reading

Henry Horenstein, Black & White Photography
Barbara London, Jim Stone, and John Upton, Photography
The New Yorker

Equipment and supplies

35mm camera with manual controls, black & white negative film, external hard drive, [Adobe Creative Suite](#)

Photography labs, supply stores, and tutorials

B&H PhotoVideo <https://www.bhphotovideo.com/>
Freestyle Photographic Supplies <http://www.freestylephoto.biz>
LinkedIn Learning <https://www.csun.edu/it/linkedin-learning>
Richard Photo Lab <https://www.richardphotolab.com/>
RPL B&W Class Package: <https://buyfilm.richardphotolab.com/products/csun-b-w-class-package>
Samy's Camera <https://www.samys.com/>
The Darkroom <http://darkroomlab.com/>
Woodland Hills Camera <https://www.whcamera.com/>

Tentative course schedule

week one

Aug 25 T Introduction. Assignment One: edge...at home, due Tuesday, September 22.
Aug 27 R Discuss camera anatomy, focusing, loading film, setting the exposure, and taking the picture.

week two

Sep 1 T Discuss composition and making proof sheets.
Sep 3 R Discuss editing in Lightroom and Photoshop. Sign up for an individual meeting.

week three

Sep 8 T Individual meetings upon request.
Sep 10 R Individual meetings by appointment.

week four

Sep 15 T Individual meetings by appointment.
Sep 17 R Individual meetings by appointment.

week five

Sep 22 T Submit Assignment One. Assignment Two: blur, due Thursday, October 15.
Sep 24 R Discuss and practice blur techniques.

week six

Sep 29 T Individual meetings upon request
Oct 1 R Individual meetings upon request.

week seven

Oct 6 T Individual meetings by appointment.
Oct 8 R Individual meetings by appointment.

week eight

Oct 13 T Individual meetings by appointment.

Oct 15 R Submit Assignment Two. Assignment Three: less/more, due Tuesday, November 10.

week nine

Oct 20 T Discuss Zone System.

Oct 22 R Individual meetings upon request.

week ten

Oct 27 T Individual meetings upon request.

Oct 29 R Individual meetings by appointment.

week eleven

Nov 3 T Individual meetings by appointment.

Nov 5 R Individual meetings by appointment.

week twelve

Nov 10 T Submit Assignment Three. Assignment Four: with, due Thursday, December 3.

Nov 12 R Discuss Artists to consider for Assignment Four.

week thirteen

Nov 17 T Individual meetings upon request.

Nov 19 R Individual meetings by appointment.

week fourteen

Nov 24 T Individual meetings by appointment.

Nov 26 R Thanksgiving recess; no instruction.

week fifteen

Dec 1 T Individual meetings by appointment.

Dec 3 R Submit Assignment Four.