San José State University
Department of Art and Art History
PHOT 112: Color Photography Section 01, Spring Semester 2021

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Binh Danh
Office Location:	On Zoom
Email:	binh.danh@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Monday and Wednesday: 6 PM to 7 PM
Class Days/Time:	Monday and Wednesday: 3 PM to 5:50 PM
Classroom:	On Zoom

Course Description

This course is an intermediate level photography course that emphasizes understanding and mastering craft and theory related to Color Photography. We will be dealing with the knowledge, skills, and ideas you were exposed to in previous introductory photography classes, refining what you have learned and expand your understanding of photography as a creative medium. My goal is to help you become skilled color photographers and learn to make pictures that grow in sophistication as you move through the course. The class is divided into workdays and lectures/crits.

As you know, photography has changed a lot in recent years due to digital cameras and increasingly powerful digital processing tools. Still, the basics of color photography and the properties of light (intensity, color, diffusion, etc.) have not changed, nor have the far more complex problems involved in using color in picture-making strategies. With the use of Photoshop and Lightroom, you will learn to photo edit, color correct, and print your photos. By midterm, each of you will possess the technical skills to produce high-quality color images. By the end of the term, you will have completed several projects (both assigned and self-generated) that will build your abilities at making effective, meaningful pictures.

Course Format

We will meet over Zoom on Mondays and Wednesdays at the scheduled class time. Students are required to photograph out of class time.

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, readings, slide presentations, grades, etc. can be found on Canvas Learning Management System course login website at http://sjsu.instructure.com

Your login is your student ID#. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU at http://my.sjsu.edu to learn of any updates.

For help with using Canvas see Canvas Student Resources page http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

CLO1 – To practice seeing in color and to understand how photographs translate the world of color.

CLO2 – Acquire an understanding of color theory as it relates to both conventional and digital photography and to apply that knowledge in practice.

CLO3 – To understand how images may be captured digitally, controlled and printed with currently available technologies and to become proficient at making color "prints" and online presentation.

CLO4 – As well as implement a good color workflow for color management both in Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop.

CLO5 – Gain familiarity with color history and contemporary uses of color in the fine arts.

CLO6 – Build a color portfolio of digital color prints.

CLO7 – Develop competency in verbal and written communication of art concepts.

Texts/Readings/Online Lightroom Tutorials

- Exploring Color Photography, Hirsch, Robert (Taylor & Francis Group, 2014)

  Available on ProQuest Ebook Central at SJSU Library

  https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/sjsu/reader.action?docID=630579

  Read: (CLO1,2,5,7)

  Ch 1: Color Photography Concepts

  Ch 3: Exposing the Light

  Ch 4: Filtering the Light

  Ch 5: Seeing the Light

  Ch 6: The Visual Language of Color Design

  Ch 7: Working Color Strategies

  Ch 8: The Interaction of Color, Movement, Space, and Time

  Ch 9: Digital input

  Ch 11: Digital output
- Online readings available in Canvas course website

Study guides of slide presentations
Additional readings

- Lynda.com available via SJSU Library: https://www.lynda.com/portal/patron?org=sjlibrary.org

  Using Lightroom and Photoshop Together with Jan Kabill (1 hour and 25 minutes)

  https://www.lynda.com/Lightroom-tutorials/Using-Lightroom-Photoshop-Together/5040397-2.html?org=sjlibrary.org

  Learning Lightroom Classic with Theresa Jackson (2 hours, optional)

  https://www.lynda.com/Lightroom-tutorials/Learning-Lightroom-Classic/2852002-2.html?org=sjlibrary.org

  Lightroom Classic Essential Training with Theresa Jackson (3 hours and 41 minutes, optional)

  https://www.lynda.com/Lightroom-tutorials/Lightroom-Classic-Essential-Training-DUPE/2836002-2.html?org=sjlibrary.org

  Photoshop CC 2019 One-on-One: Fundamentals with Deke McClelland (18 hours, recommend Ch 1 to 6, optional)

  https://www.lynda.com/Photoshop-tutorials/Photoshop-CC-2019-One-One-Fundamentals/784290-2.html?org=sjlibrary.org

  Photography Foundations: Exposure (part 1) with Ben Long (2 hours 29 minutes, optional)

  https://www.lynda.com/course-tutorials/Photography-Foundations-Exposure-part-1-Revision/734659-2.html?org=sjlibrary.org

