SYLLABUS AND COURSE INFORMATION:
ARTS 3220 - DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Instructor:
Office:
Office Hours:
Telephone:
Email:
*I will respond to email within 48 hours


CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Basic application of digital photography emphasizing contemporary practices and conceptual approaches. Focus is on proper scanning and fine printing through computer based output.

PREREQUISITES: ARTS 1110, ARTS 1120, ARTS 1210, ARTS 2210; six hours of 1000 Art History.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: ARTS is a basic course in digital photography as a tool for creative expression and meaningful visual communication. The main tool we will be using is Adobe Photoshop CS 3 with Macintosh computers. The lectures and assignments are designed for you to develop the basic skills necessary to create and produce images for digital print based media. The class will also cover critical ideas of digital media through readings and other discussions. Prior knowledge of or experience with Photoshop is not required for this class, but you do need to be familiar with the Machintosh computer Operating System. Learning to work with the digital medium and its tools requires learning a large range of technical skills. The first part of this course is designed to help you attain proficiency with such techniques. The more organized and disciplined you are in your learning, the sooner you will be able to explore the different possibilities that digital based photography has to offer.

1. Students will be able to create digital and photographic prints from photographic (film) originals using digital technology.
2. Students will demonstrate proficiency in a variety of digital photographic techniques, including scanning, correcting, and printing photographic images in black and white as well as color using digital technology.
3. The student should be able to verbally articulate concepts and content in their artworks.
4. Students will demonstrate proficiency in digital asset management.
5. Students will demonstrate proficiency in basic tonal and color corrections (as learned in the darkroom) through using Adobe Photoshop software.
6. Students will gain awareness of contemporary practices and must identify, select and review the work of accomplished artists working with digital photography and write an informed personal reaction essay including how their work relates to the work discussed.
GOALS AND TOPICS: Although learning techniques of digital technology is quite technical by nature, the primary intent is to develop those skills within the context of your own personal ideas and artwork. The course will focus on learning the computer as a digital darkroom, using it to do those things that you are now proficient at doing in the wet lab. This will include image capture through scanning, tonal and color corrections and control, and output. Later in the course we will branch off to pick up new working methods that involve manipulation techniques possible with Photoshop. We will touch on topics such as digital capture, digital copy work and presentations, images for basic web page design, and other self-promotion tools possible with digital technology.

CLASS WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURE: Students who wish to drop a course after the last official day of schedule change must officially withdraw from the course. Note: students may withdraw (although with a “W” on their transcript) until mid semester.

CLASS ATTENDANCE and TARDINESS POLICY: Please be respectful; be on time! Your attendance is mandatory and expected for all classes. Your instructor feels very strongly about this. Even if your project is incomplete, DO NOT MISS CRITIQUE!

Leaving class early unexcused (before class is dismissed), showing up late, or leaving the class unexcused for large periods of time (10 -15 minutes or more) will each result in a one-third absence--three of these will count as one full unexcused absence. There will be no unannounced quizzes or a final exam in this course.

3 TARDIES = 1 ABSENCE; 4th ABSENCE = Drop letter grade;

PRINCIPLE COURSE OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENTS:
Week 1: Photoshop interface, image capture - scanning
Week 2: basic tonal corrections / image adjustments, printing in Black and White, Digital Haiku
Week 3: Digital Negatives for non silver printing (the van dyke print)
Week 4: Color scanning and printing; color theory
Week 5: Color correction and selections
Week 6: Digital Collage techniques:Layers, adjustment layers
Week 7: Final project ideas submitted
Week 8: Final Project Influence Presentation
Week 10 Images for the web / basic web design
Week 11-15: Final Projects (w/ in progress critiques)

You will be given a one on one evaluation at midterm that covers your efforts up to this point. You will need to bring all the work you have made for the class to this evaluation.

