San José State University
School of Humanities and the Arts/Department of Art and Art History
40750, Black and White Photography, Section 02, Fall 2015

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Eliana Cetto
Office Location: DH401A
Email: Eliana.Cetto@sjsu.edu
Phone: 
Office Hours: Tuesday 2:00-3:00
Class Days/Time: Tuesday 3:00-5:50/Thursday 3:00-5:50
Classroom: Duncan Hall 406
Prerequisites: PHOT 40

Course Description

“A traditional darkroom photography class which introduces black and white film developing, fiber based printing, and image manipulation and presentation techniques. Taught with traditional film and photo paper; requires a film camera, limited number of which department can loan students.”

In this class you will learn to develop film and print black and white silver gelatin prints using photo processing chemicals and enlargers in the SJSU darkroom. We will explore traditional photographic techniques producing stellar hand-made photographs, as well as manipulation techniques such as hand coloring, darkroom manipulation, and photomontage. Class critiques will focus on conceptual development and participation in an artistic dialogue, as well as aesthetic/technical proficiency.

There will be three main assignments, each corresponding with a technical and conceptual approach learned, one semester-long assignment that will result in a gallery-ready work to be exhibited with the class, and a print swap at the end of the semester. The final project will require the approval of a written proposal. Class demonstrations and discussions will be held at the beginning of each new assignment, there will be a required working-critique at each mid-point, and a final critique at the end of each assignment.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

• CLO 1 Operate their 35mm film camera utilizing manual functions
• CLO 2 Process their own black and white film
• CLO 3 Understand manual camera function and their visual outcomes
• CLO 4 Print their own contact sheets and photographs
• CLO 5 Understand the difference in light and contrast
• CLO 6 Understand controlling contrast in the printing process
• CLO 7 Fine tune printing through the use of tools and manipulation
• CLO 8 Gain familiarity with fine art photography, photographers and concept

Textbook

SJSU Photo Lab Manual - Download from photo.sjsu.edu or issuu.com/keay/docs/lab_manual_2013
This manual is required reading, that will help acquaint you with the Photo Lab facility and safety procedures. There is a darkroom safety quiz that is required prior to any use of the lab. The manual also contains important information regarding film developing and printing steps in our facilities. Bring this manual with you to the darkroom, or keep it in your locker for reference.

Other Readings

There will be one reading assigned for the course and students will be asked to produce an artist proposal by the end of the semester.

Equipment / Material Requirements

• Analog (not digital) film camera with manual controls (bring to class if you have questions, the school has a limited quantity available for temporary check-out)
• At least 8 rolls of 35mm black and white film (we will discuss speeds and options in class before you buy)
• At least 50 sheets (2 packs) of RC Photo Paper (we will discuss paper options before you buy)
• At least 25 sheets (1 pack) of Fiber Photo Paper (for later in the semester)
• Plastic 35mm Negative Print Files*
• Mat boards for 5 images (black or white only)
• Negative Binder (dust proof is best)
• Portfolio (must be big enough to fit mat boards)

Recommended:
• Dry Mounting Tissue*
• Light Meter (the school has a limited quantity available for temporary check-out)
• Thermometer
• Scissors (the school has a limited quantity available for temporary check-out)
• Towels for the darkroom
• Film processing tank and reels (the school has a limited quantity available for temporary check-out)
• Negative Cleaner fluid*
• Lens cleaning tissues*

*Good products to buy in bulk to share costs with classmates

Library Liaison (Optional)

Kohn, Rebecca
Phone: (408) 808-2007
Email: rebecca.kohn@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class,
participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf.

Projects:  
- **Picturing the Self** (20%)  
- **Magical Realism** (20%)  
- **Interstices** (20%)  
  
  Gallery-ready piece and participation in group exhibition (10%)

Assignments:  
- Proposal for final project (2.5%)  
- Reading Response (2.5%)  
- Print Swap (10%)

Participation: Class discussions, demonstrations, presentations, open lab time, and all critiques (including working critiques) will count towards an integral part of your grade. In class projects like photograms and past portfolio presentations will count towards participation. Your participation in the form of regular involvement in activities is not only required, it is mandatory. (15%)

Main Assignments:

**Picturing the Self:** Create 3 self-portraits. These ‘portraits’ do not need to be actual photographs of your face/body, but can also be photographs of things that represent you. You may photograph abstract or non-representational images, found images, text/collage, etc to create a unique portrait of who you are. Your prints must show an understanding of darkroom skills. A full tonal range including shadow detail and textured highlights are the objective. There will be a contact sheet check-in with the instructor (at least 2 rolls of film) toward the beginning of the assignment, a working critique/trouble shooting session with the class at the midway point, and a final class critique. Turn in archivally washed, dried, and finished prints in a portfolio with your name on it, due at the beginning of class. [CLO’s 1-4 will be highly stressed in this assignment.]

