

San José State University
Department of Art & Art History
Phot 40, Beginning Photography, Section 05
Spring 2021

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Yvonne D. Williams
Office Location:	Zoom Meetings: Please see Canvas Home Page for link
Telephone:	408. 924.4690
Email:	yvonne.williams@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	M/W 10:30 – 12:00 and by appointment via zoom
Class Days/Time:	T/Th 3:00- 5:50 pm
Classroom:	Zoom meetings: Please see Canvas Home Page for link

Course Description

An entry level photography course which familiarizes students with the concepts and process involved with taking digital photographs. The course requires an interchangeable lens camera with a micro four thirds sensor or larger and will go over operation and basic workflow of editing and printing images in Adobe Lightroom.

Course Format

This course is a combination of lecture, demonstration, hands-on activities, supervised work time and critique. We will meet via zoom for all class meetings.

Technology Intensive Course

This course requires you to have a digital SLR camera with manual controls that also allows you to create RAW files, and a memory card with sufficient storage for 200-500 images. You are also required to have a computer with the current version of Adobe Lightroom Classic CC installed on it. Lightroom is available free to all Photo students. We will discuss how to access at our first class meeting

Canvas Information

All course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on Canvas Learning Management System course login website at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. We will be using Modules for all assignments and online discussions. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU at <http://my.sjsu.edu>

Course Goals

This beginning course will teach you the technical, aesthetic and conceptual components of black and white digital photography. The class will introduce you to the language of image making, with assignments designed to hone both your technical skills, and develop your ability to communicate as an artist. This semester you will learn the ins and outs of handling your DSLR camera, adjusting your images using Adobe Lightroom Classic CC, and communicating visually through a series of images.

Students in this course will complete a series of exercises and assignments that will help build technical and composition skills, conceptual ideas and storytelling. Each project is designed to inspire personal vision and creativity. Self-expression through the medium of photography is strongly encouraged. Students will leave the course with a group of photographs they should be proud to share and include in a portfolio.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

CLO 1 - Understand manual DSLR camera operation.

CLO 2 - Understand digital camera settings and controls and their effects.

CLO 3 - Successfully import, enhance and export images using Adobe Lightroom Classic.

CLO 4 - Understand basic printing and presentation methods.

Course Content Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have mastered:

CLO 5 - The basic compositional and formal elements of the photographic image.

CLO 6 - Be versed in an overview of relevant historic and contemporary photographic artists.

CLO 7 – How to express complex concepts visually using black and white digital photography.

CLO 8 – How to develop a small portfolio of professionally presented and thoughtful work.

CLO 9 – Successfully working within deadlines: complete five assignments, a final project, in class exercises, and two writing assignments within assigned deadlines.

Required Texts/Readings

- **Light and Lens: Photography in the Digital Age - Robert Hirsch - 2018 edition (2012 edition is OK too) ISBN:-13: 978-0240818276**
- Available through Amazon, as a free eBook through the SJSU Library, as well as on reserve in the MLK Library.

Equipment / material requirements

1. Digital Camera:
 - Must have full "manual mode" (able to manually adjust both shutter speed and aperture).
 - Must be able to shoot RAW.
2. Memory card for your camera (16 GB+ is recommended).
3. Card reader/cable for memory card above (if needed for your computer).
4. You **MUST** have your own computer to take this course. And with all things computer- the newer the more compatible.
5. Software- Adobe Lightroom: Do not purchase this. Adobe s offers a student edition to SJSU students for free... this will be announced the first day of classes.
6. A USB jump drive/ memory stick with a large memory and a portable back-up hard drive is needed.
7. Tri- pod.

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](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

NOTE that [University policy F69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf) 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

The work created in class will be evaluated based on the following criteria.

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.

***With communication before a deadline, late work may be accepted, otherwise for every day that the work is late one letter grade will be deducted.**

Final Grade

3 photographic projects + your final photographic project	=	60%
Readings, writings and quizzes	=	30%
Class Participation	=	10%

Asking questions, taking risks, seeking out answers, sharing your thoughts, and taking your work seriously will lead to a higher understanding of the medium and will result in amazing work. Your uniqueness and enthusiasm is an asset in this class.

