

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

US- Digital Photography 1 SYLLABUS 2013-2014

Instructor: Jennifer Love Gironda
E-mail: jg1550@nova.edu
Location: Room 2043 Epstein Center
Extra Help: Fridays from 3:00-3:30 and appointment

Course Description

This course is an opportunity for students to learn the basic foundations of digital photography as related to technical aspects and aesthetics. Students will experience the various stages of digital imaging, from image capture, to digital enhancements, using editing software, to producing finished works in various forms. In addition, students will be engaged in critiquing not only their own photographs, but those of professional photographers as well as their classmates.

Course Objectives

1. Personal enjoyment in the creative act of image making – students will gain an overall appreciation for the process of taking and editing their own photographs as well as the photographs of others.
2. Understanding of the camera and related vocabulary.
3. Technical proficiency with camera and editing software.
4. Identify and apply the Elements and Principles of Art.
5. Engage in productive and meaningful conversations about their artwork, the artwork of their peers and relevant works from art history.
6. Develop skills to prepare and present their artwork for evaluation as well as maintain a strong work ethic to ensure deadlines are met.

Grade Determination

Students will be continuously assessed throughout each assignment in a “risk-free” setting where they will be encouraged to create personal interpretations of the assignment, analyze their mistakes and shortcomings, and re-work their pieces until they achieve a satisfactory level of mastery based on the assignment objectives. In recognition of the vast range of artistic and technical abilities within our student population, in foundation level courses such as this one, students will be assessed on their individual performance, working within the scope of their personal artistic and technical abilities, and how they develop within this framework.

Grading Policy:

Students are expected to complete all required work, and will be given opportunities and support to do so. Students will be continually assessed throughout each assignment in a “risk-free” environment with the intent to improve the instructional process and validate the goals of the program to help each student attain mastery of skills as determined by the teacher. Formative assessments will be used to identify and remediate if necessary any problematic areas. Summative assessments will allow the student to show mastery of content.

Grading Structure:

A minimum of three major projects will be completed during the semester. Grading is based on in-class performance, homework, and workmanship. **Workmanship will be assessed as follows:**

Excellent

Shows strong evidence of thinking
Shows invention and imagination
Shows experimentation and risk taking
Reflects sensitivity and/or subtlety
Uses excellent compositional skills
Materials are well used; technique is generally excellent
Demonstrates a sense of confidence

Very Good

Shows some evidence of thinking
Demonstrates a fairly high degree of success
Applies techniques and materials successfully
Makes strong compositions

Satisfactory

Shows an effort to solve some problems
Creates work that is consistently uneven
Uses compositions that are weak
Shows few signs of effective decision making

Inadequate

Uses poor techniques
Shows a lack of awareness of tools or media
Uses compositions that are poor or ill considered

Homework: Homework will be assigned periodically to practice what is being taught in class, as well as to encourage individuality through the gathering and rendition of subject matter which is meaningful to students on a personal level.

In-Class performance. This will be awarded weekly based on:

- Showing up for class regularly and on time, getting to work right away without being reminded. This nature of this class is largely about performance and your presence and participation is essential to the creative process.
- The use of best practices in the creative process by acting responsibly in the care and maintenance of tools and supplies, clean-up of your own space and tools, and help with general studio operation and maintenance.
- Participation in and contribution to class critiques and discussions.
- Following all studio rules.
- Demonstrating a sincere effort to learn.
- Maintaining a positive attitude, keeping an open mind, and having fun!!!

