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ARTZ 284A.02: Photography I

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UMT School of Art

Photography I
(ARTZ 284a)

Fine Arts 414

Mon/Tues, 10:10am-12:00pm

Instructor: Matt Hamon

Office: Fine Arts 412

Office Hours: M/TH. 1:00pm – 2:00pm

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Course Description and Objectives:

This 3 credit course offers an introduction to basic photography techniques and aesthetic issues. Scheduled demonstrations are integral to the course, and are supplemented by impromptu demonstrations based on student need. Students should expect to gain an awareness of the expressive and creative possibilities of photography as well as developing a personal vocabulary utilizing the photographic medium.

We will begin the course with tasks designed to give you a better understanding of how to manipulate your camera and the processes in the darkroom. Gradually, we will progress into the more complex aspects of technique and visual design.

Coursework:

To be successful in this class, each student must:

- Attend and participate in all scheduled classes
- Actively participate in critiques
- Complete all assignments on time
- Keep notes on technical information
- Help maintain a safe, clean, and organized photography lab

Attendance:

Attendance at all classes is mandatory. After three unexcused absences your grade will be dropped one letter grade per absence up to six absences, when a failing grade is issued automatically. Come to class ready to work; students are not to leave class to purchase supplies. Demonstrations missed will not be repeated; the absent student must obtain notes from another student.

If you have to miss class, it is your responsibility to pursue the information you have missed. Please exchange contact information with two other students in the class during the first class meeting. If you need clarification on scheduled class meetings or assignments, contact these two students before contacting me!

Open lab days are critical work times during which you can greatly improve the quality of your work with the assistance of the instructor and feedback from your peers. Open lab days will be announced well in advance of class meetings. You must be prepared to be working IN CLASS during open lab times!

Safety:

The darkroom contains hazardous materials. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) must be read prior to using hazardous materials. All safe-handling procedures for both materials and equipment must be strictly followed.

Grading:

The primary factor used to determine your grade in this class is PARTICIPATION. I will not assign letter grades to your projects during the quarter. You will simply be given credit for turning the required number of images in on time. However, I will give you frequent critical feedback on the work you are doing. Essentially, grading from day to day is based on a credit/no credit system. At the end of the semester, the total number of credits will be divided into your number of earned credits and the resulting percentage will determine your grade based on a standard breakdown. The way to earn an "A" in this class is to arrive at class on time with an open mind, participate in the dialogue, complete assignments on time, and make contributions to the learning community.

Specific credit-worthy (one credit or point) items are as follows (see next page):

Specific credit-worthy (one credit or point) items are as follows:

- attending general class meetings (one (1) participation credit)
- attending open lab days (one (1) participation credit)
- working on your personal projects during open lab days (one (1) participation credit)
- attending critique days (one (1) participation credit)
- presenting a completed project on critique days (one (1) participation credit)
- making a contribution to dialogue in response to the work of your peers on critique days. (one (1) participation credit)

Students with Access/Special Needs

It is not at all uncommon for students to have unique classroom needs. I am happy to do as much as I can to help all of you meet the standards of this curriculum. Students with disabilities or special needs should meet with the instructor as soon as possible.

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/SA/VP/SA/Index.cfm/page/1321.

SUPPLIES, You will need the following:

- 35mm Camera that can be used in a fully manual mode. That is... you can manually set both aperture and shutter speed settings.
- About 8 rolls of 35mm Kodak Tri-X or T-MAX 400 film—36 exposures (Do not buy Kodak, Black

& White-CN film from the drug store!), Other film brands are fine, just be sure to know the ASA (film speed) you are shooting. Other good options are Arista and Ilford.

• Again, be sure the film is not designated: "Black & White CN," which stands for color negative. You will frequently see this film at the grocery store or drugstore. Don't be fooled!

• A box of 100 sheets of paper, 8" x10" multi-graded, resin-coated (RC), Ilford Multicontrast (Glossy or Pearl), or Kodak Polycontrast, or Arista DO NOT OPEN UNTIL YOU GET INTO THE DARKROOM!

This list is an approximation and may be subject to change due to the supplier(s) you choose, student discounts, sales/inflation rates and/or slight changes in the syllabus.

Film 35mm Kodak Tri-X 400 film—36 exposures (8) 3.75 ea. at Freestyle Ph.
30.00

Paper Box of 100 sheets of paper, 8" x10" multi-graded, resin-coated (RC) at Freestyle Ph.
41.25

Developing tank and reels, etc.
25.00

Print File brand plastic sleeves for 35mm negatives (8) .20 ea. at U.C. Bookstore
1.60

Print File brand plastic sleeves for 8" x 10" storage (8) .29 ea. at U.C. Bookstore
2.32

3-ring binder, 2" at U.C. Bookstore at U.C. Bookstore
6.00

TOTAL (about):

\$110

Suppliers:

University Center (U.C.) Bookstore 243-4921

The Darkroom 549-1070

Yellowstone Photo 728-7637

Neals Photo 800-859-3855 (sweet old fella who will deliver to you on campus)

Internet: Freestyle Photo, Calumet Photo, or B & H Photo

There is no required text for this course. If you know you are a text based learner, grab a copy of *Photography* by Lundon and Upton, or a new release and better text is *Langford's basic Photography*.

Please be cognizant of the fact that you may have to purchase more materials than those listed if you are unhappy with your results and/or there are problems with processing and developing.

If there are any concerns regarding the cost of these supplies please see me individually.