

J371K.2/J395-Studio Photography Spring 2014

Tues. 600 to 900p CMB B4.132 (lecture)

Instructor: Mathew Sturtevant

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This class is intended to teach the fundamentals of portrait photography and the use of controlled studio lighting. The course consists of class discussions, studio shooting, location shooting, critiques, guest lectures, and photographic lab and production work.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Understand natural and artificial lighting to enhance and create compelling photographs and discover tools to enable you to produce a polished portfolio of your work.

STUDIO USE:

Each student will have the opportunity to reserve the studio in two-hour blocks to practice the techniques demonstrated in each week's lecture. All lighting and photographic equipment will be provided by the university.

RESOURCES:

We will use Blackboard for this course. The site will include instructions for in-class and studio exercises and class projects as well as other relevant information that applies to class. Additional information may also be distributed in class.

REQUIRED SUPPLIES:

Students will need to provide their own photo paper for printing.

Required Text: No required text for this class.

Grading:

You will be graded on the completion of a series of single image portraits, a series of 6 portraits made on a single theme and a final portfolio presentation.

Assignment Images: 20 %

Single Theme Images: 40%

Final Portfolio: 20%

Grade Breakdown: 90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; 0-59 = F

Re-Dos:

Re-dos will be encouraged; however, you must have turned in a completed project on time in order to have the option of re-doing the images. Re-do privileges are at the discretion of the instructor and the photographic project thrown together haphazardly only to make the deadline will not be granted a re-do. If given opportunity to submit a re-do, your grade that is given on the re-do will totally replace the original grade.

Deadlines:

Deadlines are deadlines. Projects are due at the time and date stated by the instructor. E-mail submissions will not be accepted. No extensions will be given, with the exception of a few extenuating circumstances discussed privately with the instructor well BEFORE the deadline. You can always turn in an assignment early.

Religious Holy Days Observance Policy:

The Texas Education Code specifies that an institution of higher education shall excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. A student who misses classes or other activities, including exams, for the observance of a religious holy day should inform the instructor WELL in advance of the absence as possible so arrangements can be made to complete the assignment within a reasonable time of the absence.

<http://www.utexas.edu/student/registrar/catalogs/gi03-04/ch4/ch4g.html>

Students with Disabilities:

Please notify your instructor of any modification/adaptation that you may require to accommodate a disability-related need. You will be requested to provide documentation to the Dean of Student's Office in order that the most appropriate accommodations can be determined. Specialized services are available on campus through Services for Students with Disabilities. <http://ddce.utexas.edu/disability/>

Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty:

The University defines academic dishonesty as cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, falsifying academic records, and any act designed to avoid participating honestly in the learning process. Scholastic dishonesty also includes, but is not limited to providing false or misleading information to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment and submission of essentially the

same assignment for two courses without permission from instructor. By accepting this syllabus you have agreed to these guidelines and must adhere to them. Scholastic dishonesty damages both the student's learning and readiness for the future demands of a work-career. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of the failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University.

http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint_student.php

Jan. 14

Instructor introduction, lecture, and quick demonstration. First assignment: **Bring 5 examples of portraits that inspire or intrigue you. You'll need to be able to articulate your thoughts on Jan. 21st.**

Jan 21

Equipment overview. Student presentation and review of student-selected photographs. *What makes a photo compelling?* Discuss exposure, composition, and content. **First shooting assignment: Create a portrait utilizing available light, reflectors, and hard/soft light sources.**

Jan 28

Review students' first available light shots. Hot/continuous light demo/metering/color temp. Assignment: **Create a portrait with continuous source lighting.**

Feb 4

Review continuous assignment. Intro to strobe lighting. Assignment: **Create a portrait using one strobe light source.**

Feb11

Review first strobe portrait assignment. Discussion of motion within images. Assignment: **Create an image utilizing blurring/stop motion, and blending strobe with continuous light.**

Feb18

Review motion assignment. Discuss portraits with long time exposure. Assignment: **Create a portrait utilizing long exposure.**

Feb 25

Review long exposure assignment. Discuss lighting with multiple strobes/portraits. Assignment: **Create a portrait utilizing 3 strobe lights.**

March 4

Review multiple strobe portraits. Intro to story telling with photos. Discuss possible subjects for story telling portraits. Discuss logistics like dealing with magazines, clients, ethics of portrait photography, and model releases. Go over permissions and legal aspects of portraits (possible guest speaker). Assignment: **Choose 2 subject ideas for story.**

March 18

Review story idea proposals. Discuss location photography, scouting, and lighting. Assignment: **Create two location portraits for single theme story-telling series.**

March 25

Review location portraits assignment portraits.

Continue review and discussion of story-telling portraits for series.

Assignment: **Keep working on story telling.**

April 1

Continue review and discussion of story-telling portraits for series.

Assignment: **Keep working on story telling**

April 8

Guest Lecturer

April 15

Portfolio preparation/editing

April 22

First round portfolio review

April 29 Final portfolio review

The weeklies for the last few classes of the semester will be revised to reflect changes in scheduling made necessary to accommodate guest speakers, class attended photography related events, etc. that were made during the first 14 weeks of the course. If there are changes during the first part of the semester you will be given the revised set of weeklies in the second half of the semester. These changes should not effect when the final assignments will be due. The weeklies for the last few classes of the semester will be revised to reflect changes in scheduling made necessary to accommodate guest speakers, class attended photography related events, etc. that were made during the first 14 weeks of the course. If there are changes during the first part of the semester you will be given the revised set of weeklies in the second half of the semester. These changes should not effect when the final assignments will be due.