

The Art Institute of California- San Francisco

Course Syllabus

Course Number: GD1125, section B
Course Title: Introduction to Photography

Class Meetings: Tuesday 8-12
Session/Year: Summer 2006
Instructor Name: Nina Bellisio
Email Address: nina@bellisio.com
Website: <http://www.classes.ninabellisio.com>
Instructor Availability Outside of Class: Friday, 5-6 (402)

Introduction to Photography

Course Description:

Photography is a fundamental component of graphic design. This course will introduce the elements of photography and explore its impact and various applications as a vehicle to convey a visual message. Students will learn the operation of cameras, such as: 35 millimeter and digital, and the principles of composition, lighting and depth of field. The student will be introduced to the concepts of portraiture, narrative and documentary issues.

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:

- Demonstrate an understanding of planning the photographic composition.
- Compare film and digital cameras.
- Demonstrate an understanding of photographs as a message making and design element.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the basic elements of photography do's and don'ts such as: red eye, shadow casting, hot spots.
- Develop an understanding of storytelling, narrative structures, rhythm, audience, and point of view through photography.
- Apply principles of composition and design.
- Explore sequence design.
- Use table-top photography.
- Use portrait photography.
- Demonstrate photography in various lighting conditions: daylight, dark with flash, indoor photo lights, backlighting, night-exposure.
- Demonstrate the ability to conceive and stage a photographic composition, working with actors/models as well as inanimate objects.

Course Prerequisite(s): None

Text: Digital Photography Pocket Guide, By Derrick Story, publisher: O'Reilly ; 2nd Edition (November 2003), ISBN: 0-596-00627-6 (suggested)

Materials and Supplies: Student must be able to use a camera each week; printing will be required each week, typically costing \$5/week. Mounting materials for final portfolio.

Estimated Homework Hours: six hours

Technology Needed: access to a camera, preferably a digital SLR

Grading Scale:

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:

Shooting Assignments (6)	30 points
Homework Worksheets (6)	18 points
Midterm Presentation	10 points
Final Quiz	10 points
Final Portfolio	30 points
Participation	1point for every hour of class

Student Evaluation/Grading Policies:

- Points are deducted if homework is not printed on PHOTO PAPER
- Remember: printing in the cage requires 24 HOUR advance notice and cannot be used as an excuse for a late project.
- All work must be received by the set deadlines for full credit.
- Late projects will be accepted no more than ONE WEEK past the due date, for reduced credit.
- Missing critique lowers your work one letter grade.
- On-time projects may be redone with instructor approval.
- Midterm and final quizzes CANNOT be made up and must be completed on the assigned day.
- ABSOLUTELY NO WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE FINAL CLASS MEETS WEEK 11.

**You are responsible for finding out about and completing any class work missed due to absence.
Class handouts and grades can be found at <http://classes.ninabellisio.com>**

Classroom Policy:

- Cell phones must be turned off during class.
- Food and drink are not allowed in the classrooms and labs.
- Plagiarism of text or images, even if unintentional, results in a failure of the assignment.
- 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 only, not during 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 Suzanne Raffeld at 415-276-1060 or see her at room 609.

Weekly Outline

Week One

Lecture: intro to digital photography, using the camera, photo and photo-collage in art history

In class project: formal qualities

Homework: use the camera to crop out letters or new, unseen shapes, worksheet: still life

Week Two

Lecture: camera and film formats, digital vs. traditional photography, Photoshop basics

In class project: shooting portraits

Homework: portraits involving shadow, worksheet: landscape

Week Three

Lecture: adjusting aperture, shutter speed, ISO, using a tripod

In class project: using manual camera adjustments to alter the composition, street photography

Homework: shooting at night with a tripod, worksheet: portrait

Week Four

Lecture: viewing the environment as a photographer

In class project: working on midterm presentations

Homework: photos in the style of your course of study

Week Five

MIDTERM Presentations: history of an artist/ movement with original photos in their style

Homework: begin shooting for final portfolio

Week Six

Class trip: San Francisco Botanical Gardens

Week Seven

Lecture: basic lighting techniques

In class project: shooting a still life

Homework: direct and diffused still lifes, worksheet: fashion

Week Eight

Lecture: intro to color photography, color temperature

In class project: color in the environment

Homework: color palettes, worksheet: photo journalism

Week Nine

Lecture: narrative and serial photography, choosing lenses

In class project: creating a narrative sequence

Homework:, shooting a topical series worksheet: commercial

Week Ten

Lecture: creating a portfolio, review for final

In class project: editing, mounting, and preparing portfolio work

Week Eleven

FINAL quiz FINAL portfolio due

Schedule Subject to change based on class need. Please contact the instructor and other classmates when absent to confirm assignments.