

BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY I

Black & White Photography I is an introductory studio course in the medium of photography. Students will learn the photographic process, from making an exposure to creating a final print. Emphasis is on the photographic image as a means of expression, the use of the camera to explore and discover the visual world. In this course, you will be asked to open your mind's eye to the possibilities of a world interpreted by camera, chemistry and light sensitive materials.

Required course content: This course offers a basic knowledge of the photographic process, including basic camera operation, proper film exposure, film development, a working knowledge of the darkroom, and preparing a final portfolio.

Five concerns of photographic seeing are presented to you as assignments. These "problems" should not be present in your work as ends in themselves, but as meaningful adjuncts to the entire image. Assignments are due on specific dates to be announced in class. A minimum of 10 (36-exposure) rolls of film exposed and contact printed required.

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| 1.) Depth of Field | 4 prints | 4.) Light as Subject | 4 prints |
| 2.) Motion | 3 prints | 5.) Documentary | 6 prints |
| 3.) Point of View | 4 prints | | |

Mid-Term Exam: There will be a mid term exam (date to be announced) covering everything discussed in class. Open notebooks are allowed but time is limited.

Notebook: Each student is expected to keep a notebook which will include everything covered during the course, most importantly, all completed assignments, and all contact sheets. These notebooks will be reviewed and are part of your grade.

Final Portfolio: 10 finished, spotted and mounted photographs, 5 of which will represent a documentary. These photographs will be selected from your semester's work, but need not contain work from each assignment.

Course Goals: The mastery of basic photographic techniques as stated above and the beginning of the development of a personal vision. I try to have no pre-conceived notions of your subject matter, your approach, or your methods. I expect quality, originality and sensitivity. Above all, the process of identifying, developing and communicating your individual persona will be stressed.

Darkroom Access: Daytime darkroom access is available through the Fine Arts secretary's office by simply signing out the key. After hours access must be arranged with the secretary by being placed on a key list which is kept at the Police Dispatch Office.

Grades: Your final grade will reflect a combination of the following:

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| 1. Mid Term Exam | 10% |
| 2. Assignments | 30% |
| 3. Notebook | 10% |
| 4. Final Portfolio | 50% |

D: Failure to complete course requirements and minimal class participation.

C: Successful completion of course requirements by submitting 10 mounted photographs that reflect the assigned projects.

B: Completion of course requirements presented in a professional manner plus demonstration of a greater than average ability to grasp both camera and darkroom concepts.

A: All of the requirements of a B grade but also demonstrating a talent for the art of photographic “seeing”, as evidenced by a strong visual statement within the framework of the 10 print portfolio.

Attendance is mandatory. Darkroom instruction will not be repeated. If an absence is unavoidable, it is your responsibility to notify me before class as well as to arrange for a means of obtaining missed material. A student phone number exchange is strongly suggested. ***Two (2) unexcused absences results in the loss of one full grade.***

The week following the assignment of each “problem” you are expected to present the required number of prints at the beginning of class for critique. These prints need not be spotted or mounted but should demonstrate an effort towards quality. Grades will be based on timely completion, level of darkroom competency, ability to understand and fulfill the assignment, and finally the level of self expression your prints exhibit.

At any point during the semester but definitely with the final portfolio, I may ask to review your notebooks. They should be neatly maintained and contain notes from class discussions, darkroom procedures, negatives and accompanying contact sheets and prints, and finally any notes taken either in the field or in the darkroom.

Your final portfolios will be due at the beginning of our last formal session for critique. As stated earlier, these 10 prints may, but need not include assignment prints. The grade will be based on presentation, darkroom skill, and should demonstrate a distinct point of view. I am looking for a **BODY OF WORK** rather than a few pretty pictures that speak only of assignment fulfillment.

Grade credit for extra work can be applied to any of the above except your final portfolio grade. That grade is determined by 10 finished prints, no more, no less. Proof that you have acquired camera and darkroom skill along with the ability to express yourself through this medium will be quite evident within that portfolio.

Good luck. I’m looking forward to a fun and stimulating semester together.

Ken Hohing

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