

The Art Institute of California

Course Syllabus

Course Number: GD4400

Course Title: Special Topics in Graphic Design

Class Meetings: Thursdays, 8-12, 1120 Market, Room 513

Session/Year: Spring 2008

Instructor Name: Nina Bellisio

Email Address: nina@bellisio.com

Phone: (website) <http://classes.ninabellisio.com> (blog)

<http://designscout.blogspot.com/>

Instructor Availability Outside of Class: by appointment

Advanced Photography

Course Description:

This course will explore both historical and contemporary techniques in photography. Students will work in darkroom and studio locations and use advanced manipulation techniques to create a coherent body of work.

Course Length: 11 Weeks

Contact Hours: 44 Hours

Lecture: 22 Hours

Lab: 22 Hours

Credit Values: 3 Credits

Course Competencies:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Apply skills as they relate to topic.
- Demonstrate an understanding of topic.
- Ability to solve problems as related to topic.

Course Prerequisite(s): Permission of Academic Director

Text(s): None/ journal TBA

Materials and Supplies: \$100 lab fee, access to a camera (film and digital)

Estimated Homework Hours: 4

Technology Needed: Image Manipulation software, slide scanner, camera and photo equipment

Grading Scale:

All assignments must have clear criteria and objectives to meet. All students shall be treated equitably. It will be that student's right to know his/her grade at any reasonable point that information is requested by that student. The criteria for determining a student's grade shall be as follows (on a percentage of total points basis):

A	100-93
A-	92-90
B+	89-87
B	86-83

B-	82-80
C+	79-77
C	76-73
C-	72-70
D+	69-67
D	66-65
F	64 or below

Process for Evaluation:

Attendance and Participation	30%	
Weekly Journal		20%
Final portfolio/ photo series	50%	

Student Evaluation/Grading Policies:

- Class time will be spent in a productive manner.
- Grading will be done on a point system.
- Points for individual activities will be announced.
- All work must be received by the set deadlines.
- Late work receives a grade of zero.
- On-time projects may be redone with instructor approval.
- **ABSOLUTELY NO WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE FINAL CLASS MEETS WEEK 11.**

Classroom Policy:

- No food allowed in class or lab at any time. Drinks in recloseable bottles allowed in classroom.
- Edible items brought to class or lab must be thrown out.
- If student elects to eat/drink outside class or lab door, missed time is recorded as absent.
- Attendance is taken hourly. Tardiness or absence is recorded in 15-minute increments.
- Break times are scheduled by the instructor at appropriate intervals.
- No private software is to be brought to lab or loaded onto school computers.
- No software games are allowed in lab (unless in course curriculum).
- Headphones are required if listening to music during lab. No headphones are allowed in lecture.
- Any student who has special needs that may affect his or her performance in this class is asked to identify his/her needs to the instructor in private by the end of the first day of class. Any resulting class performance problems that may arise for those who do not identify their needs will not receive any special grading considerations.

Disability Policy Statement: It is our policy not to discriminate against qualified students with documented disabilities in its educational programs, activities, or services. If you have a disability-related need for adjustments or other accommodations in this class, contact the Disabilities Services Coordinator Jennifer Banta, PhD at 415-276-1074 or see her at room 609.

Suggested Course Outline

- Week 1:** **Lecture:** intro to class, pinhole photography
 Lab: building a pinhole camera
 Homework: shoot and process 1+ rolls of color film, bring in favorite photo examples for discussion, journal entry 1
- Week 2:** **Lecture:** discuss what makes a memorable photo, review technique
 Lab: scan color film, shoot more pinhole photos
 Homework: shoot and process film, journal entry 2
- Week 3:** **Lecture:** color correction and image optimization
 Lab: scan and work on photos
 Homework: continue shooting, journal entry 3
- Week 4:** **Lecture:** shooting in B&W, intro to Rayko darkroom
 Lab: darkroom technique, visit camera obscura
 Homework: shoot and process B&W, journal entry 4
- Week 5:** **Lecture:** midterm presentations/ critique
 Lab: begin planning gallery show
 Homework: continue project, journal entry 5
- Week 6:** **Lecture:** printing film negatives
 Lab: trip to Rayko darkroom
 Homework: continue project, journal entry 6
- Week 7:** **Lecture:** printing film negatives
 Lab: trip to Rayko darkroom
 Homework: continue project, journal entry 7
- Week 8:** **Lecture:** studio lighting
 Lab: trip to Rayko darkroom and studio
 Homework: continue project, journal entry 8
- Week 9:** **Lecture:** studio lighting
 Lab: trip to Rayko darkroom and studio
 Homework: continue project, journal entry 9
- Week 10:** **Lecture:** critique of photos
 Lab: selection for, planning of gallery show
 Homework: continue project, journal entry 10

Week 11: **Lecture:** final photo selection
 Lab: install work in gallery
 Homework: opening in gallery