

# SYLLABUS

- **ART 268**
- **DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY I**
- **SPRING 2015**
- **Day / Time:** Tue / Thu 1:15 – 3:45 pm
- **Location:** Room 104 South Hall - PPH Campus (South Campus)
- **Instructor:** Luke Wynne
- **Office Hours:** TBD / By Appointment
- Professor Wynne will be available 15 minutes before each class begins to speak to students individually. More lengthy periods of time can be made by appointment.
- **Instructor Contact: email and phone number will be at the beginning of the first class.**

- **Course Description**

Digital Photography is designed as a critical seminar for the production and study of digital image making. Students will learn the basic technical and operational skills involved in creating photographic work electronically. Discussions and readings investigate issues pertaining to art and media culture, as well as similarities and differences between the objective nature of traditional photography and the inherent subjective quality of digital imagery. The class will build a critical, theoretical, and artistic framework to help students develop their own unique vision in the context of digital art making. A series of “in class” and “at home” assignments will aid in the understanding of making and printing digital photographs. Selected reading assignments will provide the roadmap for a solid foundation of understanding digital imagery.

- **Prerequisites for the course: Art 131 or Mac Experience**
- **Required Text:** *A Short Course in Digital Photography* (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.) by Barbara London and Jim Stone
- **Required materials: Camera.** Students should have their own digital camera. It is recommended that the camera is a Digital SLR (DSLR), however a good “point and shoot” camera is acceptable. **PHONE CAMERAS and iPADS are NOT acceptable.** Bring the **users manual** for the camera to the classroom. **Students in Digital Media courses are required to have an external hard drive or cloud service for the storage of their work. A portable Thumb Drive is highly recommended – Staples has 8 or 16 Gigabyte Thumb Drives at about \$10 or \$15.** A **notebook** dedicated to the class that can be used to record notes, hold printed material, handouts and tech sheets from the instructor. In addition, completed assignments will be entered into the notebook. This notebook may be collected during classes – **always bring the notebook to class.**
- **Recommended Text:** *The Adobe Photoshop CS6 Book for Digital Photographers* by Scott Kelby

- **Goals of Course:**

- Create digital artwork that incorporates formal elements and principals of design and composition.
- Learn basic technical skills required in digital imagery and be able to creatively apply them in their work.
- Become familiar with the fundamental language of digital imagery, image composition, and be able to formally and conceptually critique and analyze digital artwork using vocabulary germane to the discipline.

- Become familiar with the creative process in order to apply concepts of problem solving as it applies to the medium.
  - Learn to visually articulate or express their own concepts and ideas through the digital photo medium.
- **Course Requirements:**
    - Students will keep and maintain a notebook / photo journal
    - Students will complete reading assignments and be prepared to discuss them in class
    - Complete tutorials, shooting assignments and projects
    - Attend required lectures, art exhibitions or films outside of class that pertain to course topics
    - Actively participate in class discussions and critiques
    - Take a mid-term quiz on technical information
    - Research and create an oral presentation on a photographic artist
    - Present a Final Portfolio CD

**Projects and Critiques:**

**For every assigned Project, there will be a follow-up Critique.** The Project must be **completed on the due date** and attendance for the Critique is **mandatory**. **Absence from the critique will result in a failing grade for that project. Late projects and journal entries receive a full grade deduction for each class meeting it is past due.**

**Critiques:**

Critiques will be a major part of this class. As in many art disciplines, critiques are an integral part of the creative learning process. The give and take of questions and answers is key to a better understanding of other's artwork - and your own. Probing questions by the instructor or peers is a means to formulate original ideas and thoughts. Objective seeing, thinking and speaking is the aim. Personal attacks will not be tolerated. Critiques are a method to utilize the vocabulary necessary to describe art formally, conceptually and contextually. **Part of your grade depends on your active participation in group discussions and your verbal responses to the work of your classmates.**

- **Number of hours in course-related work, both inside and outside class (estimate)**
  - Attendance at gallery openings 2 x 1 hour = 2 Hours
  - Attendance at field trip 1 x 12 Hours = 12 Hours
  - Time spent creating artwork outside the classroom 6 Shoots x 2 hours = 12 hours
  - Time spent writing Journal Entries 16 entries @ 1 hour = 16 hours
  - Time spent on Research, Projects and Reading = 20 Hours
  - Time studying for Mid-Term Quiz 1 x 4 hours = 4 hours
  - Final Portfolio CD = 6 Hours
  - Prep Time for Critiques = 10 Hours
  - Lab time to complete work assignments = 22 Hours

**\*Journals will be collected at various periods during the course and will be discussed in class. They will also be responsible for 15% of your grade.**

**• Saving and disposing of artwork:**

- Save examples (including all digital files) of your work from all classes.
- Removing artwork: all work must be removed from the classroom, including drying racks, at the end of the semester, or it will be disposed of.

