Suffolk County Community College/Eastern Campus

Course Outline

Instructor: Professor Michael Macioce
Division: Humanities  Department: Photographic Imaging
Catalog #: VA91  Course Title: Introduction to Photography
Semester: Fall 2006  Section: #7012

VA91 Introduction to Photography: Introduction to art and techniques of the camera and darkroom. Students learn basic black and white available light photography, including film exposure and development, variable contrast printing, enlarging and dry mounting. Students must provide their own fully adjustable 35mm camera (with manual f-stops and shutter speeds), film, paper and some other supplies. (2 hrs lecture per week, 2 hrs studio per week.)

Traditional 2D composition, exposure, lighting, motion, portrait, still life, and the photo essay will also be studied in this class.

I. Course Objectives
Content Related Objectives: By the completion of this course, each student will be able to
A. Use and control a manual 35mm camera including ISO, shutter speed and f-stop.
B. Discover, recognize and create in the studio and exteriors the 6 simple compositions.
C. Observe and analyze natural light for its intensity and direction.
D. Determine and select the correct type of film for the situation and successfully use it.
E. Precisely mix, measure, use and safely dispose or recycle photo chemicals.
F. Successfully load film in developing tanks, and develop it.
G. Recognize optimum levels of light according to the time and season.
H. Carefully and successfully use darkroom enlargers, timers and filters.
I. Correctly produce a proof/contact sheet, test sheet and print.
J. Safely use darkroom wet sink chemistry in developing prints.
K. Utilize successful burning and dodging techniques.
L. Comprehend and use exposure compensation techniques.
M. Invent compositions that reflect their personal interpretations of themes.
N. Create a portfolio of original photos displaying the principles of the 6 assigned topics.
O. Distinguish and demonstrate lens categories.
P. Correctly dry mount photographs.

Maturational Objectives
By the completion of the course the instructor hopes that the students will have:
A. Organized their own photo taking and making procedures.
B. Become fastidious, careful and safe in the use, disposal & recycling of chemicals.
C. A deepened appreciation of the photographic image.
D. Assimilated and integrated Photography as Art into their personal vision.
E. Developed self-designed photo projects to pursue independently.
F. Shared the joy of photography with others.

II. Instructional Procedures
A. Lectures, photography books, demonstrations and examples in class, studio and darkroom.
B. Discussion, analyses and critiques of master photographs and student works.
C. Assigned home reading.
D. Class studio and darkroom work with individual instruction.
E. Home shooting. Class shooting.
F. Weekly class schedule and college academic calendar are attached.
III. Student Requirements
   A. Students are responsible for their own artistic and academic development and will work industriously to fully realize their potential.
   B. Students must attend and participate in all classes. One absence tolerated after which further absences will lower students’ grade one grade lower per subsequent absence. Three or more absences will be considered cause for withdrawal/failure and or removal from class. Chronic lateness will constitute a letter-grade penalty.
   C. Students will complete and submit all assignments and exams and take class notes.
   D. See attached sheet for SCCC attendance policy, absences, withdrawal etc.
   E. During class and darkroom time, students will turn all cell phones and pagers to off or inaudible signal.
   F. Students will be asked to contribute (instructor’s choice.) at least one of their photographs to the school photographic archives for future instruction/ display.

IV. Grading Practices
   A. Each student’s photos will be assessed by their relation to the following:
      1. The instructor’s standard of experienced, artistic and technical excellence.
      2. The student’s effort and potential.
   B. Participation, attitude, punctuality, attendance and completion of exams and projects. (20 minutes late or leaving early is one cut. More than 20 minutes late is one cut.) It is the student’s responsibility to keep account of his/her lateness’ and absences as well as informing the instructor of them.
      Missing the midterm or final exam will result in taking another exam during the next class meeting with an assigned ten-point penalty.
   C. The student’s final grade will be determined by all of the above and the following:
      1. Ten photograph portfolio – 40% of grade
         a. Artistic achievement
         b. Technical proficiency
      2. Completion of all assignments – 20%
      3. Midterm exam – 20%
      4. A one-page critique of a photo exhibit – 10%
      5. Punctuality – 10%
   D. Textbook Required –
      A Short Course in Photography by London and Stone, 5th Addition, Prentiss Hall
      Available in the school bookstore.

You will need to have a copy of your camera’s instruction manual. A source to get one is
KEH Camera Brokers @ 404-892-5522
A good and fast way to get photo supplies is: B&H Photo: 800-947-9954.