

Session 2008A

ART 231: Assignment #1 (camera controls)

Start out by reading chapters #1 and #3 in *A Short Course in Photography* by Barbara London and Jim Stone. After reading these chapters, load your camera with a roll of 400 ISO 36 exposure COLOR film. Follow the below instructions for exposing this roll. After you have taken all the pictures on this roll, take your film to a local lab and have it processed and printed in a set of 4 by 6 inch prints. Bring in the prints to turn in for next class. This first assignment will allow you to familiarize yourself with the manual settings on your camera, and by shooting color film you will quickly be able to see examples of various camera settings.

Part One: Depth of field control

For the first part of this assignment, find a person or an object to photograph (you may choose more than one person or object). Photograph this person or item outdoors to help ensure adequate lighting. Make several exposures of this person or object with a great depth of field (f/16 or higher) as well as several exposures using a very small depth of field (f/5.6 or lower). Also, try getting as close to the object as you can while still being able to focus, and create some close-up shots of the object (the object can be cropped in the frame). What happens to the depth of field with these close-up shots? (you should use approximately 20 of the 36 exposures on your roll of film for part one).

Part Two: Shutter speed control

For this second part, you will work with photographing moving objects. Try photographing a couple of different moving objects (cars, trains, people, etc.) on the rest of the roll using different shutter speeds. How can you make a photograph that makes a viewer feel the subject is moving? Try using a slow shutter speed on a moving object (1/30 second or slower) to create a blur...you may have to support your camera on a table or monopod of some sort to make sure it stays steady. Then try using fast shutter speeds (1/125 or faster). What happens to the blur? Lastly, try panning the camera with the subject, so that the subject appears sharp against a blurred background.

***MAKE SURE TO HAVE CHAPTERS #1 AND #3 READ BEFORE THE FIRST CLASS MEETS.**

Bring you prints from this assignment to hand in on Wednesday, January 9th if you already have a manual SLR camera. If you don't, you may bring the prints the next week of class.

SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE IN ILLINOIS

Session 2008A
Dawson Hall: D16
Wednesday 6-10:00 p.m.

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ART 231-70: PHOTOGRAPHY

- I. Course Description.** Photography. (3 credit hours). Designed to teach the student how to use a camera, develop black and white film and make black and white prints. The student should also learn what makes a good photograph and develop some sense of the potential of photography as a medium of communication and expression.
- II. Textbook and Materials.** Barbara London and Jim Stone, *A Short Course in Photography* (6th edition). Students must also have their own fully manual SLR film camera.
- III. Mission Statement.** The mission of Springfield College in Illinois is to provide students the best liberal arts education in the Ursuline tradition of a nurturing faith-based environment. We prepare students for a life of learning, leadership and service in a diverse world.
- IV. Goals, objectives and outcomes.**
 - A. Goals.**
 - Students will gain technical skills: a basic knowledge of camera and darkroom techniques.
 - Students will also gain visual skills: a basic knowledge the visual language of photography, including an ability to compose and organize visual space and to employ a variety of visual approaches.
 - Students will gain a sense of Integration: a basic understanding of the important interconnections between technical, visual and expressive tools.
 - B. Objectives.** The following Common Student Learning Objectives (CSLOs) adopted Dec. 9, 2004, are addressed:
 - Content Knowledge (Lifelong Learning) CK-1. Know and apply the central concepts of the subject matter.
 - Communication Skills (Lifelong Learning and Leadership) CS-1. Communicate effectively in oral and written forms.
 - Problem Solving Skills (Lifelong Learning and Leadership) PS-2. Seek information and develop an in-depth knowledge base, grounded in research.
 - Social Responsibility (Service and Leadership) SR-3. Develop good citizenship.
 - Global Perspectives (Diversity) GP-1. Recognize the importance of diversity of opinion, abilities and cultures.
 - C. Course Based Student Learning Objectives .** Upon completion of the course, students will be able to demonstrate their mastery of the following learning outcomes, addressing the following CLSOs (in parentheses):

- CBSLO-1: Students will learn the technical skills of photography including camera operation as well as black and white film processing and printing. (CK-1, CS-1, PS-2).
- CBSLO-2: Students will learn the visual language of photography and how to effectively use photography as a means of communication. (CK-1, CS-1, SR-3, GP-1).
- CBSLO-3: Students will learn how to critique each other's photographs verbally in an open and respectful manner. (CK-1, CS-2, SR-3, GP-1).

V. Teaching Methods/Delivery System. Lectures will be given to introduce technical photographic skills as well as visual expression. In-class demonstrations will be given in the darkroom regarding film processing, beginning and intermediate black and white printing techniques. Slides from the great masters of photography will also be shown. Time allowing, critiques will be held for each assignment, on the due date of the assignment.

