Digital Photography Proficient

Course Description

In this course we will explore digital photography in relation to fine art. Students will be given assigned lectures and writings, semester project, will be asked to produce art work and will be asked to participate in class discussion to better understand the physical, conceptual and theoretical characteristics of the electronic media as it pertains to art and art making. Emphasis will be placed on the students' development of an understanding of the evolution of and the theory associated with art, photography and electronic imaging as well as art history in a way which will help them to produce expressive and thoughtful works of art.

Students will be introduced to the basic technology necessary for the production of their art work, as well as learning about the visual arts, how to look at and critique photography, photographic vocabulary, using tools such as framing, composition, "rule of thirds", light, texture, pattern, lines, symmetry, depth of field, distance, perspective, culture, space, balance, color and black and white photography, and be introduced to many works by well known photographers. Students will be expected to demonstrate an ability to use the tools competently in the production of their art work, however, the production and analysis of expressive and thoughtful art work is the main objective of this course.

Text:

This course is not text dependent and does not require specific software.

Equipment:

Any digital camera

Learning Outcomes

Upon Completion of this course, students will:

- Understand technical and aesthetic differences between traditional and digital photography.
- Make informed choices about composition when photographing and editing digital images.
- Develop knowledge in design concepts for Digital Media.
- Develop an understanding and knowledge in Digital Media.
- Make informed choices about appropriate technologies for use in a variety of photographic assignments
- Analyze and discuss complex ideas in works of art.

- Create original works of art of increasing complexity and skill that reflect their feelings and point of view.
- Describe the relationship involving the art maker, the process, the product and the viewer.
- Demonstrate proper camera and digital processing techniques in production of a work of art

Description of Course Methodology
This course is designed to develop technical digital photography skills through practice. Because of this, students should be prepared to be engaged in a 4-16 week photo safari which will begin to develop the eye of a photographer. Each unit, students will be guided through a different theme / style of photography.

Course Outline

Unit	Topics	Activities
1	Introduction to Visual Arts	Learning Outcomes Lecture: What is Visual Art? Presentation: Visual Arts Lecture: Introduction to the Arts and Art Interpretation Lecture: How to Look at Photography • Vocabulary Assignment • Photography Spotlight Assignment: Arnold Genther • Photography Spotlight Assignment: Frank Lloyd Wright Lecture: Why Go Digital? Lecture: Framing • Assignment: Framing Lecture: Elements of Composition Lecture: Rule of Thirds • Assignment: Composition Discussion • Topic 1: Learning Modalities Assessment • Topic 2: What is your interest in photography? Project: Photographic Essay (pt.1)

2	A Study in Light	Learning Outcomes Lecture: Don't Judge a Photographer by His Camera, but by His Photos Lecture: Why is Light Important? Lecture: Lighting Solutions • Photographer Spotlight Assignment: Edward Weston • Creative Lighting Assignment • Candlelight Assignment • Silhouette Assignment Discussion: • Topic 1: Process • Topic 2: Edward Weston Project: Photographic Essay (pt.2)
3	Texture and Pattern	Learning Outcomes Lecture: Using Texture and Pattern in a Photograph • Assignment: Pattern and Texture Lecture: Texture and Pattern • Assignment: Macro Photography Assignment Lecture: The Golden Ratio • Assignment: The Golden Ratio • Photographer Spotlight Assignment: Ansel Adams Discussion: • Topic 1: Golden Ratio vs. Rule of Thirds • Topic 2: Ansel Adams Project: Photographic Essay (pt.3)
4	Lines and Symmetry	Learning Outcomes Lecture: Vertical vs. Horizontal Lecture: The Importance of the Horizon Lecture: Lines

		• Assignment: 5 Angles Lecture: Symmetry • Assignment: Symmetry • Photographer Spotlight Assignment: Robert Frank Discussion: • Topic 1: Check-in • Topic 2: The Americans by Robert Frank and Jack Kerouac: History and Photography Midterm Assignment: History of Photography Exploratory Project and Presentation
5	Depth of Field and Distance	Learning Outcomes Lecture: Background, Middle ground and Foreground Lecture: Depth of Field • Assignment: Depth of Field Lecture: Portraits • Assignment: Portrait • Photographer Spotlight Assignment: Henri Cartier-Bresson Discussion: • Topic 1: Culture and Portraits • Topic 2: Decisive Moment Photography Project: Photographic Essay (pt.4)
6	Perspective and Culture	Learning Outcomes Lecture: Perspective • Assignment: Perspective Presentation: One World, One Tribe by Reza • Assignment: One World, One Tribe • Assignment: Taking Pictures of Social Issues to

		Evoke Change • Assignment: Story Telling Through Photography • Photographer Spotlight: Alfred Stiglitz Discussion: • Topic 1: Art Form vs. Function • Topic 2: Perception, Art, and Culture Project: Photographic Essay (pt.5)
7	Space and Balance	Learning Outcomes Lecture: Visual Balance • Assignment: Still Life Lecture: Negative Space • Assignment: Negative Space • Photographer Spotlight: Anne Leibovitz Discussion: • Topic 1: Enhancements • Topic 2: Aesthetics? Project: Photographic Essay (pt.6)
8	Color vs. Black and White	Learning Outcomes Lecture: Color Fundamentals • Assignment: Color Harmony Lecture: Black and White Photography • Assignment: Black and White Landscape • Assignment: Advertising • Photographer Spotlight Assignment: Dorothea Lange Discussion:

		• Topic 1: Closure
		Final Project Submission, Critique

Grade Scale

Letter Grade	Percentage Earned
A	90% - 100%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
D	60% - 69%
F	59% and lower

Student Expectations

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner that reflects sound ethics, honor, and good citizenship. It is the student's responsibility to maintain academic honesty and integrity and to manifest their commitment to the goals of NUVHS through their conduct and behavior. Students are expected to abide by all NUVHS policies and regulations. Any form of academic dishonesty, or inappropriate conduct by students or applicants may result in penalties ranging from warning to dismissal, as deemed appropriate by NUVHS.

Communication:

Throughout this course students will need to be in close contact with their instructor and fellow students. Students are expected to communicate via email and electronic discussion boards. Therefore, students should plan on checking email at least three times a week and participate in the discussion boards during the weeks they are live.

Instructors strongly encourage and welcome open communication. Clear, consistent, and proactive communication will ensure a successful experience in this course. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor immediately if and when a personal situation occurs that affects his/her performance in this class. Being proactive with communication will result in a quick solution to any problems that may occur.

Technical Support is offered through Spectrum Pacific Learning Company (SPLC). Should a student need any technical assistance, he/she are to email the Help Desk as soon as possible at helpdesk@spectrumpacific.com or call 1-877-252-7715. SPLC will help resolve technical problems and walk through the solution with students. If a problem persists for more than 48 hours, the student must also notify his/her teachers and NUVHS.