University Policies

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/academic_affairs/resources/academic_calendars/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes (Late Drop Information). Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub, <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Department Advising

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

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 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) to establish a record of their disability

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs and other resources for student use are available in: Associated Students Print & Technology Center at <http://as.sjsu.edu/asptc/index.jsp> on the Student Union (East Wing 2nd floor Suite 2600) The Spartan Floor at the King Library at <http://library.sjsu.edu/about/spartan-floor> Student Computing Services at <http://library.sjsu.edu/student-computing-services/student-computing-servicescenter> . Computers at the Martin Luther King Library for public at large at <https://www.sjpl.org/wireless> Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Collaboration & Academic Technology Services located in IRC Building. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

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](#) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

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

Emergency phone numbers

Emergency: 911; Escort Service: 42222

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

PHOT 40 / Beginning Photography, Section 05

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Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to change with fair notice and notice will be made available in class,
posted on canvas, and through email.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	TH Jan. 28	<p>Introduction: Green sheets, class schedule, and expectations will be discussed.</p> <p>Slideshow: Overview of B/W photography masters</p> <p>Homework: - Seek out a favorite photographer and bring a copy of your favorite image to class on Wed, Feb. 3</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">- Begin Photo Project #1, <i>My Home</i></p>
2	T Feb. 2	<p>Discussion: Favorite photographers – bring in your favorite image</p> <p>Lecture: Camera basics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have your camera ready for class. Computer basics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lightroom: storing, editing, and contact sheets </p> <p>Writing Assignment: Deconstructing the photographic image</p> <p>Homework: - Readings #1 and answers to questions (uploaded) - Photo Project #1, <i>My Home</i></p>
	Th Feb 4	<p>Due: Answers (uploaded) to questions from Readings # 1</p> <p>Lecture: - Vernacular of the Camera</p> <p>Hands on: - Working On Images for Photo Project #1 - Have your camera and laptop ready to use</p> <p>Homework: - Define Vocabulary words Readings #2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answers will be typed and uploaded as a pdf or word.doc - Shooting for Photo Project #1, <i>My Home</i></p>

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
3	T Feb. 9	<p>Videos: Lightroom Techniques</p> <p>Slideshow: - B/W vs Color photography – how we see light - Photographic Project #2, Land/Sky/Water – part 1</p> <p>Homework: - Begin Photo Project #2, Land/Sky/Water - Due 40 + images printed as Two + contact sheets - Read Chapters #1 & 2 of Light and Lens</p>
	Th Feb. 11	<p>Due: 2 + Contact sheets, 40 + Images in Color and B/W</p> <p>Slideshow: - Photographic Project #2, Land/Sky/Water -- part 2 - Lightroom techniques</p> <p>Lightroom: In class post production work</p> <p>Homework: Post production work</p>
4	T Feb. 16	<p>Due: Paper typed and uploaded with Vocabulary Words defined</p> <p>Lightroom: Post production work and printing</p> <p>Homework: - Shoot, Land/Sky/Water, Minimum of 40 images for Photo Project #2, uploaded Two + contact sheets as pdf or jpg. - Chapter 3, Light and Lens</p>
	Th Feb. 18	<p>Due: - Photo Project #2, Contact sheets, 40 + + Images - One image ready for printing</p> <p>Quiz: Camera Basics, Chapters 1, 2, & 3, and Vocabulary words</p> <p>Lightroom: Post production work</p> <p>Homework: - Readings #2 and answers to questions typed and printed - Post Production</p>