**Magical Realism:** Explore reality and non-reality with this dream-world assignment. You will learn manipulation techniques such as double exposures, sandwiching negatives, hand coloring, and photomontage to create 5 surreal images. Printing proficiency will be graded, however, conceptual development of ideas and ability to communicate artistic intent will also be part of this assignment. There will be a contact sheet check-in with the instructor (at least 2 rolls of film), a working critique/trouble shooting session with the class, and a final class critique. Turn in archivally washed, dried, and finished prints, matted or mounted, in a portfolio with your name on it, due at the beginning of class. [CLO’s 5-8 will be highly stressed in this assignment.]

**Interstices:** Interstices means the spaces between. In this assignment we will explore creating a cohesive body of work that conveys a message, mood, or narrative. This assignment is open-ended and should reflect your own personal artistic voice/style. By this time in the semester we should have developed an understanding of how to communicate using only pictures, and must create a body of work that conveys an idea as a whole. Allow the images to string together, utilizing what is captured in the photograph, and what is suggested in the spaces between. This assignment focuses on creating a series. Printing proficiency will be graded, however, conceptual development of ideas and ability to communicate artistic intent will also be part of this assignment. There will be a written proposal required, a contact sheet check-in with the instructor (at least 2 rolls of film), a working critique/trouble shooting session with the class, and a final class critique. Turn in archivally washed, dried, and finished prints, matted or mounted, in
a portfolio with your name on it, due at the beginning of class. [All CLO’s should be
accomplished by the end of this assignment.]

Class Exhibition

The week of _____ will be the class exhibit in Gallery ___ on campus. Students will be made aware of the
theme from the beginning of the semester and should be contemplating appropriate subject matter for a singular
piece of exhibition quality. We will organize, hang, and run the show as a class, distributing responsibilities and
working as a unit.

Grading Policy

Final Grade Weight: Projects 70%, Assignments 15%, Participation 15%

A = All assignments are exceptional technically, developed conceptually, and submitted on time. All critique
sessions were attended and participated in professionally. Student actively participated in classroom
activities, discussions, and exemplified dedication to creating unique photographs throughout the
semester.

B = All the aforementioned requirements, but below the highest quality, and/or from a lack of class
participation

C = All the aforementioned requirements, but of average quality, and/or from a lack of class participation

D = All the aforementioned requirements but below average quality, missing more than one assignment,
and/or from a lack of class participation

F = Work is of poor quality, more than one assignment is missing, and there is a lack of class participation.
All students must exemplify knowledge gained through technically successful prints and active
participation in class. Failure to do so will result in an F.

Your final grade will include your participation in class and the quality of your finished projects. Late
assignments will lose half a letter grade for each class session they are late. Critique attendance is required, and
failure to attend project critiques will lower your score on the assignment being critiqued by half a letter grade
(for non-emergency reasons without prior notification). Each assignment will be graded for technical
completion, conceptual development, and the artist’s ability to communicate these ideas cohesively to the class.
Those who experiment and take chances will be rewarded.

Classroom Protocol

Class demonstrations and discussions will be held at the beginning of each new assignment, there will be
required working-critiques, and a final critique at the end of each assignment. Announcements will be done at
the beginning of class, and will not be repeated. Participation is an important part of your grade and will be
based on darkroom workdays, class discussions, and required critiques. I will be in the darkroom regularly
during open labs for questions and assistance and will notice absent students. Please contact me in advance if
you are going to miss class (multiple absences may affect your grade). This class deals with chemicals that can
be toxic – the appropriate health and safety practices will be taught and must be followed.
Please refrain from using your cell phone during class lectures and especially in the darkroom. We will go over how to keep time in the darkroom and play music if wanted.

Note: Women who are pregnant are not recommended to work with the chemicals in the darkroom. Please let me know if you have any health concerns with our wet lab.
University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU’s policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See University Policy S90–5 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the SJSU catalog, at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/htdocs/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf, requires students to obtain instructor’s permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
  - It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor’s process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
  - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.
Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at http://www.sjsu.edu/aec to establish a record of their disability.

Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See University Policy S14-7 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center at http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/ located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit Peer Connections website at http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to
become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to scan this code.)

SJSU Counseling Services

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit Counseling Services website at http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling.

NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change at any time by the instructor. Any changes made will be verbally notified.
## Phot110 / Intermediate Photography / Beginning Darkroom, Fall 2015

