Suffolk County Community College  
Eastern Campus  

Course Outline  

Instructor: Prof. Richard Mizdal, Orient 222 hours TBA, 548-3538 message, mizdalr@sunysuffolk.edu  

Division: Humanities  
Department: Photographic Imaging  

Catalog # VA91  
Course Title: Introduction to Photography  

Semester: Spring 2008  
Sections: M>1 to 4:35pm (Section#3537), F> 8 to 11:35am (Section#3538)  

SCCC Catalog Course description: 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, Motion, Portrait, Landscape, Architecture and Exposure Compensation 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, 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 their 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, slides, 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 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.
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.
   (20min. late or leaving early is 1 cut, more than 20 min. late is 1 cut.) It is  
the student's responsibility to keep account of his/her lates and absences as well  
as informing the instructor of them.
   The missing of taking the mid term or final exam will result in the taking of another  
exam on the next class meeting time with an assigned - 10pt. penalty.
C. The student's final grade will be determined by all of the above and as follows:
   1. 60% = 6 assigned projects: 1st Project, Portrait (2), Landscape (2), Architecture(2),  
      Motion(2), White on White(1), Black on Black(1).
   2. 20% = mid term written exam.
   3. 20% = final written exam.
   4. See attached sheet for SCCC Grading System
V. Textbook:


recommended: Popular Photography and Shutterbug magazines

VI. Materials; Required

1. Class notebook.
4. Film developing tank (plastic)
5. Lintfree wipes, scissors, film opener, plastic negative sheets, towel.
6. Kodak RC VC glossy photopaper, 8’x 10”, Ilford is OK
7. Portfolio with clear plastic pages for 8” x 10” photos( closed on all sides with handles )

Failure to present such a portfolio will result in a - 5 pt. penalty of the final grade.

You will need to have a copy of your camera’s instruction manual. A source to get one is KEH Camera Brokers at 1-404-892-5522

A good and fast way to get photo supplies is : B&H, 1-800-947-9954.

VII. Bibliography:

B. Bradman, Henrietta, *The Perfect Portfolio*, Amphoto, NY, 84
C. Evans, Art, *Careers in Photography*, Photo Data Research, Redondo, CA, 92
I. Picker, Fred, *Zone VI Workshop*, Amphoto, NY, 74
L. Szarkowski, John, *Looking at Photographs*, MOMA, NY, 73
N. Vaisey, Marina, *The Artist as Photographer*, Holt Reinhart, NY, 82
**VA91 Intro.to Photography Class Topics**

Topics and order may be altered. Assignments, goals and procedures for next meeting class will always appear on the blackboard.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class #</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Intro., Requirements, Materials, Slides, Photo origins. Camera and its use.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Mid term exam. Exposure Compensation + and -. Studio and Darkroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Final darkroom. Portfolio submission. Portfolio and exam pick up place and time announced.</td>
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