

San José State University
Department of Art & Art History
Photo 40, Beginning Photography, Section 6, Spring 2017

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Christian G. Mora
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Office Hours:	Tuesday 5:00pm-6:00pm
Class Days/Time:	Tuesday & Thursday 6:00pm-8:50pm
Classroom:	Duncan Hall 401

Department Office: Art 116

Department Contact: Website: www.sjsu.edu/art Email: art@sjsu.edu

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on Canvas learning management system course website. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU to learn of any updates.

Course Description

A Beginning photography course introduces basic aesthetic issues in black and white image making. Introduces photographic technique utilizing digital cameras, electronic image processing and digital printing.

Requirements are a DSLR (digital single lens reflex) type camera, a computer that is compatible with Adobe Suite, the required software from Adobe Suite is Adobe Lightroom. (As a SJSU student you get Adobe Suite for free online here is the link to it <http://its.sjsu.edu/services/software/adobe/>)

Learning Outcomes and Course Goals

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

1. Use the manual functions on a camera. ISO, shutter speed, aperture, etc. to achieve an accurately exposed and composed photograph.
2. Understanding of basic digital workflow and organizing photos in Adobe Lightroom.
3. Understand both visual and technical elements of the photographic image and how it was created.
4. Understand and dissect the visual communication of photography and develop individual aesthetic appreciation.

Textbook

No textbook required for this course. Readings related to assignments will be announced in class and distributed via Canvas, please check Canvas regularly for updates.

Other required equipment/Material requirements

- Digital Camera with a minimum of 6-mega-pixel capacity [with adjustable shutter speeds and "f" stops]. The more automatic your camera is, the less you will learn how your camera works. Cameras with a "manual" mode are best. The following are some suggested digital Single Lens Reflex (SLR) cameras with full manual controls:
 - -Nikon: D40,D50,D70s,D80
 - -Canon: EOS Digital Rebel(XT,XTi,10D,20D,30D)
 - -Olympus: Evolt 300,330,500
 - -Pentax: K100D,K110D,K10D
 - -Panasonic: Lumix DMC FZ7s, FZ30s, FZ50s
- Laptop computer (must have USB ports or appropriate adapters)
- Updated Adobe Lightroom 5 Software (available to download through SJSU at <http://its.sjsu.edu/services/software/adobe/>)
- Compact Flash Card, or other Memory Card suitable for your digital camera. 1GB minimum, more storage is highly, highly recommended, as are extra backups should the first one fail.
- 16 GB USB flash drive
- Card Reader (unless your computer has the appropriate port)
- Artist journal
- Cotton gloves

Optional, but highly recommended

- 64GB media storage (USB or external hard drive) for backing up work
- Package of lens cleaning tissue and bottle of lens cleaning fluid
- Tripod
- Folder/portfolio to store images

Suggested Local Vendors:

Foto Express- 304 E Santa Clara Street, San Jose (408) 971-3977

Online Vendors:

Adorama (NY)

B&H (NY)

Freestyle Photo (freestylephoto.biz)

Mac on Campus Group

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>.

Grade Break Down

- In-class Assignments (15 points, 5 each)
- Project #1 & #2 (20 points)
- Mid-Term Exam (35 points)

- Final Assignment & Photo Exchange (15 points)
- Artist Presentation and Essay (10 points)
- Participation (5 points)

- ***Class Participation and Engagement: In Class Exercises & Discussions (5 points)***
 - Exercises and Write-ups that are relevant to the course material will be given in class and cannot be made up. The exercises may be on the camera, computer, and may involve short excursions to other parts of campus. Participation in these exercises is required to succeed in the class.
 - Discussions in pairs, groups or with the class will be required from time to time. Contributing can be in the form of making observations, asking questions, or sharing experiences. Other ways of being actively participating in the class: sharing skills with others, helping others catch up with materials, and bringing new ideas to class.

- **Projects and Final Project**
(Projects are worth 20 points; each worth 10 points & the Final Project is worth 15 points)
 More information on the project will be given when the date approaches.