## **Attendance:**

### **Art Department Policy**

- **Absences: After the second unexcused absence, final grade will be dropped by one full letter. After the fourth 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. Students may be excused from class, with advanced notice, for games or matches, but not for practice. Students should provide the instructor with a schedule, if they know you will be missing any classes due to a game or match. Practice is not an excused absence. Students must make arrangements to cover any missed class material and turn in assignments on the appropriate date.

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 (not the professor's) to find out what you missed and to catch up in a timely manner.*

### **Grading:**

- Students will be assessed through frequent critiques, classroom projects, homework and a quiz. It is important to remember that students will be graded on classroom participation – in particular during critiques. In addition, it should be noted that the Journal the student keeps will be graded. In order to obtain the best possible grade, it is necessary to evaluate ALL of the work – both the **FORM** and the **CONTENT**. Other considerations to the grade will be **originality, effort, personal progress and the timely completion of assignments**. Competency in basic skills can be determined objectively; creativity and aesthetics are more subjective. The instructor reserves the right to apply qualitative judgments in determining grades.

#### **• Grading Criteria**

- **Composition and design**
- **Creativity**
- **Fulfillment of assignments (on time!)**
- **Effort and Participation**
- **Technical Skills and Craftsmanship**
- **Content and Concept**

• **Grading Scale:**

A	94-100	A = Excellent, outstanding achievement and mastery of skills
A -	90-93	
B+	87-89	
B	84-86	B = Good, average attainment
B -	80-83	
C +	77-79	
C	74-76	C = Adequate understanding – fulfills assignment but lacking in content, skill or effort
C -	70-73	
D +	67-69	
D	64-66	D = Assignments not fulfilled – lacks interest, effort and exhibits little skill or thought
D -	60-63	
F	below 60	F = Failure, no credit
I		I = Incomplete - Incompletes can only be awarded with permission of the dean’s office; a medical excuse is required.

**Successful Completion of all Projects and Shoots = 50%**

Projects must be handed in or presented at the beginning of class on the due date. Grade penalties as follows:

- 10% One class period after deadline
- 20% Two class periods after deadline
- 40% Three class periods after deadline
- 60% beyond Three class periods after deadline

**Mid-Term Quiz = 10%**

There will be one quiz. Only an excused absence on the day of the quiz is eligible for a make-up. Otherwise, the quiz will receive a zero.

**Photo Journal = 10%**

Each student is required to keep a Photo Journal. As is noted in Homework (**HW**) on the class schedule, there are **mandatory** journal entries. However, students should use their journals to record questions, thoughts about art, photography, ideas – anything that can aid them in their performance in class. Students should also include any attendance and viewing of art related exhibitions that they attend. Notes, thoughts and critical ideas about those exhibitions are greatly encouraged.

**Participation = 10%**

It cannot be over stated, participation is key to obtaining the most out of this, or any art class. Lectures, critiques, discussions and presentations require your active participation. Lack of participation will be reflected in the final grade. Participation also includes attending Art Department visits to museums and galleries at school and in the surrounding areas. A journal entry should be made and noted about these events and reaction to the artwork.

**Presentation = 10%**

A 10-minute oral presentation on one photographer (selected from the list provided in class) will be required of all students. This presentation should be researched using the internet, books and/or magazines. It will be accompanied by a Power-Point presentation (or similar). Presentations not presented on the due date will receive a zero.

**Final CD = 10%**

Students will burn a Final Portfolio CD at the end of the semester. This CD will contain final photos from your assigned Shoots, in addition to photographs you have shot on your own outside

of the classroom assignments. Creativity on how the photographs are presented and the technical skills that you employed will be half of the CD grade.

**Disability Statement:**

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Ms. Elaine Mara, Assistant Director of Academic & Disability Support, located on the first floor of Monocacy Hall (extension 1401). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic & Disability Support office.

**Academic Honesty Policy:**

Cheating on exams or quizzes will not be tolerated and will result in a 0 or F. 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 visiting the artwork yourself, in person, and offering your own viewpoint. Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated. Be aware that I am very familiar with art websites when you write your papers.

