

San José State University
Department of Art & Art History
PHOT40, Beginning Photography, Section 2, Spring 2018

Course and Contact Information

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Office Hours:	Monday, Wednesday 6-7PM
Class Days/Time:	Monday, Wednesday 3-6PM
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For information about majors and minors in Art & Art History, for change of major/minor forms and a list of advisors: <http://www.sjsu.edu/art/> or the Art & Art History department office in ART 116, 408-924-4320, art@sjsu.edu

“A photograph is a secret about a secret. The more it tells you, the less you know” -Diane Arbus

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the class web page on the Canvas learning management system website. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates.

Course Description

A beginning black and white photography course utilizing a digital single lens reflex camera (DSLR) to capture images and edit in Adobe Lightroom. Understanding both technical and conceptual aspects of photography. Placing oneself in the context of contemporary photographic art through a brief understanding of history of the medium and an awareness of other photographic artists.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

1. To build technical and conceptual skills in the making of photographs.
2. Placing oneself in the context of contemporary photography through a brief understanding of the history of the medium.
3. Learning the functions of a digital single lens reflex, and understanding the fundamental photographic concepts of ISO, shutter speed and aperture.
4. Utilizing basic importing editing tools in Adobe Lightroom.
5. Utilize basic editing tools in Photoshop and move between Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Lightroom
5. Operating the printers available at school.
6. Editing and sequencing a body of work.
7. Professional presentation of work for a group show.
8. Writing an artist statement.
9. Constructive discourse of art in critique.

Textbook

The Adobe Photoshop Lightroom CC Book for Digital Photographers - Scott Kelby

-Additional readings may be assigned through canvas or distributed in class.

Materials

-Digital single lens reflex Digital Camera with a minimum of 6-mega-pixel capacity and a full "manual mode" (able to manually adjust both shutter speed and f/stops). RAW shooting capability recommended. The more manual your camera is, the more control you will have over your images, and the more opportunities 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, 10D, 20D, 30D) Olympus - Evolt 300, 330, 500

Pentax - K100D, K110D, K10D

Panasonic - Lumix DMC FZ7's, FZ30's, FZ50's

- A USB flash drive or hard drive
- Photography paper
- Your own laptop is required for this class (Mac strongly suggested)
- Adobe Lightroom and Adobe Photoshop installed for photo editing (available through SJSU)
- A portfolio or portfolio box for handing in work/to keep prints safe
- Matt board and frame or alternative materials for professional presentation of work in end of the semester group show.

Suggested Local Vendors:

Foto Express- 304 E Santa Clara Street, San Jose (408) 971-3977 Keeble and Schuchat- 290 California, Palo Alto (415) 327-8996 Kaufman's Camera- 154 W. 25th Ave, San Mateo (650) 574-3429 Bear Images- 417 Lambert Ave., Palo Alto, 94306 (650) 813-9820 Adolf Gasser- 181 2nd Street, SF (415) 495-3852

Samy's Camera- 1090 Bryant Street, SF (415)621-8400

Online Vendors:

Adorama (NY)

B&H (NY)

Freestyle Photo (freestylephoto.biz)

Projects:

Self Portrait - 200 points

Narrative - 200 points

Final Portfolio Windows and Mirrors - 300 point

Assignments

Scavenger hunt- 25 points

Photogram- 25 points

Photographer research paper- 25 points

Presentation - 50 points

Quizzes - 50 points

Participation- 100 points

-1000 Points Total-

Grading Policy

Letter Grade	Grade Point	Percentage
A	4.0	94 - 100%
A-	3.7	90 - 93%
B+	3.3	87 - 89%
B	3.0	83 - 86%
B-	2.7	80 - 83%
C+	2.3	77 - 79%
C	2.0	73 - 76%
C-	1.7	70 - 72%
D+	1.3	67 - 79%
D	1.0	60 - 66%
F	0.0	0 - 59%

This course must be passed with a C or better as a CSU graduation requirement.

A minimum aggregate GPA of 2.0 SJSU Studies (R, S, & V) shall be required of all students as a graduation requirement.

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 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details.

Classroom Protocol

You will be expected to be on time, engaged and present throughout class meetings, critiques and lectures. Students are encouraged not only to engage with their instructor regarding their work, but also with the other students within the class. Participation in group critique is both expected and mandatory. We are learning not only how to make better pictures, but also to dissect, digest and talk about them- let’s have a conversation!

Cell Phone use is absolutely prohibited in the class.

Laptop usage beyond editing photographs for this class is also prohibited.

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/home/catalog.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/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.

