

Departmental Course Syllabus

Department: Journalism-Photography

Revision Date: January, 2009

San Antonio College * 1300 San Pedro* San Antonio, TX* 78212-4299

Course Number and Title: COMM 1318, Photography 1

Credit Hours: 3-3-1

10592 COMM 1318 002 PHOTOGRAPHY 1 T 12:15PM-0405PM LSC
100K WHITECOTTON F 01/12/2009-05/10/2009

10595 COMM 1318 005 PHOTOGRAPHY 1 F 1200PM-0400PM LSC 207
WHHITECOTTON F 01/12/2009-05/10/2009

10596 COMM 1318 200 PHOTOGRAPHY 1 W 0615PM-1005PM LSC 207
WHITECOTTON F 01/12/2009-05/12/2009

Instructor: [FRED WHITECOTTON](#)

Office: Loftin 218 **Phone Number:** (210) 733-2873 **FAX:** (210) 733-2868

Email: email to fwhitecotton@mail.accd.edu

Web Address: <http://www.accd.edu/sac/j-p/Whitecotton.html>

I. Catalog Description: Photography 1 (3-3-1) Prerequisite: None This is a one-semester course for those interested in either a career or serious hobby. Recording, processing, printing, retouching and print presentation are emphasized. The course is an introduction to the use of photographic materials, equipment and electronic processing. Design and creativity are addressed through analysis of the work of master photographers, contemporary photographs and evaluation of student assignments. Selected shooting assignments with different subjects, lighting conditions and environments are required.

II. Pre-requisites, co-requisites and other requirements: None

III. Text: Photography by London-Upton-Stone-Kobre-Brill Eighth Edition

IV. Instruction will consist of: Learning the use and care of cameras and photo equipment. You will need a film camera that has manual focus. It should also have manual settings such as for metering and adjustments for both aperture (the numbers usually found on the lens 4, 5.6, 8, 11 etc) and the shutter speeds (on the camera). You will need a lens, either the standard 50mm lens that comes with the older cameras or the short zoom lens that comes on newer cameras. The camera need not be an expensive or new “state of the art” camera, in fact, most of the older models will do fine. Most (but not all) new cameras can also be used if they have a manual or “creative” setting.

If in doubt call (210) 733-2279 with your camera's make and model. Later on in the course you may benefit from a separate flashgun, again these are fully explained during the course so you need not get one until you need it.

Correctly exposing, developing and printing black and white film, finishing and mounting prints, and having an understanding and working knowledge of basic photographic terms will be taught.

V. Course Content: The purpose of this course is to increase the student's understanding of basic black and white photography, its cameras and its usage. The course is designed for those with little or no experience desiring a thorough introduction to adjustable camera operation. Usage of films, shutter speed, aperture, depth of field, lenses, and filters will be explored through lecture, homework and class assignments. Emphasis is placed upon technical, aesthetic and historical perspectives of this medium. Camera and black and white darkroom procedures are explored. Adjustable camera required; **limited number of loaner cameras available**. Digital imaging, cameras, and digital processes are also discussed.

VI. Learning Outcomes and Performance Objectives with their methods of measurement as used to determine the students’ mastery of those outcomes.

Learning Outcome:

Performance Objectives/Method(s) of measurement for each objective:

Through various assignments use fine art elements of compositional design to create the illusion of depth, to simplify photographs, and to create strong centers of interest. Understand and define terms: framing or natural frame, leading lines, diminution, foreshortening, aerial perspective, repetition, negative space, positive space, formal and informal balance, and selective focus.

Use creative lighting to convey the aesthetics intended. Evaluate light direction and quality (specular or diffused) and determine if it enhances the subject. If not, be able to modify ambient light by change in location, camera angle, or light subtraction or addition. Define and recognize specular highlights, diffused highlights and shadows as recorded on film and digital.

Identify various film and digital focusing and viewing systems, normal lens for each format, shutters, lens terminology (telephoto, wide angle, macro, and zoom). Identify major advantages of SLR, rangefinder, view camera and digital.

Recognize the relationship between ISO and exposure settings. Understand and explain relationships between ISO, grain, acutance, contrast, and digital noise. Define film latitude and apply understanding of it to practical picture taking.

Determine exposure in any setting using a reflected or incident light meter, either built in or hand held. Meter accurately in problem lighting situations such as backlight, extreme contrasts, low or high key scenes.

Recognize and control depth of field through aperture choice, focusing distance, and lens focal length.

Determine equivalent exposures when the ISO, aperture, or shutter speed varies.

Identify features to consider when buying digital, point and shoot, and SLR cameras.

Understand the fundamentals of an electronic capture. Be able to prepare a digital camera for use by installing proper batteries, camera card, and selecting proper modes and settings in the menu.

Understand advantages of different file formats.

