

ART 190 2 Z Introduction to Photo Media

course info:

instructor:	Kristine Kotsch	day/time:	Fall (first half) Tues/Thurs 6:30 – 9:00 PM
room:	Priscilla Payne Hurd (South) Campus Photography Lab/Media Lab 104	office hours:	by appointment
email:	kkotsch@moravian.edu	art dept. office:	610.861.1680

course description:

ART 190 2 Z Introduction to Photo Media. This half unit course teaches foundation skills in traditional black-and-white and digital photography with emphasis on the medium as a mode of description, reflection and personal expression. Learning strategies include, but are not limited to, shooting projects, lab exercises, assigned readings, idea generation, writing assignments, discussions and critiques.

required textbook:

A Short Course in Digital Photography by Barbara London and Jim Stone
Supplemental readings as assigned

required supplies:

- 35mm MANUAL film camera
 - Digital Camera with min 2Gb of storage (DSLR or Point and Shoot) NO CAMERA PHONES!
 - Film developing tank w/extra reel (Patterson)*
 - Dust brush (Delta 1" Antistatic or similar)*
 - Loupe (Samigon 8x or similar)*
 - Ilford Multigrade IV Deluxe RC paper @50 sheets
 - 3 rolls Film: Kodak Tri-X 400/36 exp.
 - One or more USB Flash Drives (@ 8GB total) OR firewire or USB portable hard drive of comparable or larger size
 - Journal/Sketchbook for journaling, reflections, lesson ideas, inspirations, etc.
 - Folder/notebook for handouts and note-taking
- *THESE MAY BE OPTIONAL IF WE CAN SUPPLY SOME TO SHARE**

course objectives:

Students will:

- Learn basic 35mm camera operation, film exposure and development, and black-and-white darkroom practice as well as fundamental digital image-making to create photographic imagery that is both visually articulate and technically accomplished.
- Analyze art and its intention and critically evaluate works of art using vocabulary germane to the discipline.
- Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation for critical theory as it relates to the dialog in group critiques and discussions.
- Develop ideas for student-directed art making.

course requirements:

- This is a time and labor intensive studio class; therefore, you will work in class on your projects and be expected to work outside of class on your own. Processes will take more time than you expect and they cannot be rushed.
- Prepare to spend at least 6-8 hours outside of class time.
- The digital component of the course will consist of tutorials, readings, writing assignments, in-class exercises and projects. Adobe Photoshop on the MAC platform will be utilized.

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- Lectures, demonstrations and videos are not repeated. Students who miss class are required to contact someone who attended to find out what was covered and be prepared for class when they return.
- To do well in this class, you must be self-motivated. Think about whether your question is one you can answer for yourself. Rely on your ability to discover ideas for projects by looking at examples, trying several possibilities and looking for inspiration in art, literature, science and discussion.
- Cell phones, PDAs, iPods, MP3 players, etc., must be turned off and put away upon entering the classroom.
- There will be technical problems—none are excuses for missing a deadline. Plan ahead. Avoid problems.
- Students are expected to uphold the standards of academic honesty, as indicated in the Student Handbook.

"Good teaching is more of a giving of right questions than a giving of right answers."

—Josef Albers, German-born American Artist and Educator

attendance:

Be on time. Come to class prepared to work and have all ideas, readings and materials ready as specified in the previous class or on the syllabus. Absences from class do not excuse you from a deadline. Moravian Art Department Attendance Policy will be strictly enforced.

The Art Department established this department-wide attendance policy to apply to students in all art classes, beginning with the Fall 2007 semester.

For classes that meet once a week or for 8 weeks (half-unit studio courses, seminars, evening art history courses): After the first unexcused absence, final grade will be dropped by one full letter. After the third unexcused absence, student will receive a failing final grade.

An excused absence is one confirmed by a note from the Dean's Office, Student Services, the Learning Center, or verified with a doctor's note (within 24 hours of illness). Death in family should be confirmed with Student Services.

Documentation is required for sports. Coach should email a note to instructor confirming matches, meets, departure time for away games, or anything that would require absence from class. Practice is not an excused absence.

Job interviews or doctor's/dentist's appointments are not to be scheduled during class.

Missing Portions of Class: The following count as unexcused absences

- More than 15 minutes late for class
- Failure to bring supplies to class
- Failure to return from break
- Leaving class half an hour or more early
- Being tardy more than 3 times. Tardiness: being 5 to 15 minutes late for class

Students: If you are late or absent, it is **your** responsibility to find out what you missed and to catch up in a timely manner.

projects and critiques:

- A critique is scheduled for each project. Attendance is mandatory and the completed project is due on that date.
- You will be given ample time to complete projects. Due dates are strictly adhered to.
- An unexcused absence from a scheduled critique will result in a failing grade for that project.
- Late projects due to an excused absence receive a ½ grade deduction for each class meeting it is past due.
- All work submitted must have been specifically made for that project.

a note on critiques:

Critiques are an integral part of the learning process of this class. It is a participatory activity and not a passive experience. Part of your grade depends on your engagement in group discussions and your responses to the work of your classmates.

