San José State University
Department of Art & Art History
Photo 40, Beginning Photography, Section 05

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Ajay Fay
Office Location: DH401A
Telephone: 805. 758. 0333
Email: andy.fay@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday’s 3:00-5:00pm

Class Days/Time: Mon & Wed from 3:00-5:50
Classroom: Industrial Studies Building 219C
Prerequisites: None

Assignments, Readings, Handouts

Assignments, readings, handouts and other information will be located on Canvas, where you may pick them up and print them out anytime you wish. Due to our efforts to make the Department of Art and Art History “paperless,” hard copies will not be handed out. You will find all class materials on Canvas.

Many of you may have used Canvas before for other classes. I will also place course materials on our Canvas site. To access the site, go to https://sjsu.instructure.com

We will Also be using Flickr to showcase our photos, and post them to the web. This is a newer process that I am trying, so please forgive me for not having the information posted now. We will have a class room lecture and discussion about it.

Course Description

A Beginning photography course, which introduces basic aesthetic issues in primarily black and white image making. Introduces photographic technique utilizing digital cameras, electronic image processing and digital printing. Requires a DSLR (digital single lens reflex) camera. Requires Adobe Lightroom.

Learning Outcomes

This Beginning course in digital Photography will not only provide you with the basic skills necessary to produce technically proficient photographs, but will also introduce you to the language of image making, with assignments designed to both hone your technical skills and develop your ability to communicate conceptually.
as an artist.

The first part of the semester will provide you with a technical foundation that includes camera controls, exposure techniques, and digital ink jet printing. The second half of the semester will put greater emphasis on the development of your aesthetic and conceptual skills. There will be 3 shooting assignments and a final assignment, (four large assignments total) with smaller, in-class, more technically oriented graded exercises. Assignments and class critiques will encourage thoughtful work and the exchange of ideas within our group. Your voice and the voice of your peers are as important as my own. The skills, life experience and goals of each of you will add to the rich complexity of this class – we will learn from one another.

In addition to technical lectures that will cover basic camera use, exposure, and composition, you will also be introduced to a variety of photographic work through digital slide lectures and discussions covering not only well-known historically significant photographic artists, but more recent trends in photography as well. We will take one or more class field trips to local venues, and will participate in the Photo Program Field trip to San Francisco this semester.

Some open lab time will be scheduled during class to allow you to work on your projects, though you will find that you will need additional time to allow you to work at your own pace. Students are not allowed to print without instructor supervision, so it is vital that you be here on time and prepared to print on print days.

**Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. CLO 1 Possess and utilize a beginning level photographic vocabulary.
2. CLO 2 Understand and communicate the basic compositional and formal elements of the photographic image both verbally, and in writings.
3. CLO 3 Understand and utilize digital camera settings and how these settings translate into a properly exposed image.
4. CLO 4 Understand and utilize digital camera settings to create images that communicate.
5. CLO 5 Learn how light and shadow are used to create successful images.
6. CLO 6 Learn how to expose, store, enhance, export and print images using Adobe Light Room.
7. CLO 7 Understand and utilize Epson printers at SJSU and outside photographic labs.

**Required Texts/Readings**

*Textbook:*

*The Photographer’s Mind, by Michael Freeman*

**Other Readings**
Throughout the semester a variety of readings will be made available to through the server at SJSU and Canvas.

**Other equipment / material requirements**

1. Digital Camera: Must have a minimum of 6-mega-pixel capacity and a full "manual mode" (able to manually adjust both shutter speed and aperture). Must be able to shoot RAW. The more automatic your camera is, the less control you will have over your images, and the less opportunity you will have to experiment. The following are some suggested digital single lens reflex (DSLR) cameras with full manual controls: Nikon -
D40, D50, D70's, D80 Canon - EOS Digital Rebel (XT, XTi, 5D, 10D, 20D, 30D) Olympus - Evolt 300, 330, 500 Pentax - K100D, K110D, K10D Panasonic - Lumix DMC FZ7's, FZ30's, FZ50's 2. Memory card for your camera (1GB+ is recommended). 3. Card reader/cable for memory card above (if needed for your computer). 4. You MUST have your own laptop computer to take this course. Macs are strongly suggested and with all things computer- the newer the more compatible. 5. Software- Adobe Lightroom: Do not purchase this yet. Adobe sometimes offers a student edition to SJSU students for free or at a minimal cost. I will let you know on the first day of classes if this is possible. If it is not, you may purchase a copy of Lightroom from the cloud for a monthly subscription fee. 6. A USB jump drive/ memory stick with a large memory and a portable back-up hard drive is strongly recommended. 7. Tripod. And if needed by your camera – a remote cable release. 8. Epson printing paper will be provided, a portfolio box is recommended for carrying prints along with an

In addition to your technical readings, readings of a more philosophical, cultural, and/or theoretical basis will be made available on the server for you for each assignment.