- ***Artist Statement (15 points, each worth 5 points)***
 Students are expected to write an artist statement for each project, therefore there will be three artist statements throughout the course.
- ***Artist Presentation and Essay (10 points; essay is worth 5 and presentation is 5):***
 sign-up sheet available after Assignment 1; presentation relates to your work or the work you will be making and must be accompanied by a 3 page paper, more information on the project will be given when the date approaches.

- **Extra Credit**
 There will be multiple opportunities to gain extra credit throughout the semester.

NOTE that University policy F69-24 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states that “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

Grading Policy

Please refer to the outline of requirements and assignments for a more detailed break-down. Updated assignment sheets with project break down will be available in class during lecture.

A 90-100% B 80-89% C 70-79% D 60-69% F 0-59%

I do not accept late work, with the exception of emergency situations. Opportunities for extra credit will be announced in class.

Note that “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See [University Policy F13-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details.

Classroom Protocol

1. I expect our classroom to be a fun and safe learning space.
2. Our classroom space will have an open-door policy. This does not mean you can skip class and catch up later. For the purposes of our class this means: Get up and stretch if you need to, take a quick bathroom break when you need to, if you are tired and need a nap, go somewhere else and then return. You are still responsible for all materials, conversation, exercises, group work, etc that you might miss during your break, so please make sure you exchange contact information with several classmates in case you miss something important.
3. I expect you to have respect for yourself and your learning process, each other, materials, classroom, and me.
4. Participation means being engaged in classroom discussion, lessons, and activities. This class is a conversation and I expect all of you to contribute in the way that is most appropriate to your personality. Because of my open door policy, I expect that if you need to take care of a need during class, please excuse yourself and take care of it: this includes hunger and sleepiness. I understand that as a student you have an enormous amount of pressure and responsibilities. How you act in class affects other people. If you are tired and need to sleep/take a break (ie social media or video games), please do so elsewhere, so the rest of us can fully engage in the work at hand.

Some general rules to think about with this class, any class, and life.

1. Each person is coming to this class with a different skill level and background. Please be respectful and helpful towards others.
2. During discussions and presentations I expect full class participation, which means engaged listening. Generally, engaged listening happens when a person makes eye contact and/or faces the speaker, takes notes, makes relevant questions or commentary.
3. If you witness behavior that is not respectful of others experience in this class please say something, privately if need be.

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.

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](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) 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.

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](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

PHOT 40 / Beginning Photography, Spring 2017, Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	1/26/17	Introduction to class, Syllabus, and class activity.
2	1/31/17	In-class Assignment and Group Project, Field Shooting.
2	2/2/17	Lecture In-depth Camera Function
3	2/7/17	Intro to Lightroom & Field Shooting
3	2/9/17	In-depth Lightroom Lecture
4	2/14/17	Lecture: Conceptual & Commercial approach to Portraiture HW: Shoot Portraits
4	2/16/17	In-class Assignment/Portraiture to show camera technical skills
5	2/21/17	Lightroom Demo on Brush tool/Clone stamp/Radial tool
5	2/23/17	Printing Demo/Editing, Printing Day. Images must be ready!
6	2/27/17	Critique
6	3/2/17	Intro to Project #1 & Artist Lecture
7	3/7/17	Individual meeting on project
7	3/9/17	Individual meeting on project
8	3/14/17	Print Day & Lecture
8	3/16/17	Print Day & Lecture
9	3/21/17	Critique
9	3/23/17	Critique
10	3/28/17	Spring Break
10	3/30/17	Spring Break
11	4/4/17	Intro to Project #2
11	4/6/17	Intro to having a show & Artist lecture
12	4/11/17	In-class Work Day
12	4/13/17	Class Discussion on Title for Show & Intro to Sequence
13	4/18/17	Printing
13	4/20/17	Printing
14	4/25/17	Window Matting
14	4/27/17	Working on Sequencing for show (Extra Credit Op. Hanging show over weekend)
15	5/2/17	Assignment #4 Final project
15	5/4/17	Open lab & Talking/choosing prints for exchange
16	5/9/17	Print Day
15	5/11/17	Print Day

15	5/16/17	Critique
Final Exam	TBD	Print Exchange