

The Art Institute of California

Course Syllabus

Course Number: GD4400

Course Title: Special Topics in Graphic Design

Section: A

Class Meetings: Fridays, 1-5, 1145 Market, Room 908

Session/Year: Winter 2009

Instructor Name: Nina Bellisio

Email Address: nina@bellisio.com

Phone: (website) <http://classes.ninabellisio.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.
- Demonstrate an understanding of traditional and digital photographic techniques.
- Apply design skills to curate a gallery exhibition.

Course Prerequisite(s): Permission of Academic Director

Text(s): *The Education of a Photographer* by Charles Traub and Steven Heller, Allworth Press, 2006. ISBN: 158115450X and weekly journal.

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.

SEE ADDENDUM FOR FULL LIST OF CLASS POLICIES

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 at 415-276-1060.

Academic Honesty Policy:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty while pursuing their studies at AiCA-SF. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: plagiarism and cheating; misuse of academic resources or facilities; and misuse of computer software, data, equipment or networks.

Student work that appears to violate AiCA-SF's standards of academic honesty will be reviewed by the Committee on Academic Honesty. If the work is judged to have violated standards of academic honesty, appropriate sanctions will be given. Sanctions include but are not limited to course failure and academic termination.

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 pinhole photos, film “Born into Brothels”
 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:** NO CLASS
 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