

**San José State University**  
**Department of Art & Art History**  
**Image and Idea, PHOT 120, Section 01, Fall 2017**

**Course and Contact Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Robin Lasser
<b>Office Location:</b>	(Duncan Hall, 401A)
<b>Telephone:</b>	(510) (282 6993) (cell is best way to reach me) 408 924-4692 (office phone)
<b>Email:</b>	( <a href="mailto:robin.lasser@sjsu.edu">robin.lasser@sjsu.edu</a> )
<b>Office Hours:</b>	(Tu. and Thurs. 11-12 AM in IS 219)
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	(section 01 12-2:50, section 02 3-5:50)/Tu. and Thurs.
<b>Classroom:</b>	IS 219
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Photo 40
<b>Department Office:</b>	ART 116
<b>Department Contact:</b>	Website: <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/art">www.sjsu.edu/art</a> Email: <a href="mailto:art@sjsu.edu">art@sjsu.edu</a>

**Course Description**

An intermediate course in which students pursue individual projects. Emphasis on diverse strategies of approach and presentation which culminate in a group exhibition. (catalog description) More details: This course provides students with tools for critical analysis of images. Students will develop a self-determined body of work over the course of the semester. The class will be divided into small groups so that individual attention can be placed on each student as they develop this body of serious artwork. The class will exhibit their work in a gallery at the end of the semester. This will give students experience in promoting, hanging, and exhibiting their artwork. In support of their own ideas, images and video of artist's work will be shown, critically analyzed, and discussions will revolve around the ideas which support each artist's work. Field trips to exhibition spaces on and off campus provide students with first-hand information about living as an artist/photographer in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Contemporary guest artists will visit the class and present their work and professional practice.

**“University Policies:** Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs **maintains university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc.”**

You may find all syllabus related University Policies and resources information listed on GUP's [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

**Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

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

1. CLO 1. To construct all aspects of exhibition presentations
2. CLO 2. To write an artist statement
3. CLO 3. To write a critical review
4. CLO 4. To identify and recite art criticism
5. CLO 5. To create a body of work to be exhibited at the end of the semester

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

- To construct a self-imposed body of work.
- To write about and analyze photographs.
- To identify professional contemporary art making practices.
- To identify local museums and exhibition spaces.
- To identify contemporary artists who use video, photography, and installation as part of their art making process

**Course Assignments**

- You will write an artist statement, aligned with learning objective 2.*
- You will write reviews of an exhibition, aligned with learning objective 3.*
- You will write reviews about a visiting artist, aligned with learning objective 4*
- You will create a body of work or installation for final exhibition aligned with learning objective 5*

**Required Texts/Readings**

**Textbook (optional)**

In The Making: Creative Options for Contemporary Art by Linda Weintraub

**Course Format and technology required**

1. You should have your own laptop computer to take this course. You should own a copy of the Adobe Suite of software. Free access at link seen below. You will most likely need a good-sized jump drive, a flash card and driver.
2. Depending on the size of your computer’s hard drive, you may want to buy more storage in the form of an external hard drive. Not mandatory but strongly recommended if you’re short on space and plan to use video in your work.
3. You may need to purchase additional paper for prints. Prices depend on size and paper quality.
4. Canned air: strongly recommended for scanning

5. White cotton gloves: strongly recommended for handling paper during printing
6. Large cardboard/plastic tube for transportation of digital prints – strongly recommended.
7. Presentation materials – vary widely depending on what project you choose for exhibition

**Adobe Software Programs - Creative Cloud from this website: <http://its.sjsu.edu/services/software/adobe/>**

As you will see on the site, SJSU is providing all students, faculty, staff and administrators with free Adobe software for campus and home computers, and you must have an active SJSU One ID and password to qualify for ordering and downloading this software.

**Library Liaison**

*Elisabeth Thomas ([elisabeth.thomas@sjsu.edu](mailto:elisabeth.thomas@sjsu.edu))*

*Website: <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/collectiondevelopment/CDhumanities>*

**Grading Information**

The work created in class will be evaluated based on the following criteria. Extra credit papers about a lecture on art, or field trip to an art institution is possible. Grade goes down half a grade, for each day a project or paper is late.

- 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 majority of 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.
- F You didn't submit an assignment.

