Westminster College Art Department

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY - MA-306 - SYLLABUS Assistant Professor, Kurt Roscoe

Prerequisite: None
Credit Hours: 4
Spring 2012
January 17 - May 3
Tue-Thu, 9:20 AM - 10:50 AM
Classroom: Thompson-Clark TC 205

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Office: Thompson-Clark TC 302
Office Hrs: T-Thu, 11AM – 1:00 PM, W, 2-3 PM
MediaArt HelpLine: 440-218-HELP (4357)*

Description: This studio course will investigate formal and aesthetic relationships of traditional and digital photography. Students will learn to shoot and manipulate digital photography. Additionally, students will be introduced to digital manipulation as an art form as well as to how it is related to graphic design. The language of art and design and design analysis will also be a major component of this course. Prior knowledge of basic computer literacy is recommended.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Grades are based on individual and/or group projects. Grade (Point) criteria is evaluated by five major factors: Concept/design, Technical understanding, Presentation/craft, Meeting deadlines, and class participation (this includes critiques, class discussion, meetings with the professor, cooperation with group projects). In addition,there are two formal tests utilizing the grade scale below. **It should be noted, that because of the technical understanding required in this course, each week's lectures are cumulative and continuously build a technical skill-set required to have a throughout understanding.** Therefore, it is very important that students attend ALL classes. If a class is missed, it is the students' responsibility to catch-up by requesting a review mini-session of a missed class after major lectures (time permitting). Also, all reading assignments should be read by the start of the next scheduled class.

Grading policy: Points will be issued for all PROJECTS AND TESTS. ***There is a total of 20 possible points for each PROJECT. If a project is not turned-in, a ZERO (0) will be given.*** Unless approved prior to a project due date - late projects will ***NOT*** be accepted.

Project Grading criteria (Points):

1) Concept/design	(1-3 points)
2) Technical understanding	(1-3 points)
3) Presentation/craft	(1-5 points)
4) Meeting deadlines	(1-5 points)
5) Participation	(1-4 points)

Project and Test Grade scale (Letter grade equivalent):

Points	Grade
18-20	A
16-17	B
14-15	C
12-13	D
5-11	F

Please note: A CD-rom of **ALL** work is required for the **Final**.
The student is responsible for archiving **ALL** work from the semester.
Please provide the following the final day of class:
- CD-rom with ALL digital PROJECTS
- PDF format only NO InDesign, Illustrator, PSD, etc. files
- Each project MUST be organized by folder. (i.e. Project 1, Project 2, etc.)

The cumulative grade for the weekly assignments totals 20 pts (2 pts per topic). There will be a "participation grade" given at the end of the semester. If the link is not emailed proir to class and a hard copy handed in, the grade for that week will be 0. No exceptions

Attendance: Students are required to attend all regularly scheduled classes. Students are allowed a total of three (3) excused or unexcused absences for the semester. The final grade is subject to being lowered one (1) letter grade for every absence after the 3rd absence. If the student is absent when an assignment is due, the project must be turned-in the next scheduled class meeting.

Tardiness: Students are required to be on time for the start of class. The combination of (3) three occurrences of being late to class or early departure are subject to the final grade being lowered one (1) letter grade.

Classroom etiquette: No food or drink is allowed in the classroom. No cell phone use. ***No text messaging. Receiving or sending personal email or inappropriate use of the internet is prohibited.*** Common courtesy to fellow students is expected at all times.

Accessibility Statement

Westminster College actively strives for the full inclusion of all our students. Students with disabilities who require access solutions for environmental or curricular barriers should contact Corey Shaw, Director of Disability Support Services, located in 209 Thompson-Clark Hall. phone: 724-946-7192 e-mail: shawcj@westminster.edu

Academic Honesty

The theft of intellectual property is taken very seriously in this class. All student work must be original. Plagiarism will be dealt with in the strictest manner according to the university policies outlined in the Bulletin. All work must be original in nature and to this course. Work from previous or concurrent courses is not acceptable, even if altered. Work can not be copied. Work of others can not be claimed as the students own. ***ANY infringement will result in an F.***

College closings due to weather or other emergencies are announced on local radio and TV stations.

Withdrawing from a course: Please refer to "Withdrawal From a Class" in College Catalog.

Handouts, Assignments, and Email list
Project sheets and handouts will be distributed in class or via the official class email list.

Unles otherwise stated, all Projects must be ready at the start of class the day they are due. Projects, tests, etc. cannot be submitted via email, left in the professor's mailbox, or left the class folder without prior arrangement with the professor.

Reading Assignments
Reading assignments are VERY IMPORTANT and provide necessary review and additional understanding of technical information. Evidence of not having read will result in less than a full understanding and could impact your grade.

Course outcomes:
By the end of this course, students that regularly attend this course, participate in critiques, in-class discussions and seek additional assistance from the professor if needed, should have the knowledge and ability to:

A. Demonstrate knowledge of fundamental topics and terminology in digital photography.
C. Identify various color models and color systems used in photography.
D. Demonstrate knowledge of basic tool sets in Adobe applications.
E. Demonstrate use of fundamental skills in Adobe PhotoShop.
F. Demonstrate the understanding of the digital point and shoot camera and perform typical digital camera functions.
G. Communicate and connect verbally and in writting to classmates during class discussion, group projects and critiques.
H. Develop team skills including taking and giving constructive criticism, leading and/or following directions.

