

SYLLABUS

I. COURSE TITLE

ART 481

Digital Photography I

3 semester hours

II. PREREQUISITES

Art major or department chair approval.

III. TEXTBOOK

Landon, B. (2014). *A short course in digital photography*. (8 ed.). New York, NY: Pearson Education.

IV. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction to photography using the digital camera along with editing, printing and viewing technologies as tools of the photographer. Principles of exposure control, lighting, composition, digital editing, and creative approach will be covered and practiced.

(This course is offered to fulfill degree curriculum and studio elective requirements in the Department of Art and as a viable elective for any student wishing to learn the principles and techniques of photography for pleasure and personal creative growth, or as support for professional activities.)

V. RATIONALE

Photography I is required of art majors in some degree programs and is an elective course allowed for many degree programs at Mississippi College. In this course, an intense studio emphasis in photography will develop one's basic knowledge, skill, and confidence level necessary to make artistic photographs.

VI. LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

- A. **TECHNICAL** - Understanding of light and its effects on subject and recording medium (digital array). Mastery of the camera and accessory equipment such as lenses, lighting, flash and filters. Mastery of processes for imaging and prints.
- B. **ARTISTIC** - Development of a sound personal approach to aesthetic goals in photography, including pictorial composition and creative approach. Development of critical faculties in the assessment and critique of photographs. Development of an appreciation of the history of photography and of the works of the great photographers.
- C. **PROFESSIONAL** - Integration of concepts of the uses to which photography may be put in the modern world and how photographers attempt to meet the demands of the public in both art and commercial photography.
- D. **SPIRITUAL** - Students will also have opportunities to see photography as an aid to the expression and understanding of the Christian faith.

VII. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

It is expected that a student attending Mississippi College will be scrupulously honest. Dishonesty, such as cheating or plagiarism, or furnishing false information, including forgery, alteration or misuse of University documents, records or identification, will be regarded as a serious offense subject to server penalty, including, but not limited to, loss of credit and possible dismissal.

VII. COURSE TOPICS:

The major topics to be considered are:

- A. The basic history of photography
- B. The nature of the process of perception
- C. The function of light on digital arrays
- D. The relationship of shutter speed and aperture and how they control the amount of light reaching the digital array
- E. Permanent storing media in digital photography
- F. How to adjust the camera for proper exposure
- G. The principles of good composition
- H. The processes of obtaining and printing basic images digital photography and how these may be manipulated
- I. Lenses and their care
- J. The use of filters
- K. The use of flash
- L. The use of artificial light in the studio
- M. Considerations of color in photography
- N. Basic considerations of photojournalism
- O. Using different types of cameras
- P. What constitutes a good photograph
- Q. Creative considerations in photography
- R. What the great photographers accomplished
- S. Special effects in photography
- T. Digital manipulation and editing of images using computer software
- U. Professional, legal and ethical issues in photography
- V. Procedures for presentation of photographs

You will receive classroom instruction in techniques which you will apply in assignments and so class attendance is required. There will be reading and study assignments. There will be opportunities for group critiques of photographs. The photographic assignments for the course are given in the syllabus, and the instructor reserves the right to add additional work. Students are responsible for working outside of class to the extent that all assignments are completed.

IX. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES:

Methods and activities for instruction will include:

- A. Lecture / discussion / DVD media / demonstration
- B. Studio Activities
- C. Critiques
- D. Group Activities
- E. Notebook-making.

XI. EVALUATION:

The student will be responsible for the following:

- A. Reading Textbook Assignments
- B. Class Participation in Discussions and Field Trips
- C. Notebooks
- D. Preparation for Tests
- E. Photographic Projects

75% Project Grades: Completion of assignments in various photographic avenues.

10% Notebooks: Syllabus, all class notes, and a journal of locations of where photos were taken.

15% Written Tests covering lecture and assigned readings.

100% Total

GRADING SCALE:

A. = 93-100

B. = 85-92

C. = 76-84

D. = 65-75

F. = 0-64

I. = A incomplete may be given to a student who has been providentially hindered from completing work required in a course, provided that:

1. Semester attendance requirements have been met;

2. Most of the required work has been done;

3. The student is doing passing work and the student has made prior arrangements with the faculty member to complete the remaining work at a later date. The grade of "I" must be removed promptly or it becomes an F; it cannot be removed by repeating the course.”

XII. LIST OF MATERIALS:

Materials list will be provided by the instructor