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
5	T Feb. 23	<p>Due: Answers (typed and uploaded as a pdf or word.doc) to questions from Readings # 2</p> <p>Lightroom: Post production</p> <p>Homework: Post production work and continue shooting for Photo Project #2</p>
	Th Feb 25	<p>Open Lab: Work on your images in LR</p> <p>Individual help: Log in as needed</p>
6	T Mar. 2	<p>CRITIQUE: 4 prints</p> <p>Due: 5 images</p> <p>Homework: Quiz #1 on Monday</p>
	Th Mar. 4	<p>Lecture: The photograph as document</p> <p>Slides: Documentary photography – Photo Project #3 – THE BOOK</p> <p>Quiz: Quiz #2 on Camera Basics and Lightroom Basics</p> <p>Homework: The photograph as document- choose one photographer and your favorite image - print and bring it to class on Wed.</p>
7	T Mar. 09	<p>Videos: Documentary Photographers</p> <p>Quiz: Quiz #3 – deconstructing photographs</p> <p>Homework: Minimum of 60 images for Photo Project #3, uploaded as 3 + contact sheets jpg or pdf</p>

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
	Th Mar. 11	<p>Due: 60 ++ Images and 3+ Contact sheets for THE BOOK</p> <p>Discussion: Have your computers loaded in Lightroom with your 60 images ready to share with the class.</p> <p>Lecture: The BOOK. – Photo Assignment #3</p> <p>Homework: - Shooting for THE BOOK, Photo Project #3</p>
8	T Mar. 16	<p>Lightroom: The Book</p> <p>Homework: - Shooting for The Book, Photo Project #3 - 40+ images due for Monday, 2 + contact sheets due</p>
	Th Mar. 18	<p>Due: 2 ++ contact sheets</p> <p>The BOOK: - Lightroom and prepping for outside labs - The artist statement</p>
9	T Mar. 23	<p>The BOOK: Lightroom and prepping for outside labs</p>
		<p>March 29 - April 2 !!!!!!!SPRING BREAK!!!!!!!</p>
10	T April 6	<p>Critique: The Book – Photography as Document</p> <p>Begin: Photo Project #4</p> <p>Homework: - Favorite Photographer representing Photo Project #4 - Readings #3 and answer questions.</p>
	Th Apr 8	<p>Critique: The Book – Photography as Document</p> <p>Slides: Photo Project #4</p> <p>Homework: - Shooting for Photo Project #4 40 + Images, 2 + Contact Sheets - Answers to Questions from Readings #3</p>

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
11	T April 13	<p>Due: - Answers to questions from Readings #3 - 2 + Contact Sheets, Photo Project #4</p> <p>Lecture: - Photo Project #4, Advanced Lightroom, - Monochrome, Split toning, and using Filters</p> <p>Hands- On: Split Toning</p> <p>Homework: Post production work 2 split-toned images</p>
	Th April 15	Open Lab: Post production
12	T April 20	Critique: Photo Project #4, 2 Split Toned Images
	Th April 22	<p>Lecture: Photo Project #5</p> <p>Slides: Photo Project #5</p> <p>Homework: - Research Paper due Wed., April 27th - Begin Photo Project #5</p>
13	T April 27	<p>Lecture: - Presentation methods - Advanced Lightroom techniques</p> <p>Slides: Photo Project #5</p> <p>Homework: 40+ images due on Monday with 2+ Contact sheets</p>
	Th April 29	<p>Due: 2+ Contact Sheets</p> <p>Discussion: Bring your computer with all images for Final project for group Discussion.</p> <p>Homework: 60 ++ Images, 3 + Contact Sheets</p>

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
14	T May 04	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research paper - 3 Contact Sheets <p>Open lab: Use classroom time to shoot</p> <p>Homework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 60 + images and 3+ contact sheets - Prepping artist statement
	Th May 6	<p>Hands-On: Post Processing</p> <p>Due: 60 + images and 3+ contact sheets</p>
15	T May 11	Lightroom: Post Process and presentation
	Th May 13	<p>Final Critique:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 - 10 (TBD) images professionally presented • Artist Statement
Final Exam	M May 24 2:45 pm	<p>Final Critique:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 - 10 (TBD) images professionally presented • Artist Statement