

Department of Art & Art History

PHOT 110, sec. 01: Black & White Photography, Spring, 2017

Contact Information

Instructor:	Brian Taylor and TA Mape Andrews
Office Location:	Duncan Hall 401A
Telephone:	(408) 924-4692
Email:	brian.taylor@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Th 4:30-6:30 pm
Class Days/Time:	TTh 12:00 – 2:50
Classroom:	Duncan Hall 406
Prerequisites:	Photo 40 is recommended but not required
Department Office:	ART 116
Department Contact:	Website: www.sjsu.edu/art Email: art@sjsu.edu

Course CANVAS Site

Course materials such as syllabi, technical instruction handouts, assignment information, etc. can be found on our CANVAS class site. Please check the site regularly to learn of any updates, and I'll send you emails with notifications of any changes (such as due dates).

Course Description

Catalog Description: "A traditional darkroom photography class which introduces black and white film developing, silver based printing, and image manipulation and presentation techniques. Taught with traditional film and photo paper; requires a film camera, a limited number of which the department can loan students."

This course in black and white photography is designed to broaden and refine your skills, both technically and aesthetically. A more advanced approach to the art and process of photography will be covered, as well as instruction in using silver-based film and photographic papers in a traditional darkroom. We'll also explore the popular philosophy of manipulating the photographic image, using techniques such as hand coloring, darkroom manipulation, photomontage, collage, and mixed media. In addition to these technical refinements, an emphasis will be placed on the aesthetics (ideas) of photography. Developing an individual direction in your work and learning to express yourself visually will be a priority. Taking chances will be rewarded!

Learning Outcomes and Course Goals

During the semester, we'll have class discussions regarding historic and contemporary trends in photography and we'll view original prints as well as slide presentations. We'll have classroom demonstrations of various techniques such as printing on silver based paper, hand coloring, and creative darkroom techniques. Field trips

will be scheduled during class time to visit photography exhibitions at nearby galleries and museums. Your photo assignments will be discussed during class critiques so that you can benefit from a number of constructive opinions about your work. Open labs will also be scheduled to allow time for you to work on your assignments with my supervision (and you may also use our darkrooms outside of scheduled class time to work at your own pace...).

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

- 1.) Understand, compare and contrast various, photographic techniques and aesthetic approaches
- 2.) Utilize acquired skills in the use of traditional, silver-based photographic materials: film & paper
- 3.) Articulate general ways in which the medium has influenced its surrounding society
- 4.) Describe the concepts of important photographers and aesthetic movements in the medium

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

SJSU Photo Lab Manual, Download from Photo Area Website: photo.sjsu.edu. (Also available on our Course Canvas site.) This manual is required reading for every photography student and will help acquaint you with the SJSU Dept. of Art and Art History Photo Lab facility and safety procedures (especially if you're new to our school). The manual also contains excellent information regarding traditional photo processing such as film developing and printing at SJSU for those who'd like a helpful review.

Other Readings

Additional readings and handouts will be available on our class Canvas site. Use any photo textbook you own to supplement and reinforce the class lectures and demonstrations (for example, reading a chapter on the Zone System will really help you better understand a class lecture on that topic.)

Hazardous Materials

Health Concerns:

We'll be hand developing your film and photographs in traditional darkroom chemicals, and we'll fully discuss and demonstrate safe handling procedures in class. Of course, please confidentially inform me of any health concerns you may currently have. For detailed information about the chemicals we use in the Photo Lab, we keep MSDS (Materials Safety Data Sheets) on file at the Lab checkout window.

Note that food containers cannot be used for chemical storage and that common household items (bleach, vinegar, etc.) are deemed hazardous materials and must be stored appropriately. The techs are NOT responsible for cleaning up facilities and classrooms.

Basic training powerpoint: <http://www.sjsu.edu/fdo/docs/hazmatandlabsafetyguidance.pdf>

Library Liaison

Rebecca Kohn (rebecca.kohn@sjsu.edu)

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

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.

Four specific assignments will be given during the semester to explore various techniques and philosophies of photography. Three or four prints will be due for each assignment on a specific date, and will be graded on technique (print quality) and aesthetics (your ideas). Class participation will also be taken into account. A Gallery Report project will consist of a one page, typed paper discussing a photography exhibition you've seen this semester at a Bay Area gallery or museum. Quizzes may be given along the way to inspire notes, memory, and caffeine..!

Equipment and Materials Required

This is a traditional, film-based, darkroom class so you'll be using a film camera. See if your parents have one in the closet, or borrow one from a friend. Our Photo Lab has film cameras we can loan you over weekends. You'll also need to provide your own materials such as film, photo paper, mat boards, etc. Please see the **Equipment List** for more details on what you'll need. The cost of the materials for this class is estimated to be around \$150. It's for a good cause, because you'll have created your own great photography-- frame it, hang it up on your walls and be proud of it!