**Cell Phones:**

**These are wonderful devices, however they are not allowed to be used in this class. Please turn them off when you enter the class and do not even think of taking photographs for this class with a cell phone. Students who use a cell phone or text during class will be marked down on their “Participation” grade, and may be asked to leave.**

**List Of Photographers**

Stephen Shore	Cecil Beaton	Lewis Baltz
David Douglas Duncan	George Hurrell	Walker Evans
Larry Burrows	Edward Steichen	William Eggleston
Alfred Stieglitz	George Tice	Brassai
Annie Leibovitz	Robert Frank	Larry Fink
Ed Rusche	Greg Gorman	O. Winston Link
Avery Danziger	Gregory Colbert	Ansel Adams
Irving Penn	Paul Strand	Philippe Halsman
Dorothea Lange	Arnold Newman	Gary Winogrand
Guy Bourdin	Lee Friedlander	Richard Avedon
Ernst Haas	David Bailey	August Sander
Helmut Newton	Eugene Atget	André Kertész
Bernice Abbott	Ralph Eugene Meatyard	Aaron Siskind
Clarence John Laughlin	Harry Callahan	Minor White
Robert Doisneau	Robert Capa	Richard Misrach
Andy Warhol	David Hockney	Bruce Davidson
Horst P. Horst	Larry Clark	Weegee
Paul Caponigro	Mary Ellen Mark	Wynn Bullock
Man Ray	Duane Michaels	Gordon Parks
Joe Deal	W. Eugene Smith	Judy Dater
Henri Cartier-Bresson	Imogen Cunningham	Gjon Mili
Cindy Sherman	Bill Eppridge	Bill Brandt
Edward Weston	Diane Arbus	Jerry Uelsmann

TUESDAY JAN. 20

Introduction – Review and sign Syllabus  
Lecture: LW Slide Show and Keeping a Notebook / Visual Journal  
Webvideo: Digital Darkroom  
**HW:** Get a Notebook / Journal

THURSDAY JAN. 22

Discussion: What makes an image interesting?  
Featured Photographer: Gregory Colbert – *Ashes and Snow*  
**HW:** Journal Entry on Gregory Colbert **HW:** Read Chapter 1 pp. 2 – 27

Week 1

TUESDAY JAN. 27

LECTURE: Camera & Lens Basics  
Featured Photographer: Philippe Halsman  
**HW:** Read Chapter 2 pp 31– 49  
**PROJECT #1:** Download one interesting Image. Due Jan 29  
(This image will be used on Jan. 29 – bring it to class)

THURSDAY JAN. 29

**TUTORIAL:** Photoshop Basics (Crash Course) Tools/Menu Bar/Panels  
**LAB:** Work on Downloaded Image using Photoshop tools and filters. **DUE Feb 3**  
**HW:** Read Chapter 3 pp. 53 - 73

Week 2

TUESDAY FEB. 3

**CRITIQUE:** Downloaded Image  
Photoshop Basics Q & A / Output to Printers  
Featured Photographer: Vivian Maier  
**HW:** Read Copyright and Fair Use Handout / Journal Entry Vivian Maier  
**PROJECT #2:** SELF-PORTRAIT – 3 photos (Due Date Feb. 12)

THURSDAY FEB. 5

**TUTORIAL:** Bridge and Camera Raw  
Featured Photographer: Lewis Baltz  
**LAB:** Download Self-Portrait Photos into Bridge  
**HW:** Read Digital Vocabulary Handout /Journal entry on Lewis Baltz

Week 3

TUESDAY FEB. 10

**SCANNER / PRINTERS:** How to use high-resolution scanner / Printers  
**TUTORIAL:** Resizing, Cropping, White Balance and Color Correction  
Featured Photographers: O. Winston Link, Guy Bourdin  
**HW:** Read Chapter 4 pp 77-83 / Journal Entry of O. Winston Link **OR** Guy Bourdin

THURSDAY FEB. 12

Lecture: Composition  
**TUTORIAL:** Photoshop - Selections  
**CRITIQUE #2:** Project #2 Due.  
**HW:** Read handout on Magic Rectangle and Rule of Thirds