Recognize the proper method of downloading and storage of images.

Understand the focal length differences between film and digital cameras.

Identify the purposes, working properties, and processing times and procedures for all film and print chemicals used in class.

Recognize and explain the characteristics of a properly exposed, underexposed, and overexposed capture as related to film and digital.

Define contrast. Control contrast through lighting control, PC filter choice, dodging, burning, and digital capture. Explain the relationship between contrast and negative density. Be capable of producing consistent, full tonal prints either through film or digital.

Identify characteristics of photographic and digital printing papers (composition, tone, contrast, sheen, texture, and weight).

Be able to judge captured images for sharpness, exposure, and contrast that are worthy of enlargement.

Identify causes of common defects on sight (dust, scratches, pinholes, crimp marks, fogging, excessive or inadequate contrast, excessive grain, lack of sharpness processing stains, tong marks, and sensor dust).

Apply techniques to photograph motion including stop action, blur motion, panning, and zone focusing.

Determine exposure with electronic flash using a guide number with manual and automatic settings. Synchronize electronic flash with digital, leaf, and focal plane shutters. Identify purposes of X, M, and FP synchronization settings. Employ on camera electronic flash techniques to avoid distracting shadows and reflections off background surfaces. Identify features and characteristics to consider in buying electronic flash units including power sources and output.

Clean and maintain cameras and lenses. Identify features and characteristics to consider when buying cameras.

Critique your own work, identifying strengths and weaknesses in your pictures.

(SCANS COMPETENCIES are only required for courses which are a part of an AAS degree plan.)

SCANS Competencies: See attached for a list of competencies related to the workplace as outlined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

VII. Course requirements and grade computation.

A. College Requirements:

A written, comprehensive final examination, not to exceed two and one-half hours in length, shall be given at the end of each semester for each course at the regularly scheduled time. Any exceptions to these requirements must be approved by the appropriate dean. Other examinations are given at the discretion of the instructor.

A student who must be absent from a final examination should petition that instructor for permission to postpone the examination. **A student absent without permission from a final examination is graded “F.”** Postponed examinations result in a grade of “I.” The final exam must be taken within 120 calendar days from the

end of the semester or the grade automatically becomes an “F.”
(San Antonio College Bulletin, Faculty Handbook - January 1995)

B. Departmental Requirement:

C. Instructor Requirements:

Students will shoot five photographic assignments, process their film, make enlargements, mount their prints, and critique them in writing. They will also take a mid term test and final exam to determine their final grade in the class. Assignment deadlines are:

09-22-2008-first assignment

10-13-2008-second assignment

11-03-2008-third assignment

11-17-2008-fourth assignment

12-01-2008-fifth assignment

10-21-2008-mid term

12-09-2008-final exam

VIII. College Policies:

A. San Antonio College does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability with respect to access, employment programs or services.

B. Students are urged not to bring children to either a class or a lab. Minors under the age of twelve (12) must not be left unattended on campus. College Academic Council - April, 1998

C. ADA Statement: “As per Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if accommodation is needed contact the Office of DisABILITY Support Services, CAC 124C, Phone: (210) 733-2347.

D. A Rapid Response Team exists for the purpose of responding to emergencies. If you have a disability that will require assistance in the event of a building evacuation, notify Disability Support Services, Chance Academic Center 124C, Phone: (210) 733-2347.

E. Academic Dishonesty: Students may be subject to disciplinary proceedings resulting

in an academic penalty or disciplinary penalty for academic dishonesty. Academic Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism and collusion. For additional

information refer to the “Student Code of Conduct” in the San Antonio College Bulletin.

- F. Students are required to silence all electronic devices (e.g., pagers, cellular phones, etc.) when in classrooms, laboratories and the library. College Academic Council, 01/ 2000.
- G. San Antonio College Attendance Policy: Regular and punctual attendance at all classes and laboratories, day and/or evening, is required. A student absent for any reason is responsible for all work missed. Both tardiness and early departure from class are forms of absenteeism. The instructor establishes the policy with regard to each.
- Absences of each student are recorded without exception. The counting of absences begins on the first day of class. A student absent the equivalent of two weeks of instruction in a 16-week semester may be dropped by the instructor. If a student is dropped from a class for excessive absences, the instructor will record a grade of “W” (withdraw). It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that the withdrawals have been submitted.
- H. San Antonio College is a smoke free campus.
- I. ACCD DPS Emergency Phone Numbers:
ACCD DPS Emergency Phone (210) 222-0911
ACCD DPS General Phone (210) 208-8099
ACCD DPS Weather Phone (210) 208-8189 (For information on college closures)
- J. Students must also abide by the policies, procedures, and rules set forth in the “Student Code of Conduct” and all other policies set forth in the [San Antonio College Bulletin](#).