READING AND EQUIPMENT

Camera equipment
• Point & Shoot Digital 12MP+ (required) or DSLR (optional)
• Tripod - an inexpensive tripod can be purchased at Walmart or KMart (optional)
• Extra SD or CF 4-8 GB card (optional)

Storage
• USB Flash drive at least 4GB (required) or Portable Hard Drive (optional)
• cd-rom or DVD discs to back-up work (required)

Photo Paper (required)
• Epson Photo Paper Glossy, 8.5" x 11", 50 sheets - S041649 (Amazon $9)
OR
• Epson Photo Paper Glossy, 8.5" x 11", 20 sheets - S041141 (Amazon $21)
Textbooks (optional)

Texts (optional but highly recommended if you are a Media Art Major)
• Digital SLR Photography, 2009 In Easy Steps, Nick Vandome (14.99 Amazon)
ISBN 978-1-84078-378-0

• Adobe Photoshop CS4 HOW TOs 100 Essential Techniques, Peachpit Press, 2009, Orwig - ($24.99 Amazon)
ISBN-10: 0-321-57782-5
ISBN-13: 978-0-321-57782-5

Sites (recommended)
• http://wwwLynda.com (Photoshop and Illustrator)
• http://www.adobe.com/designcenter/video_workshop/
• http://tv.adobe.com/

Magazines
• Digital Photo Pro
• Digital Photo Magazine
• Digital SLR Photography
• Layers Magazine
• Communication Arts (CA)
• pdn (Photo District News)
• Aperature

Schedules provided are subject to change.

***MediaArts HelpLine** 440-218-HELP (4357)
This number is reserved **ONLY** for students registered for **MY** courses. This line is offered as additional support for the student beyond the regular class times and scheduled office hours. It should **ONLY** be used for questions relevant to design and technical (software) related questions for a specific course. In order for me to be able to serve as many students as possible, please do not use this line for other communication; such asinforming me that you will be late to class, absent, etc.

MA-306 Rubric **Assistant Professor Kurt R. Roscoe**

CRITERIA	5.0 POINTS	4.0 POINTS	3.0 POINTS	2.0 POINTS	1.0 POINT	0 POINTS
Concept/design	XXXXX	XXXXX	Student has developed a clear concept and plan for organizing the information. Student can independently explain the concept and incorporate the final design/composition.	Student has developed a concept and plan for organizing the information. Design/composition is not as well executed as possible according to the concept.	Student has not developed a clear concept and plan for organizing the information. Student has difficulty explaining the concept and does not relate to the final design/composition.	Student shows no evidence of being able to develop a concept or design/composition.
Technical understanding	XXXXX	XXXXX	Student clearly understands the camera functions and settings used. Student understands "Post" application (Photoshop) techniques appropriate to the project.	Student has a basic understanding of the camera functions and settings. Student is unfamiliar with "Post" application (Photoshop) techniques appropriate to the project.	Student has little understanding of the camera functions and settings. Student is unfamiliar with "Post" application (Photoshop) techniques appropriate to the project.	Student shows no evidence of camera functions. or familiatity with Photoshop.
Presentation/ craft	Student's oral presentation are **excellent.** Process is clearly explained and questions by fellow students are well answered. Student "color output" printing is neat and presented in an orderly manner. Work is centered on page, to size. Output color is accurate with no visible signs of unintended color.	Student's oral presentation are **good.** Process is explained and questions by fellow students are adequately answered. Student "color output" printing is good. Color output is close to desired accuracy but there is a noticable difference.	Student's oral presentation are **fair.** Student exhibits difficulty in explaining the process to fellow students. Student "color output" printing is fair. Obvious discrepency between on-screen color and actual color output.	Student's oral presentation are **weak.** Student exhibits difficulty in explaining the process to fellow students. Student "color output" printing is fair. Obvious discrepency between on- screen color and actual color output.	Student's oral presentation are **weak.** Student exhibits difficulty in explaining the process to fellow students. Student "color output" printing is fair. Obvious discrepency between on- screen color and actual color output.	Student is not able to perform an oral presentation. Student does not have an understanding of color output and has extreme difficulty printing.
Meeting deadlines	Student is ready for critiques. Work has been printed or prepared to project specifications.	Student work has been printed but is not ready for critique.	Student work is partially ready for beginning of critique. Student has all work finished in time to be able to participate.	Student work is ready by the end of the critique but appears to be "thrown together" at the last minute.	Student work is not ready by the end of the critique. Work is handed in the next class period. Valid excuse is provided.	Student work is not ready by the end of the critique. Work is handed in the next class period. No excuse is provided.
Participation	Student actively participates in project critiques and in-class discussions. Student does participate in an ongoing dialog regarding their own work and the work of others.	Student participates in project critiques and in-class discussions. Student does participate in an ongoing dialog regarding their own work and the work of others.	Student participates in project critiques and in-class discussions. Student can participate in an ongoing dialog regarding their own work but not the work of others.	Student infrequently participates in project critiques and in-class discussions. Student rarely participates in an ongoing dialog regarding their own work but not the work of others.	Student rarely participates in project critiques and in-class discussions. Student does not participate in an ongoing dialog regarding their own work but not the work of others.	No participation in critiques or in class discussions.

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