

PHOTOGRAPHY

Z BLOCK-MOD 2/3 2019-20

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Essential Questions

What makes an image powerful?

How and why is photography an art form?

How can we develop a critical eye and evolve from picture takers into image makers?

What makes a successful photograph?

How are images used as a visual language?

Course Description

The Digital Photography course is designed to be an introduction to the aesthetic and technical approaches in photography. Students will practice developing a critical eye for composing photographs, as well as explore how to post-process their work in Adobe Photoshop. Using project-based assignments, students photograph and edit, collaborate, review and critiquing each others' images.

A strong emphasis is placed on experimentation, exploration, and how to use photography as a form of creative expression. The class focuses on answering the question of how to develop a critical eye and evolve from picture takers into image makers, as well as what makes a successful photograph.

Learning Outcomes

Organization: I have organized all my photos into albums on Flickr and labeled them appropriately for the individual photo assignments.

Developing Craft and Creativity: I am developing my photography skills by actively practicing the photo techniques taught in class. I am constantly stretching my photography abilities and experimenting with new ways to capture images and aim to create unique photos. I edit my photos with attention to detail before posting them on my Flickr page.

Collaboration and Participation: I regularly participate in class presentations, discussions and critiques and engage in sharing constructive feedback with my peers.

Ownership: I demonstrate initiative and a commitment to learning; I have the ability to self-reflect and learn from his/her/their mistakes. I manage my class time effectively and efficiently and complete my photo assignments on time.

Units and Photo Assignments

Unit 1: Making it Interesting

- Elements of Art
- Principles of Design
- Compositional Guidelines

Unit 2: Portraits

- Un-selfie self-portrait
- Family and Friends portraits
- Double Exposure portrait
- Humans of Sequoyah

Supplies

For this class, it is highly recommended to have a DSLR camera to learn how to take photos in manual mode, enabling the photographer creative control in creating images. If using a DSLR is not an option, then students may use a point-and-shoot camera or their phone camera. All students must be able to download Adobe Photoshop on their personal laptops for post-processing and editing.

Ethics and Art Practice

- All students as artists will care for and maintain materials, tools, and equipment inside and outside the classroom. We will discuss the importance of safety, appropriate handling, and how to follow correct procedures in handling materials, tools, and equipment.
- Environmental responsibility and safety: we will discuss different ways how materials may impact human health and the environment.
- Plagiarism, authorship, and ownership: we will discuss different issues relative to authorship and ownership as they apply to creating works of art and learn about specific practices such as appropriation, fair use, copyright, open source, and creative commons.

The freedom to create comes with responsibilities to your own health and safety and that of those around you, as well as the world around you.