

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
DEPARTMENT OF ART

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE

Art (ART) 235 Lecture 02
Introduction to Photography
Spring 2020
Lecture MW, 9:00-11:45am
Lab MW, 12:00-2:45pm, Online
(Synchronous delivery format)

Instructor: *Kristine Thoreson*
Office Location: *Off campus, Zoom*
Office Phone: *Off campus, Zoom*
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Web Page: *www.junction-north.ca*
Office Hours: *By appointment via Zoom; M/W 12:00-2:00*

Course Description

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

Notes: Students must provide their own digital single lens reflex camera for the duration of the term. Please consult with the department for more information.

Students are required to have a digital SLR or Mirrorless camera with, full manual, and RAW file format capabilities.

Lenses with wide angle (18 mm to 55 mm) and telephoto (55 mm to 250 mm) capabilities (or equivalent) are recommended but not mandatory.

Prerequisites &/or Co-requisites

N.A.

Objectives of the Course

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 be introduced to post-processing, using a combination of software such as Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Bridge and gain some understanding of the expressive potential of the photographic medium.

Textbooks and Readings

Langford's basic photography : the guide for serious photographers (2015)
(available online through University of Calgary Library)
Your camera user manual.

Assignments and Evaluation

Evaluation Criteria

All photographic work will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Originality and Improvement:

Is the idea or approach to the image interesting, unique?

Does the student have an interesting personal point of view for each image?

Has the student chosen an interesting time of day to suit the idea?

Have we seen this image or approach to the topic before in class or elsewhere?

Did the student put effort into making a great image that explores a topic conceptually?

Did he/she advance their creative and technical skills from their previous level of ability?

0/3 = little effort apparent, little if any concept or idea behind the images

1/3 = typical, difficulty in finding a great approach for the image, no real point or idea communicated, no effort towards improvement apparent

2/3 = good effort apparent, some distracting or unresolved elements apparent, good concept beginning to appear, more work towards improvement needed

3/3 = great effort, very interesting perspective, exciting to look at and refreshing to see, strong concept or idea apparent, clear improvement or effort to improve demonstrated

Exposure:

Is the image exposed well and / or photographed using a suitable level of available light (with proper white balance)?

0/3= mostly black, or mostly white

1/3= very underexposed or overexposed, unsuitable conditions chosen

2/3= a little underexposed or overexposed, better conditions needed

3/3= just right, good details in blacks, whites and mid-tones, colours are clear and not murky

Composition / Design / Presentation:

Has the student made use of compositional techniques, have they explored their chosen scene for interesting angles and opportunities and employed any principles or elements of design?

Have they constructed or presented their work with good craftsmanship and attention to neatness and detail as noted in class demonstrations?

0/3= little apparent effort, snap-shot like, careless and sloppy or unsuitable presentation

1/3= not composed well, a good idea but difficulty executing it, crooked or poorly executed presentation

2/3= a good composition but some aspect of it is distracting or unappealing in some way, errors or improvement needed on presentation

3/3= great composition using rule of thirds or some other visually pleasing arrangement, clean, straight, aesthetically suitable and well executed presentation

Sharpness:

Has the student understood how to focus an image and use depth of field correctly?

Does the chosen area of focus help or hinder the success of the image technically and conceptually?

Is the chosen area of focus easily identified, or do we have to strain to decipher what is in or out of focus in the scene?

0/3= Out of focus, or razor thin focus at the critical point of focus that makes it difficult to determine where the focus is, and or out of focus all over the image.

1/3= Slightly soft focus at the critical point of focus.

2/3= In good sharp focus at critical point of focus but slightly shallow or deep depth so that the idea is negatively impacted.

3/3= In good sharp focus at the critical point of focus and having a deep enough depth of field around the main object of the photo and for the idea presented.

Learning Tasks

Learning Task 1: Written / Visual or Short Answer Responses (11 responses, 2.5% each)
(non-graded assignment: -2.5 points for each missed or inadequate response)
27.5%. Learning Task details will be provided by the instructor.

Learning Task 2: Photographic Assignments – (4 photographic assignments, 12% each)
48%. Learning Task details will be provided by the instructor.

Mid-term Test (short answer, multiple choice and / or image analysis)
24.5%; open book

Writing

University level written work in English is a required component of the evaluation of student work.