97-100 = A+

93-96 = A

90-92 = A-

87-89 = B+

83-86 = B

80-82 = B-

77-79 = C+

73-76 = C

70-72 = C-

67-69 = D+

63-66 = D

60-62 = D-

59 and below = F

**Final Examination or Evaluation**

The final exhibition is the “final exam.”

**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 also mandatory. 20% of your final grade will be based on your class participation. If you are experiencing extenuating circumstances it is your responsibility to make me aware of your situation when it occurs.

**Final Project - End of Semester Group Exhibition**

The work you present in this exhibition will represent a highly refined, professionally presented version of the ideas you have been experimenting with all semester. Your final, included as a part of the group exhibition, is of critical importance to this course and will represent 30% of your grade. Failure to complete your final project and/or participate in the group exhibition will result in failure of the course.

**Make Ups and Late Work**

It is your responsibility to make up missed class sessions or late work. If you’re going to miss a class, please send me an email (before the missed day) and I’ll let you know what you will be missing. Many class lectures and demonstrations cannot be repeated. 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. Do not miss critique days, even if you don’t have work of your own to show. Your voice is critical to the success of this class.

**Final Grade**

Your final grade will be based on:

- two critiques of work in progress (30%),
- your final project presented in the group exhibition (30%)
- Writing assignments (20%)
- Class participation (20%),

**PHOT 120/Image and Idea, Fall 2017, Course Schedule**

*List the agenda for the semester including when and where the final exam will be held. Indicate the schedule is subject to change with fair notice and how the notice will be made available.*

**Course Schedule**

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	August 24	Introductions and attendance. Class Overview

2	August 29	Field Trip to SJMA <u>This Is Not A Selfie: Photographic Self-Portraits from the Audrey and Sydney Irmas Collection</u> Conversation with Associate Curator Rory Padeken  <b>Assignment:</b> Turn in a one page written reflection on the field trip due September 5, Tuesday
2	August 31	Divide into two groups. Create a list with names, e-mail and phone numbers for each group. TA will take care of this task.  Talk about how to write a gallery/artist lecture critique. (DIE) due Sept. 7  Look over the pdf of the exhibition catalog created in the spring.
3	Sept. 5	Turn in gallery report and group one presents project proposals for the semester. Turn in project proposal.
3	Sept. 7	Group two present project proposals for the semester. Turn in project proposal.
4	Sept. 12	Digital Darkroom flow from camera to print. Extra credit attend Redwood City Public Art panel-6:30-8:00 Monday September 18
4	Sept. 14	Printing Demonstration and help with basic digital darkroom
5	Sept. 19	Printing Lab and individual help on your first projects
5	Sept. 21	Printing Lab and individual help on your first projects
6	Sept. 26	Printing Lab and individual help on your first projects. Robin covers Seminar class in 219, Tuesday evening.
6	Sept. 28	Printing Lab and individual help on your first projects
7	October 3	Critique Group 1 (Robin possibly teaches seminar in the evening)
7	October 5	Critique Group 2
8	October 10	Finish critiques and Wasteland film- Printing
8	October 12	Field trip to alternative gallery spaces on 1 <sup>st</sup> street in San Jose
9	October 17	Turn in Gallery report /individual discussions about work and printing lab

9	October 19	Printing Lab and individual help
10	October 24	Printing Lab and individual help
10	October 26	Final printing day for Critique #2
11	October 31	Critique Group 1
11	Nov. 2	Critique Group 2
12	Nov. 7	Jobs for exhibition and finish final critiques
12	Nov. 9	Robin in India- Lance Fung curator and guest presenter
13	Nov. 14	Guest educator- Beverly Rayner- shares her work
13	Nov. 16	Guest educator- Beverly Rayner Discuss catalog progress
14	Nov. 21	Guest educator- Beverly Rayner Discuss framing
14	Nov. 23	Thanksgiving break
15	Nov. 28	Catalog and Printing- individual discussions-Final framed prints Robin back from India and excited to see your work in progress
15	Nov. 30	Final checks on framed prints and exhibition details. Hang work on Friday December 1
16	Dec. 5	Opening reception and final critique
16	Dec. 8	Grades and de install. Last day of class