PHOT 40/Beginning Photography, Spring 2018, Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Wed. 1/24	Syllabus and Materials. Introductions. CAMERA OBSCURA. Brief history lesson. Homework: Read excerpt from Graham Clarkes “The Photograph.”
2	Mon. 1/29	History cont. exploring key photographic movements. Discuss reading. The digital age and the immediacy and availability of photographs (Guy Debord, Society of the Spectacle) Homework: Bring your camera AND MANUAL to next class meeting.
2	Wed. 1/31	Anatomy of a DSLR. Exposure Triangle (Aperture, ISO, shutter speed). Light metering and bracketing. In class scavenger hunt. Homework: Shoot and explore camera settings. Edit down to your favorite 24 images for the next class. Bring your computer with Lightroom installed to the next class meeting. Refer to notes on canvas for importing and read the section on converting to black and white in LR page 230 in the text.
3	Mon. 2/5	Introduction to Lightroom, importing images and basic editing. Share your images from first informal shooting assignment. Homework: Chapter 4, and the section on contact sheets pg. 442
3	Wed. 2/7	Demos continued in Lightroom. Develop module, editing photographs. Making contact sheets, converting images to black and white. In class portrait assignment. Homework: Bring in a sentimental, symbolic, or quotidian object for in class flatbed scanner assignment.

4	Mon. 2/12	<p>First Project Assigned. Lecture on the Self Portrait: naming and defining one's own reality. Slide show/ lecture on artists working in self-portraiture. In class flatbed scanning assignment.</p> <p>Homework: Read Chapter 5.</p>
4	Wed. 2/14	<p>More artists working in self-portrait. Local Adjustments. Check in with me about images/contact sheets. Open Lab</p> <p>Homework: Shoot 100 images for the self-portrait project and bring images to work on next class.</p>
5	Mon. 2/19	<p>Quiz. Guest Artist. Printing Demo. Individual meetings to discuss project 1. Open Lab</p>
5	Wed. 2/21	<p>Print demo. Print day 1</p>
6	Mon. 2/26	<p>Print day 2</p>
6	Wed. 2/28	<p>1st Assignment due - Critique</p>
7	Mon. 3/5	<p>Critique continues</p> <p>Homework: Chapter 10. Reading: 'Reading' Photographs: Burton Brothers and the Photographic Narrative by Christine Whybrew</p>
7	Wed. 3/7	<p>Second project Assigned. Lecture and slideshow on Narrative Photography. 2nd Assignment - The Narrative: World Building, The Camera as Theater, The Photograph as Ritual or Document. Research paper assigned. In-class shooting assignment Light as Subject.</p> <p>Homework: Shoot for 2nd Assignment, at least 100 images</p>
8	Mon. 3/12	<p>Library field trip to look at Monographs.</p> <p>Homework: Chapter 13. Continue shooting for 2nd Assignment. Edit down to your favorite 36 images for next class.</p>

8	Wed. 3/14	<p>Student Presentations. Lab for Narrative project and individual meetings. Share contact sheets for Narrative project, and Light as Subject (which can overlap) at least 36 images, can be more.</p> <p>Homework: Work on Narrative Assignment.</p>
9	Mon. 3/19	<p>More photographers working with Narrative. Moving files between Photoshop and Lightroom Guest Artist.</p> <p>Homework: find three examples of artist statements you like and bring them to share with the class.</p>
9	Wed. 3/21	Test print day
10	Mon. 3/26	SPRING BREAK
10	Wed. 3/28	SPRING BREAK
11	Mon. 4/2	<p>Print day</p> <p>Homework: Reading: John Sarkowski's Windows and Mirrors 'Ways of Seeing' John Berger</p>
11	Wed. 4/4	Print Day
12	Mon. 4/9	CRITIQUE
12	Wed. 4/11	CRITIQUE

13	Mon. 4/16	Introduce Portfolio Assignment Windows and Mirrors (i.e. landscape, portrait, documentary etc.) Sequencing and Editing. 3rd Assignment Introduced- Portfolio Building, Windows and Mirrors: Choose a theme and create a body of work. Quiz Review. RESEARCH PAPER DUE NEXT CLASS
13	Wed. 4/18	Introductions /demos for 3rd Assignment continue. Individual meetings about Portfolio assignment. Research paper due. Quiz. Homework: Shoot 100 images or more for Portfolio Project, make contact sheets for next class. Begin sequencing and editing.
14	Mon. 4/23	Share contact sheets for Windows and Mirrors. Guest Artist. Matt cutting demo. Open Lab. Homework: First draft of Artist statement for Portfolio.
14	Wed. 4/25	Print day 1. Window Mat Cutting demo and open lab for window mat/frame
15	Mon. 4/30	Print day 2 open lab for window mat/frame
15	Wed. 5/2	Install show
16	Mon. 5/7	Critique final portfolio
16	Wed. 5/9	Critique final portfolio. Critique show
	Mon. 5/14	Print edition for end of semester exchange
	Thurs. 5/17 12:15PM - 2:30PM	End of semester potluck and print exchange

<http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/final-exam-schedule-spring.html>