No passing grade on any particular component of this course is essential for the student to pass the course as a whole. If students miss a required component of the course, they should contact the instructor immediately in order to keep up with the class.

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. Please hand in your assignments directly in D2L in the proper folder.

Late Assignment Policy:

Late assignment are accepted up to a week after due date but will be marked down, i.e., A- becomes B+ (A- to B+ refers to any late submission between 1 day to 7 days after the due date. After one week from the initial due date, late assignments will receive a grade of F).

Additional Information

It is recommended that students purchase a membership to use Adobe Photoshop, Lightroom and Bridge on their home computers (not tablets or phones).

Course Activities

It is a course requirement for students to have a Digital SLR camera or advanced digital camera with full manual capabilities.

Class 1 Wednesday, May 6:

To Do:

Read / Watch my lecture plus 3 of the resources posted to D2L in Class 1 (your choice).

Respond to the "Question of the Day" in the Discussion Board by Sunday at 11 pm.

Please use either MLA, APA or Chicago (your choice) to cite any and all paraphrases or quotes that you use. See Discussion Board and rubric for details.

Lecture: Introduction to the class syllabus and course requirements. Introduction to Art Photography and an introduction the camera and core camera controls – Automatic vs. 'Program' or 'Auto' modes as well as Aperture, Shutter Speed, ISO orientation.

Lab: Independent exploration of your camera, finding your camera manual.

Class 2 Monday, May 11:

Read / Watch my lecture plus 3 of the resources posted to D2L in Class 2 (your choice).

Respond to the "Question of the Day" in the Discussion Board by Sunday at 11 pm.
Please use either MLA, APA or Chicago (your choice) to cite any and all paraphrases or quotes that you use. See Discussion Board and rubric for details.

Lecture: Why use Program mode, why use Manual mode? Camera controls and their creative effects and practical uses. Art photography examples to consider.

Lab: Putting theory into practice, independent outdoor practice. Understanding your camera controls.

Class 3 Wednesday, May 13:

Read / Watch my lecture plus 3 of the resources posted to D2L in Class 3 (your choice).
Respond to the "Question of the Day" in the Discussion Board by Sunday at 11 pm.
Please use either MLA, APA or Chicago (your choice) to cite any and all paraphrases or quotes that you use. See Discussion Board and rubric for details.

Lecture: DSLR and Light – what's an internal light meter and what is a white balance for? Camera formats, camera lenses, the concept of image resolution, and digital imaging technology. Freezing and Blurring an image using shutter speeds.

Lab: First photo assignment: Creating a 'Sense of Place' through stillness or motion. See rubric for details.

Due date: Class 13 Wednesday, June 17. Digital images submitted via D2L Dropbox Assignment 1.

Class 4 Monday, May 18th: Victoria Day holiday. No classes scheduled. No Discussion Board Post.

Class 5 Wednesday, May 20:

Read / Watch my lecture plus 3 of the resources posted to D2L in Class 5 (your choice).
Respond to the "Question of the Day" in the Discussion Board by Sunday at 11 pm.
Please use either MLA, APA or Chicago (your choice) to cite any and all paraphrases or quotes that you use. See Discussion Board and rubric for details.

Lecture: An introduction to workflow and non-destructive editing using Adobe Photoshop.

Lab: Independent practice, non-destructive editing. Continued shooting for Photo Assignment 1.

Class 6 Monday, May 25:

Read / Watch my lecture plus 3 of the resources posted to D2L in Class 6 (your choice).
Respond to the "Question of the Day" in the Discussion Board by Sunday at 11 pm.
Please use either MLA, APA or Chicago (your choice) to cite any and all paraphrases or quotes that you use. See Discussion Board and rubric for details.

Lecture: Composition in photography. Using and breaking the Rule of Third and the Principles and Elements of Design.

Lab: Independent practice using the rule of thirds and principles / elements of design.

Second photo assignment: Composition and design in photography – it's 'Jungle out There'. See rubric for details.

Due date: Class 13 Wednesday, June 17. Digital images submitted via D2L Dropbox Assignment 2.
Ongoing independent work on photo assignment 1 and 2.