  Photography Foundations: Exposure (part 2) with Ben Long (1 hour 39 minutes, optional)

  https://www.lynda.com/course-tutorials/Photography-Foundations-Exposure-Revision/721908-2.html?org=sjlibrary.org

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

- DSLR/mirrorless/or other digital camera and lens(s)
- Laptop Computer to run Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop

Adobe Software Programs - Creative Cloud from this website: https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/adobe/students/index.html

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

Gareth Scott
email: gareth.scott@sjsu.edu
phone: (408) 808-2094
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library
4th Floor Administration Offices

Department Advising

For information about majors and minors in Art & Art History, for a 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

Course Requirements and Assignments

"Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course-related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus."

Attendance

This course is lecture/technique-intensive, and attendance is required at all lecture and critique sessions. Do not schedule appointments, work, or any other commitment during this class, as they will not be excused.

Critiques and Assignments

As one of the essential elements in art study, crits (critique) will play a vital role in this course. We will have a crit for each project, and attendance at crits are mandatory. You are required to show up for critiques prepared with your finished work. I will grade your assignments following the crits. I will accept late assignments only under unusual, extenuating, or emergency circumstances. Additionally, you must be prepared to discuss your work and your classmates' work in a manner that is educational, analytical, and objective. Participating in crit discussions are as essential as showing up for them. I will consider your level of participation in your final grade.

Grades are calculated on the below assignments and projects:

Four Photo Projects:	400 points, 40% (CLO1,2,3,4)	
Six Canvas assignments:	300 points, 30% (readings, discussions, and video tutorials, CLO5,7)	
Final Portfolio:	200 points, 20% (CLO6)	
Participation:	100 points, 10%	
	1000 points, 100%	

The criteria to earn an excellent grade:
• Technical proficiency in subject matter with the camera, Adobe Lightroom, and image presentation
• A thorough understanding and creative interpretation of all assignments
• Often going beyond the minimum shooting requirements for each assignment
• Exhibiting thorough verbal engagement in crits and class discussions.
• Punctual daily attendance
• Evidence that you have challenged yourself above and beyond the status quo

Participation:
Please keep in mind that for classes such as this one, active participation is essential. I require you to attend all class meetings, including those you are not presenting or having work critiqued. I expect you to actively participate in discussions about your peers' work, readings, lectures, etc. Taking chances will be highly

rewarded! Your good energy is always evident, even if some of your projects don't reach the level of success you initially imagined. I would much prefer to reward you for "failing" at a higher level than succeeding at your current level of comfort.

Final Examination

*"*Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignments."

Our Final Exam is scheduled to take place on Friday, May 21 from 12:15 PM to 2:30 PM.

Grading Information

Numeric grade equivalents:
100% and over A+
93% - 99% A
92% - 90% A-
89% - 88% B+
87% - 83% B
82% - 80% B-
79% - 78% C+
77% - 73% C
72% - 70% C-
69% - 68% D+
67% - 63% D
62% - 60% D-
Below 60% F

Grading Policy
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.

Please Note:

Except in cases of documented emergencies, incomplete grades are not given in this course.
"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

Students are expected to be punctual for class and actively engaged during all class meetings. Cell phones, smartphones, or other devices that detract from full attention should turn off or silenced. Regularly checking your phone during lectures, demos, and critiques will lower your participation grades.

Explicit Content

Some materials viewed and/or discussed in this class may contain explicit language or images (true to the controversial nature in the dialogue of contemporary art). Topics may involve aspects of identity such as sexuality, gender, political or spiritual ideology and/ or issues about race, class, and societal/cultural differences. Our goal as a class is to engage in these discussions—uncomfortable as they may be—bring them into a creative framework, and foster a greater understanding and respect for varying perspectives, using art as a language to express the nuances and complexities of where each of us stand.

Preferred Names and Pronouns

This course welcomes and affirms people of all gender expressions and identities. If you prefer to be called a different name than what is on the class roster, please let me know. Furthermore, please notify me of your preferred gender pronoun.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9 *(http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf)*, relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g., learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on Syllabus Information web page (http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo), which is hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Education. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Academic Integrity:
Students at SJSU are required to demonstrate academic integrity and follow SJSU's Code of Academic Conduct. This code prohibits:
• cheating,
• plagiarism (turning in work not written by you, or lacking proper citation),
• falsification and fabrication (lying or distorting the truth),
• helping others to cheat,
• unauthorized changes on official documents,
• pretending to be someone else or having someone else pretend to be you,
• making or accepting bribes, special favors, or threats, and
• any other behavior that violates academic integrity.