Week 4

TUESDAY FEB. 17

**TUTORIAL:** Photoshop Layers and masks

**PROJECT #3** Shoot ONE Color – 5 Finished Photographs. Due Date: Mar. 3

**HW:** Read New York Times Article on Richard Avedon /Journal entry

THURSDAY FEB. 19

Lecture: Exposure and Lighting

**TUTORIAL:** Masking

**LAB:** Work on ONE Color photos

**HW:** Read Chapters 4 / 5 pp 84-107 & pp 112- 113

Week 5

TUESDAY FEB. 24

**TUTORIAL:** Composting

**PRESENTATION:** Begin work on Oral Presentation

Featured Photographer: André Kertész

**LAB:** Work on ONE color photos

**HW:** Journal entry/ Kertész

THURSDAY FEB. 26

Discussion / work on Presentation

Featured Photographer: Gordon Parks

**LAB:** Work on ONE Color photos

**HW:** Read Gordon Parks handouts / Journal entry

Week 6

TUESDAY MAR. 3

**STUDY for MID-TERM**

**PROJECT #4** Investigate your Neighborhood – Photographs are *everywhere*. 5 Finished photographs

Due Date: Mar. 24

**CRITIQUE #3:** Project #3 Due

THURSDAY MAR. 5

**M I D – T E R M E X A M**

**LAB:** Work on Neighborhood Photos

**Hand in Journals for Review**

**HW:** Read Chapter 9 pp 146 - 171

Week 7

TUESDAY MAR. 10

**S P R I N G B R E A K**

THURSDAY MAR. 12

**S P R I N G B R E A K**

Week 8

TUESDAY MAR. 17

Lecture: Tricky business – the stitched photo

**Mini – Project #5:** Panoramic photo! Due Date: Mar. 19

**LAB:** Work on Panorama

**HW:** Read Chapter 8 pp 128 -145

THURSDAY MAR. 19

**TUTORIAL:** More on Photoshop Selections...

**CRITIQUE #5** - Mini- Project #5 : Panorama Due

**HW:** Read Susan Sontag excerpt from On Photography / Journal Entry

Week 9

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TUESDAY MAR. 24

**CRITIQUE #4:** Project #4 Due – Investigate your neighborhood – 5 finished photos

**HW:** Chapter 6 pp 116-117 & 119 Chapter 7 pp 129 - 132

THURSDAY MAR. 26

Mini - Studio Lighting lesson- Wear Something nice, you're going to have your picture taken!

**PROJECT #6:** Hybrid – Exploring Culture/Gender/Identity. Due Date: Apr. 7

**LAB:** Hybrid – **be sure to employ Layers / Masks / Compositing**

**HW:** Chapter 8 pp 135 - 151

FRIDAY MAR. 27

**NEW YORK FIELD TRIP**

Week 10

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TUESDAY MAR. 31

Discussion: NYC trip

**MINI-PROJECT #7** Creative Scanning – Scavenger Hunt and Scan

**LAB:** Hybrid

THURSDAY APR. 2

LECTURE: Shooting for meaning. Telling a story.

**PROJECT #8** – Be a photojournalist (one story) 10 Images Due Date: Apr. 23

Week 11

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TUESDAY APR. 7

**CRITIQUE** : Project #6 Hybrid Due

**LAB:** Be a Photojournalist

THURSDAY APR. 9

Lecture: A Brief History of Photography: From Camera Obscura to Niépce to Steve Sasson

**LAB:** Be a Photojournalist

**HW:** Journal entry on History of Photography

Week 12

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TUESDAY APR. 14

Featured Photographers: Compilation of photographers / Discussion

Lecture: Responsible use of Photographs

**LAB:** Project #8 Be a photojournalist

**HW:** Journal Entry on Responsible use of Photographs

THURSDAY APR. 16

Discuss: Presentations

**Go over Final CD Instructions and Prep**

**LAB:** Project #8 - Be a photojournalist

**Note:** Be sure to bring Journal to next class

Week 13

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TUESDAY APR. 21

Featured Photographer: Annie Leibovitz



**LAB: Project #8 - Be a Photojournalist**  
**Turn in Journals**

THURSDAY APR. 23

**CRITIQUE: Project #8 – Be a Photojournalist, Due**

Week 14

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TUESDAY APR. 28

Discussion – How has photography changed... and how has it changed the world?

**LAB: Final CD and Presentation**

THURSDAY APR. 30

**FINAL CRITIQUE: PRESENTATION**  
**CD PORTFOLIO DUE**

Week 15

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## Syllabus Agreement

By signing this agreement, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the terms of this course (ART 268).

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have  
(Print First Name) (Print Last Name)

read, understand and agree to the terms of the syllabus for this course.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date) (Signature)