Classroom Rules

- ***The student is expected to know and to follow the school guidelines and policies as they have been stated in the Upper School Student Handbook.***
- **Tardiness:** A tardy will be considered excused with an appropriate pass; however, the student will still be responsible for the day's assignment. Make sure to see the teacher for any work you missed.
- **Class participation** is essential to successful learning. Raise your hand and let me know if you do not understand something in class. If you would rather see me after class, that is also acceptable. I need to hear from you! Communicate with me!
- **Differing opinions, individuality, and creativity** are encouraged in this course. However, disrespectful behavior towards the instructor, fellow students or oneself is unacceptable. Students are expected to demonstrate maturity and to respect others at all times.
- **Cell phones** must be turned off unless part of class instruction.
- **Netiquette:** all rules and procedures for on-line (chatrooms, etc.) communication must be followed. *Continue for more details regarding netiquette.*

Cheating/Plagiarism: All written work is required to be submitted to Turnitin.com; Plagiarism is a serious violation of University School's policies and will be dealt with accordingly - *see student handbook and attached sheet.*

Materials

Each student will need to bring in a digital camera. Specific information will be given in class. Please know that students will NOT be able to substitute Smart Phone cameras for in-class projects.

Netiquette

Proper manners are as important online as they are offline. Follow these simple Netiquette guidelines for a fun and safe online experience!

1. The student is expected to know and to follow the school guidelines and policies as they have been stated in the Upper School Student Handbook.
2. Netiquette is a term derived from the words "Internet Etiquette" or "Network Etiquette" which describes the use of proper manners and behavior online. Internet Etiquette should be used in all areas of electronic means including email, chatting, blogging, forums, message boards, and so on. It is important to treat others with dignity and respect both on and offline. Although the rules may vary depending on the specific forum used, the following Top 10 Netiquette guidelines (© Jake Shoemaker-Galloway) will offer some *basic* Internet tips and suggestions to provide a pleasant and safe online experience:
 - a. Use Computer Courtesy: Whether a person is sending an email, chatting in a chat room or speaking in a forum, it is important to be courteous and respectful of others online. Always remember the **Golden Rule!**
 - b. Use Emoticons: When communicating online, it can be difficult to gauge a writer's emotion. Unless a web camera or microphone is used, the writer's expression or emotion is difficult to determine. By using **emoticons**, the writer's proper emotion will be conveyed to the reader.
 - c. Be Brief Online: It is important to keep messages short, especially when writing an email or typing in a chat room. **Proper sentence structure and correct grammatical rules are required when conversing via email or in chat rooms or through discussion threads!!!**
 - d. DON'T SHOUT: No matter what forum, writing in all capital letters is considered SHOUTING and is considered very rude. A word or two in caps is fine, but shouting is not recommended.
 - e. Pay Attention to Language Issues: Improper, inappropriate or bad language may get a participant kicked out or permanently banned from a forum or group.
 - f. Think Before Posting: It is important to note, what is posted online today, may come back and haunt the writer tomorrow.
 - g. Keep Personal Information Private: Posting private and personal information in the wrong location can have serious consequences.

Read more: http://internet.suite101.com/article.cfm/netiquette_guidelines#ixzz0FnAhOjLJ&B

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is normally defined as, but not limited to, the following two categories:

1. **Cheating** – Using inappropriate sources of information in an assignment or on a test. The following are examples of cheating taken from real student experiences:
2. **Plagiarism** – Intentional as well as unintentional failure to acknowledge sources as well as the use of commercially available so-called “research papers” without full recognition of the source. Presenting as one’s own, the ideas, words, or products of another. The following are examples of plagiarism taken from real student experiences:
3. **Academic dishonesty applies to all courses, assignments or exams completed by students and submitted as their own original work, whether in person or by electronic means.** Cheating is a serious breach of conduct with serious consequences. The appropriate penalty for academic dishonesty will be decided by the instructor.

More information on how to recognize plagiarism can be found at this site:

http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/plagiarism_test.html

Open Door Policy:

Please know that if you ever have any concerns you should contact me immediately so that any issues can be rectified- BE PROACTIVE! One of the underlying primary goals of this class is to develop a passion for the subject, and an understanding of what goes into the art-making process. You will find that I am excited about your learning and that I will work with you to help you succeed!

Teacher Information:

Jennifer Love Gironda,

NBCT/MAEd

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Acknowledgement of Class Policy Form

Please sign below to indicate you have read through the class syllabus and understand the expectations and policies for this class. Please contact me with any questions or concern prior to signing the form.

Printed Student's Name:

Student's Signature and Date:

Student's Email Address:

Please return this form to Mrs. Gironda by August 30, 2013