There are serious consequences to violations of the academic integrity policy. SJSU's policies and procedures provide students a fair hearing if a complaint is made against you.

This syllabus is subject to change in the event of unforeseen circumstances or the case that changes will significantly enhance the quality of the course. Students will collectively have the opportunity to shape how the course unfolds.

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Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	**Wed. Jan 27**	Course orientation and summary, syllabus, attendance, Canvas, readings, materials list, etc. Cameras Lightroom and Photoshop Homework: • Have your DSLR ready • Read your camera's manual from cover to cover. • Readings: Exploring Color Photography: Ch 1: Color Photography Concepts
2	**Mon. Feb 1**	Short history of photography (from film to digital) Install Lightroom and Photoshop: overview Color Theory, How our eyes work Color basics: RGB vs. CMYK, color temperature, white balancing, etc. and digital workflow. Homework: • Readings: Exploring Color Photography: Ch 3: Exposing the Light • Ch 4: Filtering the Light
	Wed. Feb 3	Camera settings: How cameras work (have your camera ready for class) Getting accustomed to your camera: metering in manual mode, bracketing and shooting RAW files. Using a grey card for custom white balance and metering especially light or dark scenes. Photo project #1: "The Color of Light" Homework: • Readings: Exploring Color Photography: Ch 5: Seeing the Light • Complete Canvas Assignment #1
3	**Mon. Feb 8**	Photo conversation: Strategies for crit sessions Slide lecture Homework: • Readings: Exploring Color Photography: Ch 6: The Visual Language of Color Design Complete Canvas Assignment #2

	Wed. Feb 10	Slide lecture Homework: • Readings: <u>Exploring Color Photography</u>: Ch 7: Working Color Strategies Ch 8: The Interaction of Color, Movement, Space, and Time
4	**Mon. Feb 15**	Digital input and output Homework: • Readings: <u>Exploring Color Photography</u>: Ch 9: Digital input Ch 11: Digital output
	Wed. Feb 17	Workday (log into Zoom for group help) Homework: • Lynda.com tutorial: Using Lightroom and Photoshop Together with Jan Kabill (1 hour and 25 minutes) • Complete Canvas Assignment #3
5	**Mon. Feb 22**	**Crit Photo project #1: "The Color of Light"**
	Wed. Feb 24	Discussion: genres/history of photography, where does your work fit? Who is your audience, and what does that mean?
6	**Mon. Mar 1**	Photo project #2: "Signs of our times" Homework: • Complete Canvas Assignment #4
	Wed. Mar 3	Workday (log into Zoom for group help)
7	**Mon. Mar 8**	Workday (log into Zoom for group help)
	Wed. Mar 10	Workday (log into Zoom for group help)
8	**Mon. Mar 15**	Workday (log into Zoom for group help)

	Wed. Mar 17	Workday (log into Zoom for group help)
9	Mon. Mar 22	**Crit Photo Project #2 "Signs of our times"**
	Wed. Mar 24	**Crit Photo Project #2 "Signs of our times"**
10		Spring Recess
11	Mon. Apr 5	Lecture: Defining Portraiture Photography Photo Project #3: "The Gaze" Homework: • Complete Canvas Assignment #5
	Wed. Apr 7	Workday (log into Zoom for group help)
12	Mon. Apr 12	Workday (log into Zoom for group help)
	Wed. Apr 14	Workday (log into Zoom for group help)
13	Mon. Apr 19	Workday (log into Zoom for group help)
	Wed. Apr 21	**Crit Photo Project #3 "The Gaze"**
14	Mon. Apr 26	Lecture: Defining Directorial Photography Photo Project #4: "The make-believe" Prepare Final Exam Crit Homework: • Complete Canvas Assignment #6
	Wed. Apr 28	Workday (log into Zoom for group help)
15	Mon. May 3	Workday (log into Zoom for group help)
	Wed. May 5	Workday (log into Zoom for group help)
16	Mon. May 10	Workday (log into Zoom for group help)
	Wed. May 12	**Crit Photo Project #4: "The make-believe"**
17	Mon. May 17	Workday (log into Zoom for group help)
Final Exam	Friday, May 21 from 12:15 PM to 2:30 PM	**Final Crit: Final Portfolio due**