### Course Schedule

*Schedule is subject to change with fair notice.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | 8/20/2015 | • Introductions  
• Greensheet Review and Class Expectations  
• Class Supply List  
• Tour of Darkroom, Check-Out Window  
• Lab Orientation |
|      |         | **Bring for next class:** Past work, camera, lock for locker |
| 2    | 8/25/2015 | • Bring your past work, or the work of an artist who has influenced you, to share with class — a credit/no credit assignment, counts toward class participation points  
• Introduction of Assignment #1 *Picture the Self*  
• Discussion of Paper Types  
• Discussion of Film Types  
• Loading Film Demo |
|      | 8/27/2015 | • Lab Safety Information  
• **Darkroom Quiz**  
• Photograms/History of Photo Lecture  
• Photograms  
• Mixing Chemicals, setting up trays |
|      |         | **Bring for next class:** Objects for Photograms, note-taking supplies |
| 3    | 9/1/2015  | • Development Day! 1 roll minimum due  
• Film development demo  
• Contact sheet demo  
• Film Reel Class Exercise  
• Supervised darkroom time to develop film as a class |
|      | 9/3/2015  | **Bring for next class:** developed film for printing, RC photo paper |
|      |         | • Darkroom Workflow  
• Making a Print Demo  
• Supervised darkroom time to make a test strip |
|      |         | **Bring for next class:** 2nd roll for Assignment #1 due |
| 4    | 9/8/2015  | • 2nd roll for Assignment #1 due for development  
• Supervised Darkroom Workday  
• Window Open |
|      | 9/10/2015 | **Bring for next class:** 2 Contact sheets printed correctly for instructor review |
|      |         | • 2 Contact sheets due for *Picturing the Self*  
• Dodging and Burning Demo |
<p>| 5    | 9/15/2015 | • Supervised Darkroom Workday |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>9/17/2015</td>
<td><strong>Bring for next class:</strong> A minimum of 2 working prints for Assignment #1.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Class Trouble Shooting Session – Must bring a minimum of 2 dry, 8x10, working prints for Assignment #1. This is a trouble shooting session to help you achieve the best prints in the darkroom. Bring your mistakes, your struggles, questions, and confusions. This will be a chance for everyone to share and learn from each other and gain helpful feedback before the final critique in 1 week.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>9/22/2015</td>
<td>• Supervised Darkroom Workday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9/24/2015</td>
<td><strong>Bring for next class:</strong> <em>Picturing the Self, Assignment #1 Due</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• <em>Picturing the Self, Assignment #1 Due</em></td>
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<td>3 archivally washed, dried, and finished ‘self portrait’ prints in a portfolio with your name on it, due at the beginning of class</td>
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<td>• Mandatory class critique</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>9/29/2015</td>
<td>• Introduction of Assignment #2 <em>Magical Realism</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>10/1/2015</td>
<td>• Manipulation Demos</td>
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<td>• Supervised Darkroom Workday</td>
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<td>• Manipulation Demos Cont.</td>
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<td>• Supervised Darkroom Workday</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>10/6/2015</td>
<td>• Supervised Darkroom Workday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10/8/2015</td>
<td><strong>Bring for next class:</strong> 2 Contact sheets correctly printed for instructor review</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• 2 Contact sheets due for <em>Magical Realism</em></td>
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<td><strong>Bring for next class:</strong> A minimum of 3 working prints for Assignment #2.</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>10/13/2015</td>
<td>• Class Trouble Shooting Session - Must bring a minimum of 3 dry, 8x10, working prints for Assignment #2. This is a trouble shooting session to inspire manipulation techniques, address struggles in the darkroom, and gain helpful feedback before the final critique in 1 week.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10/15/2015</td>
<td>• (Anni Palakummathu Matthew Tuesday Night Lecture)</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>10/20/2015</td>
<td>• Supervised Darkroom Workday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10/22/2015</td>
<td><strong>Bring for next class:</strong> <em>Picturing the Self Assignment #2 Due</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• <em>Magical Realism, Assignment #2 Due</em></td>
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<td>5 archivally washed, dried, and finished prints, mounted or matted, in a portfolio with your name on it, due at the beginning of class</td>
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<td>• Mandatory class critique</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>10/27/2015</td>
<td>• Introduction of Assignment #3, <em>Interstices</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10/29/2015</td>
<td>• Supervised Darkroom Workday</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Bring for next class:</strong> Final Project Proposals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
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<td>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</td>
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| 12   | 11/3/2015  | • ATC Week – Gallery visits  
|      | 11/5/2015  | • Proposal for final project due  
|      |            | • Supervised Darkroom Workday  
|      |            | **Bring for next class:** 2 Contact sheets correctly printed for instructor review                                                                                                                                               |
| 13   | 11/10/2015 | • 2 Contact sheets due for *Interstices*  
|      | 11/12/2015 | • Supervised Darkroom Workday                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 14   | 11/17/2015 | • Introduction to Print Swap  
|      | 11/19/2015 | • Gallery Planning Committees Organized  
|      |            | • **Bring for next class:** A minimum of 3 working prints for Assignment #3.  
|      |            | • Class Trouble Shooting Session- must bring a minimum of 3 dry, 8x10, working prints for Assignment #3. This is a trouble shooting session to solidify the success if your series, and gain helpful feedback before the final critique. |
| 15   | 11/24/2015 | • Class Show/Exhibition-Ready Print Due (Tentative Date)  
|      | 11/26/2015 | • Reception in the gallery at 6pm  
|      |            | • Thanksgiving campus closed                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 16   | 12/1/2015  | • *Interstices, Assignment #3 Due*  
|      | 12/3/2015  | 5 archivally washed, dried, and finished prints, mounted or matted, in a portfolio with your name on it, due at the beginning of class  
|      |            | • Mandatory class critique  
|      |            | • Supervised Darkroom Workday                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 17   | 12/8/2015  | • Last day of instruction                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 18   | 12/14/2015 | • Print Swap Final Exam & Potluck: Monday Dec 14 from 2:45-5:00                                                                                                                                                                         |