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Do not make work that you think I will approve of. Approach projects in your own personal way. Understand the meaning of the word clichés completely and avoid them, absolutely.

Discussions may seem to stray from the specific topic of a project. This is a natural part of the process of becoming aware of the association between things that are often overlooked or seen as unrelated. Sharing our experience of the world around us result in the sort of exchanges from which ideas are born.

Critiques will usually take the form of posing questions intended to stimulate original thought and the formation of opinion. True learning is the result of personal discovery.

chemical hygiene and use of the photo lab:

- You will be given a review of safety procedures and lab rules that you must agree to abide by. A form with your signature will be kept on file stating your understanding and agreement to follow lab protocol.
- The Photo Lab is only for the use of students who are currently enrolled in a photography course.

notebook:

Always have a notebook and pen/pencil with you in class. You are expected to take notes during lectures, demonstrations, critiques and videos.

journal:

You will need to keep a journal to be used for recording data from shooting projects, darkroom work, thoughts and ideas, impressions of art from research and field trips, and to develop your ability to express your feelings and opinions in words. Include drawings, media, memorabilia and anything else you like that is an extension of your experience. The point is to build a personal archive that will help to serve as a base from which to work.

grading:

Successful Completion of Projects: 60%

Projects MUST be ready to hand in or present at the BEGINNING of class on the due date. Grade penalties are as follows:

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| • 10% - ONE class period after deadline | • 40% - THREE class periods after deadline |
| • 20% - TWO class periods after deadline | • 60% - beyond THREE class periods after deadline |

Project Assessment Papers: 15%

For each project, there may be a short (one-page) project assessment paper to be turned in with the project at critique. This informal paper will be an assessment of the technical skills and conceptual ideas acquired during the art-making process through the final piece. It will include ideas for applying the skills, methods, and concepts to your own art practice or your student lessons.

Journal: 15%

Your journal will become an extension of you while in this class. This book will become your “think tank.” I will review them periodically throughout the semester for extra homework points.

Reaction Papers:

A reaction paper is an informal one-page writing about a piece or series of artworks viewed in person at a gallery or museum. The art department arranges for several opportunities to visit museums and galleries in the surrounding areas. It should be more than a simple summary of the material; it should contain your opinion or reaction to viewing the artwork. This may take on a variety of forms. You may compare the work to other related artwork and talk about

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why you were so drawn to the work. You may discuss why you think the artist made the decision that they made and/or hypothesize about ways in which the work could have been improved. You may think about ways to expand on the work, or extend it to cover new domains; or you may argue against the work, questioning its assumptions, or value.

Participation: 10%

Participation in lectures, critiques, discussions and presentations refers to your positive engagement in dialogue and is the heart and soul of this course. Not only does your active involvement in this important aspect of the class have a significant impact on your grade, it is an essential part of the learning experience and life of this class. Lack of participation will be reflected in the final grade.

Participation also includes:

- Promptness and attendance at all labs, lectures and critiques
- Being prepared for each class (notebooks, journals, readings, supplies, etc.)
- Using class time efficiently and effectively
- Respectful use and care of labs, chemistry, computer systems, peripherals, equipment and supplies
- Being self-reliant enough to try to answer your own questions; progress = discovery
- Coming to class with opinions and ideas!

Grading Scale

A = 94-100	B+ = 87-89	C+ = 77-79	D+ = 67-69	F = 59 and below
A- = 90-93	B = 84-86	C = 74-76	D = 64-66	
	B- = 80-83	C- = 70-73	D- = 60-63	

Grading Standards

- Effort, time and progress, along with participation, are the primary factors in determining your grade for the class. Attendance and accomplishment of the minimum requirements are considered an average achievement and will receive a grade of C. To earn more than a C, the quality of your work and your engagement, combined with consistent and significant progress made throughout the semester, must be above average.
- *The grade of an "A"* is given to those students whose work and work habits are exemplary. Excellent attendance and participation are assumed, and work throughout the semester is exceptional. Both visual projects and written papers should be well conceived and go beyond simply fulfilling the requirements of an assignment.
- *The grade of a "B"* is given to students whose work and work habits are above average. Very good attendance and participation is expected. All work is complete and well conceived and fulfill the requirements of the assignment.
- *The grade of "C"* is given to a student whose work and work habits are average. Attendance and participation are at the minimal accepted level. All work should be on time and shows an effort to fulfill the assignment requirements.
- *The grade of "D"* will be given to students whose work and work habits are below average. Attendance and participation is below minimal. Projects that are incomplete, handed in late, or do not fulfill the requirements of the assignment will adversely affect your grade and can place you in this category.
- Students with excessive absences and inability to fulfill the requirements of the class will earn a failing grade.
- Please see rubric below for the specific breakdown for the semester grade.

