

Black & White Photography II

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Anh-Thuy Nguyen
www.anh-thuynguyen.com
anhthuyinfo@gmail.com

Required Text: Why Art Photography? Lucy Soutter

Prerequisites: Black/White Photography I

Course Description: This course furthers students' creativity with the use of black and white film photography to explore their personal perspective and view of their world. It offers refinement of black and white film photography's techniques and visual skills through lectures, seminar readings, darkroom work, and critiques.

Course Objectives:

1. Student will gain an understanding of historical and contemporary art photography.
2. Students will formulate a personal style in making images.
3. Students will develop the knowledge to create a cohesive body of work.
4. Students will learn how to print on a fiber-based photographic paper.

Students learning outcomes:

1. Students will learn to create a concept thriving photography portfolio.
2. Students will acquire and apply various techniques used in analog photography.
3. Students will analyze photographs through critiques and self-reflection through oral and written forms.
4. Students will present their photography portfolio in a professional manner.
5. Students will demonstrate self-discipline and the ability to work under deadlines.

SCHEDULE

- #1** **Welcome.** Course Introduction, tour of facilities
Review: explanation of films, 35mm camera, aperture, shutter speed
Light Meter Demo
Assignment: 5 rolls of film, 5 contact sheets
(if you choose to shoot with large format films, consult me)
- Discuss reading: Introduction Why Art Photography?
- #2** Demo: shooting with medium format cameras
- Demo: shooting with 4x5 large format cameras
- #3** Demo: processing medium format, 4x5 films
- Discuss reading: Why Art Photography? Hybrid Genres: Portraiture

- #4 Demo: printing fiber-based photographic paper
Darkroom
- #5 Discuss reading: Why Art Photography? Objectivity & Seriousness
Critique printing: 2 fiber-based prints
Assignment DUE: 5 contact sheets (sign up for individual meetings)
Assignment: 5 more rolls of film, contact sheets
- #6 Class meets at a local photographic arts museum/institution/gallery for print viewing
Darkroom or work day
- #7 Discuss reading: Why Art Photography? Fictive Document
Darkroom or work day
- #8 Darkroom or work day
Individual meetings (15-minute slot)
Assignment DUE: 5 new contact sheets
You must have 10 contact sheets by now, continue to shoot if needed
- #9 Discuss reading: Why Art Photography? Authenticity
Darkroom or work day
- #10 Darkroom
Students' image makers' presentations
- #11 Discuss reading: Why Art Photography? Digital Dialogues
Darkroom
- #12 Darkroom
Critique: 20 fiber-based work prints
(4"x5") or (4"x4")
- #13 Discuss reading: Why Art Photography? Digital Dialogues
Darkroom
- #14 Demo: mat cutting, framing, packing, and shipping
Darkroom

#15 Discuss reading: Why Art Photography? Beyond Photography
Darkroom

#16 Darkroom
**Final Critique: 12-15 (10"x10", 11"x14", or 16"x20")
matted fiber-based prints**
Darkroom clean up
Reflection paper DUE

This course calendar is not a contract and is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

Semester-long assignments

1. **Submit to one photo contest:** Share your vision with others. Students are required to enter at least one contest, exhibition call for entry, or publication a semester. Be proactive in finding shows, exhibitions. Additionally, I will notice you these opportunities in class as well. Just submit, you do not have to be accepted.

2. **Digital portfolio to be submitted at the end of the semester**

All submitted work must be digitalized and sent via WeTransfer, Dropbox or Hightail to instructoremail@nomail.com within these guidelines: File name: Lastname_assignment
JPEG
150 dpi
1050 pixel longest dimension

3. **Readings**

Students are expected to read the assigned materials before each class. Each student must formulate a set of 2 questions and bring them to class.

A group of 2-3 students will be assigned to lead a discussion of each reading session. This group must prepare a detailed analysis of the chapter's content, its historical, social, political, cultural contexts in the relationships with the photographers' work.

Reflection Paper on "Why Art Photography?"

From the information presented in Lucy Soutter's textbook, choose one chapter that best represents your interest and visual concepts. Write a reflection paper about that chapter. Keep in mind to describe photographers' work, the context of their work in the relation of art movement/period. In a minimum of 4 pages address the following points.

1. Subject(s), concepts(s) and motivation.
2. Design and stylization
3. Historical context
4. Why photographers/work/or period best fits your current aesthetic principles.
5. You must use at least two sources. One must be print.

Grading Policy

1. You will get the grade you earn
2. Grade Requirements:

Attendance 10%
(Attend 3 critiques, 6 seminar readings sessions, and darkroom cleanup)

Semester-long assignments	15%
Assignments	5%
Reflection paper	5%
Discussion leadership	5%
Final portfolio	60%

Final grades are assigned on the following scale
A= 90-100% B=80-89% C=70-79% D=60-69%

Assignments & Final Portfolio's grade is determined as follows:

- A represents the "highest degree of excellence"
- B represents "superior" achievement
- C represents "average" achievement
- D represents the "quality of work is considered minimum for receiving credit"
- F represents a "failure" of achievement

In photography terms it goes something like this:

- A is work of outstanding caliber, exhibiting exceptional comprehension of the material, along with meticulous attention to craft and innovative application of skills. This work is exceptional in every way and indicative of the highest possible thought and effort. Be prepared to work hard if you want this grade.
- B is above average. This work is free of any major defects, yet has room for improvement.
- C is average. You could benefit from more rigorous investment in photography. Weaknesses stand out. Do not strive for average, especially in art.
- D is below average, showing only minimal effort and commitment to the medium. This work has defects in all categories.
- F is lack of effort.

Photography takes time and requires a high degree of self-motivation. Please be aware that you will need to spend extra hours outside of class time shooting, processing, printing, etc. Do not expect to do well in this class by only working during class time. Students who shoot more and make more photos usually get better grades. Those who come to class, ask questions, take advantages of my office hours, and engage in critiques also do better in this class.

3. For the project you turn in, your work will be graded according to the following criteria:

- Concept
- Composition
- Print Quality
- Craftsmanship

4. Additional Credit will be given for written critiques of art events such as; gallery and museum shows, art performances and presentations by noted artists, academics and authors. I will notify the events' date during classes.

You must attend and provide documentation of these events (tickets, brochures, selfie in art events). There is a limit of 2 events per semester with each receiving a possible maximum value of 10 points, counted towards your attendant category. Your papers should be no more than two (2) typed pages in length.

Attendance at all scheduled critiques and seminar readings sessions are required.

Critiques are the only direct method of feedback on how you are doing. The final critique is the same as final exam; therefore attendance is mandatory.

Late work will be penalized with a letter grade deduction from what your assignment originally earns.

Clean up & pick up your work

If you do not participate in darkroom clean up, 20 points will be taken off from your attendance category.

If you do not pick up your work after I finish grading at the end of the semester, your work will be donated to my *Art Library* project.

Adult behavior:

Cell phones and smartphones are to be silent in class. Your phone rings = healthy fruits for the next class. Be prepared to bring enough for everyone in your class.

Text messaging and using personal computers for email or other work during class is not acceptable. If I see you texting or face booking, you provide fruits to the class. After 2 times you will be taken off 20 points from your attendance category.

HAVE FUN!!!! Laugh and smile whenever you can.