COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: ART 2284: Photographic Darkroom Fundamentals

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 6
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): None
4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): None

This course emphasizes photographic darkroom technique as well as historical and contemporary photographic themes and processes. Instruction includes an introduction to black and white film development and creative darkroom technique with an emphasis on experimentation and exploration in the darkroom. Assignments will direct students toward personalized expression and the development of a final portfolio. Media presentations, discussion and studio critiques will address photo-history, interpretation and analysis. RECOMMENDED ENTRY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE: Art 1184: Intro to Digital Photography (may take 1184 and 2284 simultaneously); basic math.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): March, 2011

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

1. Cultural Investigation and History of Photography
   a) Overview of the history of photography with an emphasis on 19th to mid 20th Century photographers
   b) Current and historical issues in photography and photo-criticism
2. Photo Interpretation and Analyses
   a) Development of historical photographic processes
   b) Form and Content
   c) Interpretation and criticism in theoretical context
   d) Studio Critique
3. Aesthetics
   a) Visual Composition and Image Structure
   b) Creative control using film processing and darkroom technique
   c) Format and cropping
   d) Development of personal photographic style
4. Camera, Lens and Exposure
   a) Basic film exposing with 35mm and medium format cameras
   b) Creative Exposure technique including pushing & pulling, multiple exposure
5. Processing Images
   a) Black & White film Processing
   b) Black & White print processing
   c) Creative darkroom technique such as sabattier effect, sandwiching and combination printing
   d) Camera-less processes including photogram, cliché verre, digital negatives
   e) Advanced printing technique including split filtering, fiber paper and non-toxic toning
6. Print Finishing
   a) Matting and mounting prints
   b) Hand coloring
   c) Book making

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an ability to properly expose, develop and print black and white film based images.
2. Demonstrate an ability to creatively control the aesthetic relationship of form to content in photographic images.
3. Articulate a personal response to content and meaning in photography.
4. Engage in critical discussion of technical and aesthetic concerns when viewing photographs.
5. Understand and discuss the cultural context of photographic images and historical techniques.
E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC):
Goal 2/Critical Thinking: Students will be able to:
1. Gather factual information and apply it to a given problem in a manner that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected
2. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives that can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.
3. Analyze the logical connections among the facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a problem or claim; generate and evaluate implications that follow from them.
4. Recognize and articulate the value assumptions that underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.

Goal 6/Humanities and Fine Arts: Students will be able to:
1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities
4. Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.
5. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
1. Evaluation of photo projects
2. Response papers
3. Exams
4. Participation during critiques and class discussions
5. Attendance

G. RCTC CORE OUTCOME(S) ADDRESSED:
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Global Awareness/Diversity
- Civic Responsibility
- Personal/Professional Accountability
- Aesthetic Response

H. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any):
1. Special Fees Apply
2. Students may use 35mm SLRs, point and shoot, or a variety of film cameras.
3. MSDS Sheets relating to photography chemistry will be made available to students.
4. The initial lab session explains and familiarizes the student with general safety hazards and safety equipment in the lab. During the pre-lab discussion, the hazardous characteristics of the chemicals used during the lab are discussed. The students will be instructed on the proper disposal of any hazardous products. The instructor will direct all students to wear necessary protective equipment while working with the chemicals. A copy of Material Safety Data Sheets for chemicals used is available in the lab.