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UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ART AND ART HISTORY
ART 235 Lecture 01
Introduction to Photography and Digital Imaging
Winter 2023

Course Delivery Format:

In Person

***PLEASE NOTE: While masks are currently not required at UCalgary, they are strongly encouraged for all on-campus spaces*

Instructor:

Dona Schwartz

Office:

AB 728

Email:

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Office Hours:

Available by appointment via Zoom

Day(s), time(s) and location of class:

Lecture M, W 2:00PM – 3:15PM

AB 659

Lab M, W 3:15PM - 4:30PM

AB 659

Course description

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

Prerequisites and/or co-requisites

None

Course Objectives

Students enrolled in ART 235 will develop both technical and conceptual knowledge. At the conclusion of the term successful students will:

- Enhance their skills using digital SLR cameras
- Know how to establish a functional digital workflow in a color managed environment
- Develop basic photo editing skills in Photoshop
- Understand key principles of aesthetics in fine art photography
- Work towards the development of a personal photographic vision as an artist
- Articulate ideas about and responses to fine art photographs, both verbally and in writing
- Write a cogent artist statement that effectively communicates the merits of the work described.

Required Textbooks

Barbara London and Jim Stone, *A Short Course in Photography: Digital*, Fourth Edition.

Course Schedule

See D2L for detailed week-by-week course schedule.

Assignments & Evaluation

All photographic work will be evaluated according to the criteria listed below.

SHOOTING

- Technical proficiency (demonstrates control of exposure, lighting, focus, color, etc.)
- Aesthetic awareness (demonstrates attention to framing, composition, stylistic approach)
- Ambitiousness (challenge presented by chosen subject matter and approach)
- Completeness/consistency (the chosen approach is consistent throughout the assignment)
- Conceptual clarity (the photographs suit their intended purpose)

POST-PRODUCTION AND PRESENTATION

- Adheres to instructions regarding image file specifications (resolution, image dimensions, file size, etc.)
- Awareness of and choice of appropriate image editing tools to successfully achieve intended results
- Demonstrates use of a functional digital workflow, including organizing and archiving files
- Demonstrates technical proficiency in the use of appropriate image editing applications
- Utilizes digital imaging tools to present completed work in a professional manner, whether on screen or in print.

Photographs must be submitted as specified in course assignments, including file dimensions, size and correct orientation. Photographic work submitted will be discussed in class critiques. Students are expected to be able to articulate their ideas and intentions in these class discussions. Students are also expected to actively participate in discussions and critiques through constructive input and interaction.

Including those listed above, final projects will also be evaluated according to these additional criteria:

- Appropriateness of editing and sequencing choices for intended meanings
- Visual impact
- Conceptual rigor
- Professionalism demonstrated in preparation and presentation of work

| ASSIGNMENT | DUE DATE | WEIGHT |
|------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. Principles of composition | January 18 | 10 pts. |
| 2. Using the Lens | January 25 | 10 pts. |
| 3. Using Light | February 1 | 10 pts. |
| 4. Perspective | February 8 | 10 pts. |
| 5. Using the Frame | February 15 | 10 pts. |
| 6. Working the Subject | March 1 | 10 pts. |
| 7. Final Project Proposal | March 13 | 10 pts. |
| TEST | March 20 | 10 pts. |
| 8. Final Project | April 5 | 20 pts. |
| TOTAL POSSIBLE | | 100 PTS. |

Final Project Proposal length: Minimum one page, single-spaced (500 words). Details will be discussed in class.

Assignments will be submitted digitally on the IAML server, unless otherwise specified. Details for each assignment will be discussed in class.

Course Writing

Written work will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Depth
- Clarity
- Coherent logic and rationale
- Written mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation)

Assessment expectations

Guidelines for Submitting Assignments: Assignments will be submitted digitally on the IAML server, unless otherwise specified. Some assignments will be submitted as inkjet prints. Details for each assignment will be discussed in class.

Missed or Late Assignments: All work must be complete and ready for discussion on due dates. Assignments will be graded down by a letter grade each day it is late. Absence from critique will be marked as unsatisfactory performance for that class meeting.

Expectations for Writing:

Writing skills are important to academic study across all disciplines. Consequently, instructors may use their assessment of writing quality as a factor in the evaluation of student work. Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.2 Writing Across the Curriculum policy for details.

Additional Costs and Information

Students must have regular access to an interchangeable lens digital SLR or mirrorless camera capable of producing RAW files for the entire semester. Access to a flash unit is also highly recommended. You will need to back up your work in a location other than the lab—one full back up is required, two are recommended. Purchasing an external backup device or storing work on a cloud-based server (or both) are appropriate strategies for saving and archiving your work.

Portfolios and Assignments

The Dept of Art and Art History will not assume responsibility for lost or stolen portfolios or course work given to instructors for grading.

Other Important Dates

For more information on term dates, add/drop/swap/withdraw dates from course deadlines and refund/payment deadlines, please see: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>

Grading Method and Grading Scale

Undergraduate: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html>

- A grade of "C-" or below may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation, see specific faculty regulations.
- The number of "D" and "D+" grades acceptable for credit is subject to specific undergraduate faculty promotional policy.

| 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. |

Learning Technologies and Requirements

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (d2L.ucalgary.ca).

To successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote, and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates
- A current and updated web browser
- Webcam (built-in or external)
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external) or headset with microphone
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled
- Broadband internet connection

Academic Standing

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

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf>). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Professor.

SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/

Academic integrity, plagiarism

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For more information go to

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

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

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

Internet and electronic communication devices

The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time.

Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at <https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Electronic-Resources-and-Information-Policy.pdf>

Deferral of Term work and exams

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>
https://www.ucalgary.ca/live-uc-ucalgary-site/sites/default/files/teams/14/deferred_termwork-feb-2020_revised.pdf

Intellectual Property & Copyright

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.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 presentations, textbooks, posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams).

Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

For more information go to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-centre/privacy-policy>

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>

Student Support:

Please visit this link for important information on:

- Wellness and Mental health resources
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Student Success and more....

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

Studio Procedures

Please view current updates from RISK and the Covidsafe page links to information on rapid testing, masking rules, vaccination regulations and documentation as well as a FAQs page, which must all be followed while in Studios.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/covid-19-response>

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/covid-19-response/covidsafe-campus>

Arts Students' Centre Program Advising

Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Call us at 403-220-3580 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.