Grading Policy

Your assignments will be graded on a combination of technical skills and aesthetic creativity. Your final grade will be compiled from a percentage of your assignments and also class participation, quizzes and a gallery report:

Photography assignments	80%
Class participation, quizzes, gallery report	20%

Attendance and Class Participation:

The best way to learn about photography and improve your own creative work is to be here during class time. We'll have many interesting discussions about the impact of photography in art and society in general. Your active participation in the form of regular class participation and constructive comments will count for 20% of your final grade. Be brave-- speak up at any time, we'll have a better class!

Make Ups, and Late Work: (valid health or family reasons are OK)

It is your responsibility to make up missed class sessions. Important class lectures and demonstrations cannot be repeated. Any assignments handed in after the beginning of class on the due date will be regarded as late, and will be marked down by one grade point per week late. By all means, let me know ahead of time if you know you'll have a problem meeting a deadline.

Gallery Report:

This written assignment is a way of inspiring you to get off campus, take a friend, make a day of it in San Jose or San Francisco, and go see an actual photography exhibition. We'll view a lot of excellent slides in

class, but there is no substitute for standing in front of original photographs in a gallery or museum environment. A one page typed report will be due at the end of the semester describing your thoughts on the exhibition you visited. I'll give you more information about this, as well as a typed handout describing how to review a show available on our *Canvas* site.

Classroom Protocol

As everyone knows, cell phones and computer usage can seriously reduce your ability to listen and learn in class, and is often a distraction to other students. Please do not use your cell phones in class, no texting. Computers can be open only for taking notes and following specific lectures. Thank you!

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](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf) 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](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html), 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](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 webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/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](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) 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), <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](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

Photo 110: Black & White Photography, Spring 2017, Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to change and I'll contact you directly with updated information. See an updated Syllabus on our Course CANVAS site.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Jan 26	Class Introduction and Overview: Materials list, lockers, brief show of assignments, bring your favorite photo to show next
2	Jan 31, Feb. 2	Overview of traditional film cameras and discussion of first assignment: " <i>Peculiar to Photography</i> " Film Developing Demo Darkroom Printing Demonstration
3	Feb 7,9	Rolls of film exposed and ready for 1 st Assignment Dry Mounting demonstration
4	Feb 14,16	Supervised time to work on <i>Peculiar to Photography</i> Assignment
5	Feb 21, 23	Critique of " <i>Peculiar to Photography</i> " Four dry mounted photographs of four different characteristics of photography due at start of class.
6	Feb 28 March 2	Discussion and presentation of the Zone System Slide presentation on assignment: " <i>Fabricated to Be Photographed</i> " photographers who build their own systems (Read <u>Zone System Handout</u> & Textbook for next class)
7	March 7,9	Further review of the Zone System and assignment More slides, ideas on assignment: " <i>Fabricated to be Photographed</i> "
8	March 14,16	Supervised time to work on " <i>Fabricated</i> " Assignment
9	March 21,23	Supervised time in Darkroom to work on " <i>Fabricated...</i> "
10	March 28,30	Spring Recess
11	April 4 April 6	Supervised time in Darkroom to complete " <i>Fabricated...</i> " Critique Due: Three amazing, retouched, dry mounted prints portraying three different scenes or still lifes that you set up will be due promptly at the start of class. Also due: contact sheet for at least

		one roll of film shot for this assignment. Work handed in after the start of class will be regarded as late and will lose one grade.
12	April 11,13	Class Discussion of <i>Manipulation Assignment</i> : Defining manipulation, listing our options; Examples and slide overview of manipulation techniques. Assignment Overview
13	April 18,20	Supervised darkroom time to explore <i>Manipulation Assignment</i>
14	April 25 April 27	Supervised darkroom time to explore <i>Manipulation Assignment</i> Critique Due: Four amazing, finished prints, either dry mounted or creatively presented portraying four different techniques of photographic manipulation. Contact sheets are not required for this assignment. Remember, work handed in after the start of class, or incomplete assignments will be regarded as late and will lose one grade. Anyone not participating in both lectures is not eligible to receive a grade of A on the assignment.
15	May 2,4	Discussion of Final Portfolio Project Supervised darkroom time to explore <i>Final Portfolio Assignment</i>
16 Tues.	May 9,11 May 16 th	Supervised darkroom time to explore <i>Final Portfolio Assignment</i> Last day of SJSU classes, Open for Supervised time to complete <i>Final Portfolio Assignment</i>
Final Exam	Wednesday May 24	Critique Due: <i>Final Portfolio Project</i> 9:45 AM in our classroom