Class 7 Wednesday, May 27:

Read / Watch my lecture plus 3 of the resources posted to D2L in Class 7 (your choice).
Respond to the "Question of the Day" in the Discussion Board by Sunday at 11 pm.
Please use either MLA, APA or Chicago (your choice) to cite any and all paraphrases or quotes that you use. See Discussion Board and rubric for details.

Lecture: Daylight, low light photography and movement. Understanding how to shoot well technically and creatively in all kinds of light.

Lab: Putting theory into practice, independent outdoor / indoor practice. Understanding light.

Class 8 Monday, June 01:

Read / Watch my lecture plus 3 of the resources posted to D2L in Class 8 (your choice).

Respond to the "Question of the Day" in the Discussion Board by Sunday at 11 pm.

Please use either MLA, APA or Chicago (your choice) to cite any and all paraphrases or quotes that you use. See Discussion Board and rubric for details.

Lecture: Critical thinking and photography. Using your visual literacy to create thought-provoking images. Representation as re-presentation. Roland Barthes.

Lab: Third photo assignment: Shoot with purpose to achieve a creative outcome for your 'Alter Ego' using Roland Barthes "Photographic Connotations" of either Pose or Object. See rubric for details.

Due date: On or before Class 13 Wednesday, June 17. Digital images submitted via D2L Dropbox Assignment 3.

Ongoing independent work on photo assignments 1 through 3.

Class 9 Wednesday, June 03:

Read / Watch my lecture plus 3 of the resources posted to D2L in Class 9 (your choice).

Respond to the "Question of the Day" in the Discussion Board by Sunday at 11 pm.

Please use either MLA, APA or Chicago (your choice) to cite any and all paraphrases or quotes that you use. See Discussion Board and rubric for details.

Lecture: Artist feature, historic and contemporary photography in context.

Lab: Fourth photo assignment: Open choice assignment. See rubric for details.

Due date: On or before Class 13 Wednesday, June 17. Digital images submitted via D2L Dropbox Assignment 4.

Ongoing independent work on photo assignments 1 through 4.

Class 10 Monday, June 08: No Discussion Board post today.

Lecture: Multiple-choice open-book test on photography content to date. Test -submitted via D2L Dropbox 'Art 235 Test'.

Lab: Ongoing independent work on photo assignments 1 through 4.

Class 11 Wednesday, June 10:

Read / Watch my lecture plus 3 of the resources posted to D2L in Class 11 (your choice).

Respond to the "Question of the Day" in the Discussion Board by Sunday at 11 pm.

Please use either MLA, APA or Chicago (your choice) to cite any and all paraphrases or quotes that you use. See Discussion Board and rubric for details.

Lecture: Environmental Art: making a difference in the world through photography.

Lab: Ongoing independent work on photo assignments 1 through 4.

Class 12 Monday, June 15:

Read / Watch my lecture plus 3 of the resources posted to D2L in Class 12 (your choice).

Respond to the "Question of the Day" in the Discussion Board by Sunday at 11 pm.

Please use either MLA, APA or Chicago (your choice) to cite any and all paraphrases or quotes that you use. See Discussion Board and rubric for details.

Lecture: Artist feature, historic and contemporary photography in context.

Lab: Ongoing independent work on photo assignments 1 through 4.

Class 13 Wednesday, June 17:

Read / Watch my lecture plus 3 of the resources posted to D2L in Class 1 (your choice).

Respond to the "Question of the Day" in the Discussion Board by Sunday at 11 pm.

Please use either MLA, APA or Chicago (your choice) to cite any and all paraphrases or quotes that you use. See Discussion Board and rubric for details.

No Lecture / Lab – photo assignments 1 through 4 due to the D2L dropboxes.

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
70-74	B-	2.7	
65-69	C+	2.3	
60-64	C	2.0	Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject
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

N.A.

Models

In accordance with public health regulations in Alberta due to Covid-19, social distancing regulations must be followed while completing assignments in this course.

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.

Studio Procedures

N.A.

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.

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 <https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points>

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>

Instructor Intellectual Property and Copyright Legislation

Course materials created by the instructor (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the same course section and term may be allowed under fair dealing. Check with the instructor if you have any questions about sharing materials with classmates.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.).

Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Lockers

N.A.

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.