

Class Syllabus: Digital Photography

Instructor: Mr. Cordes

Room: 13

Course Description

This class is an introduction to working digitally with photographic images in the context of an art class. In Digital Photography students will learn to use their digital cameras to produce images which show technical and also conceptual skill. Course content will include projects, presentations, critiques and lectures based on both *classical* methods and *constructed* methods of image creation with the digital camera. Technical lectures and demonstrations will include: basic camera functions, importing files from digital media, image improvement and manipulation using Photoshop Elements and preparing final images for Email, Web, Print and/or Presentation.

Phones may not be used in class without teacher permission.

Learning Outcomes

Students will understand the makeup of a digital photograph, how to edit and manage color effectively, and how to use Photoshop Elements to improve and prepare their images for web or print. As with most art classes, students will continue to hone their skills technically, conceptually and verbally. Discussions, slide shows, critiques and research will broaden students' knowledge about the medium of photography.

Materials and Supplies

The materials for this class will include a **Digital Camera**, portable storage media for the camera (memory card) and optionally (but very useful) a USB media card reader.

Digital Camera

Students must provide their own digital camera for this class.

Course Requirements

Evaluation and Grading

Creativity: Each assignment will have certain parameters (some incredibly clear, and others more abstract). It will be the students' job to creatively interpret them in a way that is visually compelling.

Clarity of ideas: Art is about communication. The students' ability to communicate an idea or objective clearly and creatively is an essential aspect of each assignment.

Students will be asked to speak clearly about their artistic intent during critiques of their artwork.

Technical: Students will be expected to demonstrate the ability to create technically well executed photographs.

Participation: It is imperative in an art class to be engaged in the discussions, critiques, and in all class activities.

Timeliness: Each assignment will be given a specific due date. Anything not ready to display on the due date will be considered late. All late work will receive a five point per day reduction (this reduction will never drop a project lower than 64% if the project is completed as assigned with a score equal or greater than 64%).

Extra Credit and redo: No Extra credit is offered in this course, but any assignment may be redone with a new subject matter to replace an old grade.

A (Exceptional Work) Work is done and completed on time. Students have creatively interpreted and fulfilled all of the requirements both conceptually and technically, resulting in work that is exceptional and pushed to a degree that needs little or no refinement.

B (Above Average Work) Work is done and completed on time. Students have creatively interpreted the assignment, and fulfilled all of the requirements technically. The ideas expressed in the work are well done but could be pushed further or expressed more creatively.

C (Average) Work is done and completed on time. Students have interpreted the assignment correctly, but the ideas expressed and or some of the technical aspects of the work need (or needed) further development.

D (Below Average) Work is not done and/or has been handed in late; or the work is incomplete and underdeveloped; or the assignment parameters were not followed.

F (Unacceptable Work) Work is not done or has been handed in very late, or unfinished. Technical and conceptual aspects of the work are poor and unacceptable.

Grading Percentages: Projects 70%, In Class Work 15%, Final Directorial Mode assignment 15%

Final Exam for this class is the Final Directorial Mode assignment. This must be completed for a students to receive a grade and possible credit for the class.