Library Liaison

Rebecca Kohn: 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.

Reading/writing Assignments & journals
Throughout the semester a variety of readings will be made available to through our Flickr Discussion Group

Class Participation
The best way to develop your skills and ideas is to be here and actively participate. There will be a number of lectures and demos and we’ll have many discussions that you will not experience if you are not present. Your participation in the form of regular involvement in activities and discussions is not only required but mandatory. 20% of your final grade will be based on your overall class participation. Assignments take two days to critique in a class of this size. I expect you to attend both days of the critique. Failure to do so, will lower the given assignment grade by a half letter grade, and could effect your Class Participation grade as well. Your voice is critical to the success of this class. I am equally disappointed by missed discussions. If you are experiencing extenuating circumstances it is your responsibility to make me aware of your situation when it occurs. Giving me a list of personal difficulties you had at the end of the semester won’t be very effective in terms of attempting to lobby for a higher grade.

Make Ups and Late Work
It is your responsibility to make up missed class sessions or late work. If you must miss a class, please send me an e-mail (preferably before the missed day), so that I may let you know what you will be missing. Many class lectures and demonstrations cannot be repeated or made up. Any deadline missed will result in lowering the assignment grade one letter for each week that it is late. Again, talk to me if you are having problems. Again, do not miss critique days, even if you don’t have work to show. I will be much more likely to accept excuses for late work if you attended the critique.

Grading Policy
The work created in class will be evaluated based on the following criteria.

A. **Outstanding**: thoughtful and intelligent ideas presented in a clear, organized, and engaging manner; among the very best.

B. **Above Average - Good**: the ideas are interesting and successfully presented; shows potential, but not necessarily distinctive; roughly equal in quality to the work completed by other students.

C. **Average - mediocre**: achieves minimum requirements of the assignment, but not particularly clear, nor ambitious. Quality of work is below that of most other projects submitted. May be above average idea presented in incomplete state.

D. **Unsatisfactory**: does not satisfy the minimum requirements of the assignment; generally unsatisfactory in terms of quality and clarity. Usually sloppy, incomplete and or late work.

E. **You didn't submit an assignment**.

**Detailed Letter Grade Rubric**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outstanding</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Very Good</th>
<th>Good+/Good/Good-</th>
<th>Average+/Average/Average-</th>
<th>Below Average (+/-)</th>
<th>Unsatisfactory</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-97(A+)</td>
<td>96-94(A)</td>
<td>93-90(A-)</td>
<td>89-87(B+)</td>
<td>86-84(B)/83-80(B-)</td>
<td>79-77(C+)</td>
<td>76-74(C)/73-70(C-)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69-67(D+)</td>
<td>66-64(D)/63-60(D-)</td>
<td>Below 60= F</td>
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**Final Grade**

Your final grade will be based on an average of 3 projects plus your final project (60%) class participation (20%) and reading and writing assignments (20%). Take risks, break the rules, speak your mind, take yourself and your work seriously and it will pay off in ways you cannot presently foresee. Classroom Protocol

**Laptop Etiquette**

Please use your laptops in respectful manner. It is fine to have laptops open during open lab time, or during demos or lectures when I've asked you to follow along or take notes. Laptops should remain closed during critiques, films or demos that do not require your participation. You know the drill: answering email, checking your FB page, running irrelevant Google searches or working on projects from another class are all off limits during anything other than open lab time. Please show respect for me and those around you.

**Cell Phone Etiquette**

Ringers on cell phones should be turned off during class time. Leaving the class to take a call should only be done in emergencies. Ditto for texting. Again, please show respect for those around you.

**University Policies**

**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](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latetrms/policy/) is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latetrms/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes. **FYI: Last day to drop: Fri. 9/1; Last day to add: Fri. 9/9**
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 green sheet 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.”

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.

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.

Extra Credit: There will be an opportunity for extra credit throughout the semester. This will include writing a gallery report about our field trip to the San Jose Museum of Modern Art, and attending ATC in November (4th/5th).
### Photo 40, Beginning Photography, Section 05  
**Fall 2015**

**Course Schedule**

Schedule is subject to change with fair notice. Notice will be given verbally, in class, and sent via email.

### Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>M 08/24</td>
<td>-Introduction: Take attendance; go through green sheet together, discussion about our Flickr Group, and first assignment.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Homework</strong>: Seek out a favorite photographer, and make a slide show of his or her images for next class, have them on a flash drive. <strong>Due 8/26</strong> (write up a paragraph of why they are your favorite, and find something interesting about them. Know if they shoot film, or digital, and if they went to school where?)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1    | W 8/26 | -**Discussion**: Favorite photographers – bring in your favorite images on a flash drive.  
**Homework**: Take some pictures. Explore what we went over in class. **Due 9/14/15 posted to Flickr** |
| 2    | W 9/2  | -Power point - *B/W photography masters*  
-Introduce First Assignment (*Landscapes, and Love*)  
**Due 9/23 Ready to Print (and your top three uploaded to Flickr)** |
| 3    | M 9/7  | **NO Class (YOLO) Labor day** (use this day to shoot your assignment) |
| 3    | W 9/9  | -Introduction to digital workflow demonstration and lecture. (*Intro to Lightroom*)  
Bring: Exploring Photography files on a memory card, card reader and laptop. |
| 4    | M 9/14 | Flickr Photo review/ Critique of your explore in class assignments.  
-Digital workflow demonstration and lecture, continued... |
| 4    | W 9/16 | -PowerPoint, *Seeing Light, Deconstructing a photograph*, and *Printing Demo* |
| 5    | M 9/21 | In class check in/work day. Mandatory individual meetings and progress reviews of work.  
Bring in at least 150 photographs you have made  
*(Home work) assignment What is Art? – Tolstoy) posted to Canvas. Please read, and reread. Take notes, and write out questions.* |
| 5    | W 9/23 | *Matte cutting/dry mounting demonstrations*. *Discussion on final presentation of photographs. Printing Day (attendance taken)*  
**Introduce** Second Assignment (*Surreal Self, Portrait*) **Due 10/28 Ready to Print** |
| 6    | M 9/28 | **Critique** (Landscapes and Love) assignment. Please don’t be late, have work ready to show. We will be using this full day to critique all students’ work. |
| 6    | W 9/30 | **Critique** (Landscapes and Love) assignment. Please don’t be late, have work ready to show. We will be using this full day to critique all students’ work. |
| 7    | M 10/5 | **In class project**  
**Homework**: Shoot |
<p>| 7    | W 10/7 | In class check in/work day. |</p>
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</table>
| 8    | M 10/12   | Power Point/ Masters of Portrait Photography, and more!  
Second Assignment (Surreal Self, Portrait) Due 10/28 Ready to Print |
| 8    | W 10/14   | "What is Art?" Tolstoy- discussion, and paper due.  
Portrait Photography Demo, and Photographic Vocabulary overview. |
| 9    | M 10/19   | In Class shooting time. (Home work assignment reading #2) posted to Canvas. Please read, and reread. Take notes, and write out questions. |
| 9    | W 10/21   | In class check in/work day. Mandatory individual meetings and progress reviews of work. Bring in at least 150 photographs you have made |
| 10   | M 10/26   | In class workday. Be prepared for mandatory individual meetings and progress reviews of work. You should have a loose edit of your best photographs for your project at this point that we will review together. The rest of the class will be spent editing and reviewing lightroom and workflow techniques. Bring your laptops to work on editing during class time. |
| 10   | W 10/28   | **Printing day.** Reading #2 discussion, and paper due. |
| 11   | M 11/2    | **Critique** (Surreal Self, Portrait) assignment. Please don’t be late, have work ready to show. We will be using this full day to critique all students’ work. |
| 11   | W 11/4    | **ATC- special assignment will be given.** **Critique** (Surreal Self, Portrait) assignment. Please don’t be late, have work ready to show. We will be using this full day to critique all students’ work. |
| 12   | M 11/9    | Introduce Final Assignment (Fabricated) Due 12/2 Ready to Print  
(Gregory Crewdson as idea..) |
| 12   | W 11/11   | NO Class Veterans Day |
| 13   | M 11/16   | Group meeting, and brain storming. Must come up with three ideas. And a time line.  
**Homework:** shoot, edit, shoot! |
| 13   | W 11/18   | Ideas for Final must be submitted by this day.  
(Home work assignment reading #3) posted to Canvas. Please read, and reread. Take notes. |
| 14   | M 11/23   | In class check in/work day. Mandatory individual meetings and progress reviews of work. Bring in at least 150 photographs you have made. Bring your laptops to work on editing during class time  
**Homework:** shoot, edit, shoot! |
| 14   | W 11/25   | Day Before Thanksgiving! |
| 15   | M 11/30   | In class workday. Bring your laptops to work on editing during class time. In class lecture-introduction to the final project and slide show. **For those who are finished can print today.** |
| 15   | W 12/2    | Printing Day |
| 16   | M 12/7    | **Critique (Fabricated)** assignment. Please don’t be late, have work ready to show. We will be using this full day to critique all students’ work. |
| Final Exam | W 12/ | **Overflow if we do not finished.** |