Diran Lyons, Instructor

Office Art 155 Video Lab. Office Hours: T/TH, 4-5PM (by Appointment)

E-mail: diran.lyons@gmail.com

Tuesday/Thursday, 11:00-12:30. Fall 2009

\*\*The instructor reserves the right to adapt this contract if the need should arise.

**BASICS OF DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

Course description: This introductory course covers the history and development of the camera, photographic process and image. Emphasis is placed on the use of the adjustable digital camera for effective visual communication. Basic color theory and methods for correcting digital images will be covered. Introduction level instruction in using image editing software for manipulating raster graphics is a component in the course.

Academic Accommodation: If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e. Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ASA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible. In addition, it is your responsibility to contact the Disable Student Services Office at extension 3332 to request Academic Accommodation.

Attendance Policy: Class attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to arrive on time and leave only when the class is dismissed. Any unexcused absences in excess of four (the equivalent of two weeks of class) for the entire semester will result in a lowered final grade. Two late arrivals to class will equal one unexcused absence. Two early departures from class will equal one unexcused absence. High school students taking this class are not excused from attendance even if their high school is not in session. It is the student’s responsibility to get assignments and class materials after an absence. Absences are only excused and valid if supporting documentation is presented. It is Board Policy that students who miss two or more weeks of class meetings before the 9th week of class can be dropped.

Personal Electronics Policy: Cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, MP3 players, headphones, and other similar electronic devices will be turned off and stored out of sight during class. Laptop computers with the sound turned off may be used for taking notes.

Conduct Policy: Students are expected to behave like adults and demonstrate respect for the instructor, other students, the classroom environment, and themselves. Students who are unable or unwilling to conduct themselves appropriately will be required to leave the class until such time that they can function maturely. Any lessons or projects due during such a suspension will NOT be accepted and the student will forfeit those points.

Grading Policy: You will be graded on attendance, how successfully complete assignments, and contribute to the group discussions/critiques/projects. Regular attendance, completion of all assignments, and other course requirements does not guarantee a passing grade. Late assignments will not be accepted. Incomplete assignments will reduce your grade.

•Class Participation (Attendance, complete assignments, and contribute to the group discussions/critiques/projects) = 10% of overall course grade.

•Class Paper = 10% of overall course grade.

•Class assignments (photo assignments) = 40% of overall course grade.

•Two exams = 40% of overall course grade.

Drop Deadline Date: Students may withdraw from this course without a letter grade until the conclusion of the ninth week of the semester. After that time, everyone in the class will receive a letter grade. Students who miss more than four class sessions prior to this date may be dropped from the course.

COURSE OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

Identify images within the context of the history of the photography.

Choose the techniques needed to produce a pre-visualized outcome for a photograph.

Evaluate the effectiveness of composition to the meaning of an image.

Perform basic adjustments in an image-editing program such as Photoshop.

Judge lighting effectiveness in an image.

Discuss the social relevance of different images and their social impact.

Decide what file format would best serve the intended use of image.

Choose what type of compression would best serve archiving of creative work.

Produce creative work of exhibition quality, as well as, professional quality commercial work.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

In the process of completing this course, students will:

Recognize the history of the photographic medium and the social evolution of image.

Learn photographic techniques with an adjustable digital camera

Compose images that effectively emphasize subject through the elements/principles of design.

Edit photographs in an image editing program better communicate an idea and/or create narrative.

Recognize lighting condition and manipulation.

Examine and use the ideas of pre-visualization, active viewing, and critique.

Identify the impact the photographic image has on culture.

Learn the differences between file formats and compression application for each use of an image.

Learn different file formats and compression levels for different intended uses of image.

Learn methods for saving and sorting digital images.

Practice basic “digital darkroom” techniques for correction of personal work.

Learn methods of distributing and presenting portfolio work for creative markets.

WEEKLY REQUIREMENTS

You will be required to join the Facebook page for this class. That Facebook page for this class is called:

**Tiger1 Photography**

Go to www.facebook.com and enter into the search engine in the upper right hand corner of the screen: Tiger1 Photography.

You will “become a fan” of the page, which is done by clicking the button that says “Become a Fan.”

Once you have become a fan, you will be required to post images of professional photographs on Tiger1 Photography, and you will be required to fulfill other duties as directed.

If you do not have a Facebook account, you will need to sign up for one. A Facebook account is free and can be established if you have a permanent personal e-mail address (like Yahoo, Hotmail, Gmail, etc, all of which are free).