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SEMESTER GRADE
"A" consistent level of excellent craftsmanship, use of materials and presentation strong/consistent evidence of growth in creative problem solving no weak projects strong class involvement self-initiated involvement all projects completed on time 99% class attendance
"B" consistent level of above average craftsmanship some projects excellent, some good no major problems evidence of good solutions some being excellent no weak solutions good consistent class involvement all projects completed on time 95% class attendance
"C" basically average craftsmanship some weak areas average solutions little or no evidence of growth in creative problem solving some weak solutions all projects completed on time 90% class attendance
"D" below average craftsmanship some weak areas fair solutions little or no evidence of growth in creative problem solving some weak solutions all projects completed on time 85% class attendance
"F" poor craftsmanship some weak areas poor solutions little or no evidence of growth in creative problem solving some weak solutions projects not completed on time 85% class attendance or less

disability statement:

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Mr. Joe Kempfer, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Disability Support, 1307 Main Street (extension 1510). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the office of Learning Services.

academic honesty policy:

Please reference the College policy in Student Handbook.

Written assignments are designed to engage students with material covered in class through visual participation and personal reaction. Papers must be your own thoughts, impressions and reactions. The Internet can provide valuable source material, but you must participate by offering your own viewpoint. Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated.

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questions, concerns or comments:

It is your responsibility to ask questions if you do not understand something. I cannot read your mind.

"Millions saw the apple fall, but Newton was the one who asked *why*."
— Bernard Mannes Baruch, U.S. Statesman

If you need to see me, please arrange to meet with me. The best way to reach me is by e-mail. I am on the computer most of the day and check e-mail often. Please feel free to ask me questions or talk about any concerns you may have.

class schedule (subject to change):

week	date	tues	date	thurs
1	8-31	REVIEW COURSE OBJECTIVES, REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPLIES BRING CAMERAS TO NEXT CLASS	9-2	BASIC CAMERA CONTROLS: OPERATION, FILM AND EXPOSURE, DOF  PROJECT 1: THE PORTRAIT DISCUSS LUMEN PRINTS
2	9-7	HISTORY OF THE PHOTOGRAPH MAKING LUMEN PRINTS	9-9	FIELD TRIP: BAUM SCHOOL OF ART MEET AT 6:00PM INTRODUCTION TO THE DARKROOM: PROCESS LUMEN PRINTS
3	9-14	DEMO/LAB: PROCESS FILM FROM THE PORTRAIT MAKING CONTACT SHEETS	9-16	DEMO/LAB: MAKING PRINTS LAB: WORK ON PROJECT 1  CRITIQUE LUMEN PRINTS
4	9-21	LAB: WORK ON PROJECT 1	9-23	CRITIQUE PROJECT 1: THE PORTRAIT  PROJECT 2: CREATIVE SCANNING CONCEPT GENERATION
5	9-28	INTRO TO THE MAC AND PHOTOSHOP INTERFACE DEMO: SCANNING BRING DIGITAL CAMERAS TO CLASS LAB: WORK ON PROJECT 2	9-30	PHOTOSHOP TUTORIAL: TOOLS, LAYERS AND SELECTIONS  CRITIQUE PROJECT 2: CREATIVE SCANNING WEEKEND PROJECT: A SENSE OF PLACE: EXPLORING THE SPACE
6	10-5	PHOTOSHOP TUTORIAL: MASKS AND BLENDING MODES  PROJECT 3: DIGITAL MEMORY, DREAM, NARRATIVE	10-7	PHOTOSHOP TUTORIAL: COLOR CORRECTION, SHARPENING, ENHANCEMENTS  WEEKEND PROJECT: A SENSE OF PLACE: TIMES OF DAY
7	10-12	LAB: WORK ON PROJECT 3	10-14	CRITIQUE PROJECT 3: DIGITAL MEMORY, DREAM, NARRATIVE  WEEKEND PROJECT: A SENSE OF PLACE: VIEWPOINT/CLOSE UP
8	10-19	LAB: WORK ON WEEKEND PROJECT	10-21	FINAL CRITIQUE: WEEKEND PROJECT 

PLEASE NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to make changes in any aspect of this syllabus/schedule for the sake of content improvement or scheduling changes due to cancelled classes or due date rescheduling.