VI. Course Requirements.

- A. *Attendance Policy.* Attendance is mandatory. To avoid class disruption, students in ART 231 must be on time. If a student misses class, it is the student's responsibility to get class notes, assignments, etc., from classmates. Missed in-class work, by its very nature, cannot be made up. If you must be absent for good cause, I will whenever possible try to give you an opportunity to do equivalent work. Absences, in short, will hurt your grade. Students are expected to attend all "Open Lab" classes, and to come prepared to these labs with projects to work on for the duration of the class. Coming late to these labs or leaving early will also negatively impact your attendance.
- B. *Reading Assignments.* Weekly reading assignments from London/Stone will be given. Please see the Tentative Calendar below.
- C. *Project Assignments.* Four different projects will be assigned over the course of the semester. Students will turn in a specified number of prints for each assignment. A Final Portfolio will also be turned in at the end of the semester. A Technical Test will also be given, covering materials discussed in lectures and lab demos.

VII. Means of Evaluation. Your final grade will be based on assignments weighted as follows:

- 30% Assignments 1-3
- 40% Assignment 4 & Final Portfolio
- 20% Technical Test
- 10% Attendance and Participation

SCI's grade scale is as follows: A= 100-90. B= 89-80. C= 79-70. D= 69-60. E= 59-0.

Incomplete grades: According to the SCI catalog, students requesting an incomplete grade for a class must have completed at least 75% of the course work. It is my policy that students must make a request to me in writing no

later than one week before the final exams explaining in detail why they cannot finish the remainder of the coursework. Acceptable reasons are student illness requiring bed rest or hospitalization, major family crisis, or circumstances beyond the student's control. I will only issue an incomplete grade at my discretion.

Plagiarism. Plagiarism is defined as follows: "The deliberate and knowing presentation of another person's original ideas or creative expressions as one's own. Generally, plagiarism is immoral but not illegal. If the expression's creator gives unrestricted permission for its use and the user claims the expression as original, the user commits plagiarism but does not violate copyright laws. If the original expression is copied without permission, the plagiarist may violate copyright laws, even if credit goes to the creator. And if the plagiarism results in material gain, it may be deemed a passing-off activity that violates the Lanham Act." Black's Law Dictionary, 8th ed. (2004), p. 1187. [The Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C., is the federal law regulating trademarks.] Also useful to establish guidelines for delineating plagiarism is Diana Hacker's definition: "Three different acts are considered plagiarism: (1) failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas, (2) failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and (3) failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words." (A Writer's Reference, by Diana Hacker, Bedford St. Martin's Press, 2003, page 331.) Some instances of plagiarism may, in fact, be violations of copyright law and subject to prosecution. The SCI Student Handbook lists plagiarism as a serious breach of conduct standards and will result in disciplinary action. For the purpose of this course, plagiarism issues apply to the stealing of creative ideas expressed in visual form. Any student found guilty of plagiarism will receive a failing grade.

VIII. Course Outline and Calendar. The course outline is as follows (subject to change as needed):

Week 1 (January 9): Introduction to class; Camera controls lecture, film and exposure lecture. **Assignment #1 due.** Read Chapters 4, 5 for next class. **Assignment #2 handed out.**

Week 2 (January 16): Film Developing Demo (bring film to develop); Evaluating your negatives. Read Chapters 2, 6 for next week.

Week 3 (January 23): Lecture on Lenses, Printing. Printing Demo. Open Lab. (bring processed negatives to print). **Assignment #3 handed out.**

Week 4 (January 30): Open Lab **Assignment #2 due.**

Week 5 (February 6): Open Lab. **Assignment #3 due. Assignment #4 handed out.**

Week 6 (February 13): **Technical Test.** Open Lab.

Week 7 (February 20): Digital Photography lecture. Open Lab.

Week 8 (February 27): Open Lab. **Assignment #4, Final Portfolio due.**

IX. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Please Note: Springfield College in Illinois provides individuals with disabilities reasonable accommodations to

participate in educational programs, activities and services. Students with disabilities requiring accommodations to participate in class activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor as early as possible as well as the Director of the Resource Center.

- X. Assessment.** Goals, objectives, and learning outcomes that will be assessed in the class are stated in this syllabus in Sections IV and VI. Instructor will use background knowledge probes, tests, short essays and/or other Classroom Assessment Techniques as deemed necessary in order to provide continuous improvement of instruction.

- XI. Illinois Articulation Initiative.** ART 231 has been approved by the Illinois Articulation Initiative as meeting the criteria stipulated for IAI ART 917. Photography. (3 credit hours). Designed to teach the student how to use a camera, develop black and white film and make black and white prints. The student should also learn what makes a good photograph and develop some sense of the potential of photography as a medium of communication and expression.