ARTIST RESEARCH REPORTS:
Two-page typewritten reports on two artists that use digital means of producing photographs, two of which must still be alive. These reports are a mix of research and informed personal response. You will describe in your own words the content of the artists’ work and why you think it is important or why you personally connect with it. Provide me with photocopies of their work from books rather than from the Internet and cite your sources in a bibliography.
GRADING
Assignments (6: Scanning, Haiku, Non-silver, Color, Collage, Website)  30%
Collage Artist Presentation, Final Project Influences (2)      10%
Professional attitude/Work ethic  10%
Final Project  50%

GRADE SCALE
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<tr>
<th>Score</th>
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<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
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GRADING POLICY: Grades are taken from assigned projects and a final project. The major part of the grade in this course is based on your digitally produced images. The assignments are graded on quality (both technical and conceptual) of the images you make. Photos are evaluated on both technical and conceptual levels (additional consideration is given to criteria such as creativity, expressiveness, technical skill, and caring about the details). Other important parts of the grade include a writing assignment, your growth as an artist, darkroom housekeeping, and a review of the whole semester’s work.

Unless assigned otherwise most assignments are to be carried out at other than the scheduled class period and constitute outside work. Students must personally turn in all work at assigned critiques unless notified otherwise by the instructor.

Make-ups for all missed and late work are allowed with proper University approved excuses within one week of the original due date.

Academic Honesty: Students are expected to behave with integrity. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be dealt with in the manner specified in the Tiger Cub.

Students may withdraw (although with a W on their transcript) until midsemester.

Cellular devices are to be turned off during class discussions, lectures, demos, critiques, etc. **This includes use of your cell phone for text messaging.**

**WARNING:** Certain photo chemicals may be hazardous and need to be handled with caution. It may be advisable to use breathing masks, gloves, proper attire and/or goggles in some art classes on some occasions.

**LEARNING ENVIRONMENT:** Students and course instructors share the responsibility for maintaining an appropriate, orderly, learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to the behavioral expectations outlined by the instructor may be subject to discipline in accordance with the procedures described in the Student Handbook. The penalty may include being withdrawn from class.
SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:
A student needing special accommodations should arrange a meeting with his or her professor during the first week of class. Bring to the meeting an Accommodation Memo and Instructor Verification Form. If a student does not have an Accommodation Memo but needs special accommodations, he or she should make an appointment with The Program for Students with Disabilities, 1244 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT) or by email, contact Sarah Weaver: scw0005@auburn.edu.

SUPPLIES:
Please note: This class is relatively expensive. Photo and digital supplies are available online or mail order for much less than the cost of buying them locally or in Atlanta. Places to get your supplies:

1. Digital Art Supplies: www.digitalartsupplies.com
5. Cameragraphics 1625 East University Drive Auburn, AL 334-821-2524

- A 35mm SLR (Single Lens Reflex) Camera with manual settings for shutter speed and aperture. Must be in good working order. If you have a newer model, please have your instruction book available.
- Fine art paper for non silver printing (discussed in class)
- Ink jet coated printing paper. Please don’t buy before we discuss options.
- Pictorico film item # 20813 Premium OHP Transparency Film 8.5 x 11 - 15 sheets (Split a pack with a class mate)
- 3-Ring binder or boxed folder for negative storage.
- A note book or sketchbook for taking notes during class, working exercises from the book and sketching out image ideas and/ or photoshop settings
- One pair of scissors.
- 35mm plastic Negative Sleeves (Print File brand work best…I like their 35-7B.) 25pk is good to start.
- 35mm black and white and color negative film. Kodak: Tri-X or Ilford: HP5+ (5-7 rolls initially)
Department of Art will supply ink for inkjet printers for students currently enrolled in Digital Photography Class. Students will be responsible for providing all paper used in the course. This will be discussed at the beginning of the semester.

**Computer Lab Etiquette:**
You will be assigned a computer to use during our class time. You are responsible for keeping your assigned machine station CLEAN and in orderly condition. There is absolutely no food or drink allowed in the computer lab.

**No email, chatting, text-messaging will be allowed during our sessions.** All the cell phones should be turned off. Let me say this again: **NO EATING or DRINKING** in the labs will be tolerated, unless it is required by a medical prescription. I reserve the right to ask you to leave class for the day if you choose to text message or email during a discussion, demo, or lecture.

**Hang in there**
Digital photography is often misperceived as being quicker or less work than traditional darkroom wet processes. While each approach has its own benefits, digital imagemaking photography is often more time consuming to achieve good results.

“The limits of your language are the limits of your world.”

Ludwig Wittgenstein