

ART5930C— Concrete Pictures: Black & White Darkroom & Digital Photography
Summer 2018, Section 4H03
July 16—21, 2018
Fine Arts Building D, Room 329

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**Syllabus subject to change*

Course Description

This intensive black and white darkroom and digital photography course guides students through various darkroom production and digital processes. This includes the production of photograms, 35mm camera work, film processing, and print developing, as well as digital capture and output. Students will engage these processes alongside a critical analysis of resulting forms of representation through the lens of modern and contemporary art discourse and theories of photography. Select readings will guide studio assignments and will be discussed during daily seminars. The course will culminate in a day of group critiques.

Objectives

This course introduces students to current issues in contemporary photo practice. The course is designed to facilitate a critical approach to representation through various forms of photographic processes. Through five studio projects facilitated by corresponding reading seminars, we will consider current stakes of representation in concrete photography, landscape photography, experimental photography, and digital images. Through this course, students will develop their understanding of and engagement with these forms, both in their own work, and the work of other artists. Students will complete a portfolio of work prompted by these ideas.

Studio Assignments & Required Reading

This course is divided into five projects that will be made in correspondence with required readings. These readings and related artworks will be discussed during seminars prior to students embarking on each project. These readings are available as PDFs on the google drive. Students are required to complete these readings before the course begins. There will also be a number of recommended readings on the google drive, which may be referred to during discussion.

Assessment

Students taking this course will be evaluated through two elements:

(1) Studio Assignments [60% of grade]

Each studio assignment will be graded according to the level of engagement with the critical, conceptual and technical goals of the project. Consistency of work, amount of effort, responsiveness to feedback, and level of experimentation and research will also be considered.

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(2) Participation [40% of final grade]

Participation will be graded according to successful completion of reading assignments and engagement in discussion during seminars. This includes listening and thoughtful expression of ideas.

Course Materials & Supplies

Provided Materials

UF is providing each student with the following materials:

- Epson photo paper (semi-gloss): 16.5 (width) x 75" (length) each
- Adorama 8x10" RC Pearl Silver Gelatin Paper: 37 sheets each
- ILFORD FP4 125 ISO 24 exposure film: 3 rolls each
- ILFORD HP5 400 ISO 24 exposure film: 2 rolls each
- 35mm plastic negative sleeves: 5 each

Additional Recommended Materials for purchase

- 35mm film
- darkroom paper (maximum size 16 x20")
- digital inkjet paper for Epson printers (Matt, pearl, semi-matt, or lustre; min US letter size/ max 42" roll)
- Small mailing tube for carrying digital prints home
- Binder: 3 ring for plastic negative sleeves
- Plastic sheets to hold 8x10" photographs, or other carrier if bringing larger paper
- Portable hardrive
- Compressed air
- Towel
- Artist tape

There are numerous online stores where you can buy supplies, but here are two reliable vendors that Creative Photography utilize:

B&H <https://www.bhphotovideo.com/>
Adorama <https://www.adorama.com/>

Studio Items to bring

Please bring the following items:

- Analogue film camera/s

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(for those that have 120 cameras/film, we have canisters for processing)

- DSLR digital camera/s
- laptop
- Objects for Project 1 & 2
- Found digital/ hard copy images for Project 4

Other items to bring

- protective clothes and shoes for darkroom
- sunscreen
- hat
- walking shoes
- backpack
- snacks for between meals

Class Attendance

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx#absences>

Digital Devices

Cell phones must be on silent and may be used only in case of emergencies. Using any device for non-course related business will negatively impact the student's grade.

Grading Criteria

A: This grade is awarded for exceptional work that demonstrates critical thinking, a full realization of the ideas put forth in assignment, and outstanding engagement of both form and content; excellent amount of effort given to the class and assignments, with minimum lateness and absences; going beyond the basic course requirements through independent work and research; display a strong commitment to learning, being an active member of the class community, and growth as an artist and student.

B: This grade will be awarded for very good work that demonstrates a sound and competent realization of the ideas put forth in each assignment; excels in many areas but lacks one or more of the outstanding characteristics listed above.

C: This grade will be awarded for well-presented, average work that demonstrates a fairly good attempt at grasping the expectations of each given assignment. This work lacks a competent, comprehensive understanding mentioned in 'B' above.

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D: This grade is awarded for inadequate work-- extremely poor and/or half-finished work with no care or attention to the assignment. In addition, when someone has missed three or more classes, has failed to complete one or more assignments, or keep up to date with the studio-based syllabus.

E: When someone stops coming to class and stops communicating with instructor. This is a severe grade and is usually given in severe circumstances.

Grading Scale

A 95-100, A- 94-90, B+ 89-87, B 86-84, B- 83-80, C+ 79-77, C 76-74, C- 73-70, D+ 69-67, D 66-64, D- 63-60, E 59-0

A: 4.0, A-: 3.67, B+:3.33, B:3.00, B-: 2.67, C+: 2.33, C: 2.00, C-: 1.67, D+: 1.33, D: 1.00, D-: .67

UF grading policies can be reviewed at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Health and Safety

<http://saahhealthandsafety.weebly.com/>

Each student must complete a Health and Safety Student Waiver for this course. These forms will be turned in to the School of Art office.

Health and Safety specific to Photography

- There are many hazards associated with photographic materials. Many photographic processes produce toxic gases. The gases could be produced from baths or storage of chemicals.
- Developers are highly alkaline and moderately to highly toxic. They can cause eye and skin irritations and are also allergic sensitizers.
- Stop Baths: The Acetic Acid in Stop Baths can cause dermatitis and skin ulceration. It can also irritate the respiratory system.
- Ammonia is especially hazardous to the eyes and the mucous membranes.
- Iodine can cause hypersensitivity reaction and skin burns when contacting the skin.
- Intensifiers can contain Mercury, Cyanide, or Uranium. Can cause lung cancer over a long time of exposure.
- Hardeners often contain formaldehyde, which is poisonous, very irritating to the eyes, throat, and breathing passages. It can also cause dermatitis.

Students with disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

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Class Demeanor Policy

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have the opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are prohibited from engaging in any form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result, minimally, in a request to leave class.

Academic Honesty

The university's codes for honesty and conduct will be upheld. Full information is available at the links below.

Academic Honesty: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html#honesty>

Honour Code: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>

Student Conduct: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php>

University Counseling & Wellness Center

3190 Radio Road P.O. Box 112662
University of Florida Gainesville, FL 32611-4100
352-392-1575
<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>