

Course Code – Section: PHTG 450-Section 1
Course Title (Credits): Advanced Photography (3 credits)
Term & Year: Spring 2015
CRN: 10156

Instructor: Laura J. Bennett
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Office Hours: HAMC RM 202 by appointment
Class meeting Time: Holman Arts & Media Center RM 202
M,W 10:00 - 12:45

Course Description:

This course is a **studio-based** class in photography and photo-based image-making. It is designed for students who have already taken a beginning photography course. The course will build on previously acquired skills of black and white film exposure, processing and printing, as well as digital capture, processing and printing. This course will examine the interdependence of medium and image.

Student Outcomes

- **Develop** a cohesive body of work that cultivates a personal vision
- **Create** a professional presentation / portfolio for that body of work
- **Experiment** with different format cameras, alternative processes, and various exhibition / output / installations.
- Further develop a sense of design, composition, theory and content
- **Refine** technical skills
- A more in-depth investigation into the history of photography and its relationship to contemporary issues

Instructional Strategies:

Through this course, students will create original and conceptually consistent artwork using photographic techniques and lens-based media with competence and skill. Progress will be demonstrated through (1) assigned projects and (2) a fine art portfolio. Both will contain work demonstrating **technical** skills as well as critical analysis in making compositional and thematic choices. Students will develop language and public speaking skills through the critique process and class discussions. The class will be composed of lectures, discussions, presentations, videos, lab work, class critiques, and technical demonstrations.

Recommended Text: A List of recommended texts and website resources will be given in class and will pertain to projects at hand.

Attendance:

25% of your grade is based on attendance!

Attendance is essential for a studio-based class like this, where much of the learning is hands-on.

- A student is allowed a total of 3 **excused** absences for the semester without penalty.
- Absence from a critique or leaving a critique early lowers your grade on that assignment by a full letter.
- **The final portfolio critique is mandatory.** Students will fail the project if they do not attend.

Assignments: Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date it's due. Plan to complete them a few days before a critique, because you may decide you need to do them over. Visual art projects almost always need more work beyond the first edit, and therefore will most likely take longer than originally planned. Assignments and projects will be graded based on conceptual and technical aspects, as well as execution of the images.

Class Requirements:

1. Four (4) assignments will be given and accounts for 40% of your grade.
2. Readings requiring written responses will be assigned throughout the term, either from handouts or web-based material.
3. A Final Portfolio and statement will be due at the end of the semester and will account for 15% of your grade.
4. Students are required to **maintain a clean studio** (darkroom and digital labs) and report any malfunctions / broken equipment.
5. Attendance is required and accounts for 25% of your final grade.
6. Students are required to adhere to the Student Honor Code, specifically in regard to plagiarism.
7. **All work in this photography course must be created during the current semester.** Any prior image will not be accepted, unless it has been significantly advanced in concept and execution **and** is previously cleared by instructor
8. A presentation on a well-known photographer / artist is required and accounts for 10% of your final grade..

Grading Policy: As in most art courses, in order to earn an "A," you must create interesting and **superior work** that is well thought out and executed. You must also be **an active participant** in the class and critiques. All student work is graded on an individual basis at the discretion of the instructor.

Grade Breakdown:

Four (4) Assignments = 40% of final grade

Written Responses = 10% of final grade

Final Portfolio / Artist Statement = 15% of final grade

Presentation = 10% of final grade

Attendance = 25% of final grade

A Word About Critiques:

At the root of art education and discourse is the *critique*. It is through the process of creating, exhibiting and discussing your work that your work progresses. It is not possible to know how successful you are until an audience views your work and responds to it. Your opinions are valued and discussed in this class during "crits." They are not to be taken lightly. The feedback you get in a crit can quickly help you solve difficult technical problems and give you new visual insight. **Do not miss critiques**, even if you are unprepared to show your work. Remember to please be respectful towards your fellow students as you work on projects and discuss photography.

Prim Library Resources

Using the library's resources effectively (not just Internet resources) contributes to developing each of SNC's core themes by exposing students to high quality academic resources, diverse opinions, new ideas, and a future that includes building on a liberal arts education. In this course, you will be expected to utilize the library's resources (either on-site or remotely) as you complete your assignments.

Link to the *Art and Art History Resources* page online at Prim Library: <http://libguides.sierranevada.edu/art>

Sanctions for Cheating and/or Plagiarism

The Honor Code

The faculty of SNC believes students must be held to high standards of integrity in all aspects of college life in order to promote the educational mission of the College and to encourage respect for the rights of others. Each student brings to the SNC community unique skills, talents, values and experiences which, when expressed within the community, contribute to the quality of the educational environment and the growth and development of the individual. Students share with members of the faculty, administration and staff the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and personal development, where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, responsibility and trust. The faculty and students alike must make diligent efforts to ensure high standards are upheld by their colleagues and peers as well as themselves. Therefore faculty and students accept responsibility for maintaining these standards at Sierra Nevada College and are obligated to comply with its regulations and procedures, which they are expected to read and understand.

Consequences of Violating the Student Honor Code

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the Honor Code and the consequences of violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes CHEATING, PLAGIARISM and FABRICATION and for refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the Honor Code become part of a student's academic record.

- 1st Offense: Student receives a zero for assignment/exam and counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 2nd Offense: Student fails course and receives counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 3rd Offense: Student is expelled.

ADA Accommodations

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, hconover@sierranevada.edu, office in Prim Library: PL-304.

The SNC Email System

The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year. Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

The Sierra Nevada College Mission Statement:

Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic and educational sustainability.

The Core Themes:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Liberal Arts | Professional Preparedness |
| Entrepreneurial | Thinking Sustainability |

Supplies Intermediate/Advanced Photo:

CAMERA: You must own a camera for this class.

You have the option of using either a digital camera or film camera for this class. You should have:

---A reliable and functioning working camera with a good lens (or several lenses.)

---A user manual for your camera. If you buy a used camera and it doesn't come with a booklet or manual, try [http:// www.manualsrus.com](http://www.manualsrus.com) or [http:// www.craigcamera.com](http://www.craigcamera.com). You can almost always find a pdf on how to operate your specific camera – no matter how old it is.

Film, paper etc...

---You will need the appropriate amount of film, paper, SD cards, etc. to last the semester. The school will provide necessary chemicals for darkroom and a limited paper supply. (Various papers, unique film, transparencies, specialty cameras, etc for alternative process demonstrations and specific assignments throughout the semester will be provided by the school.) If you are going to be working primarily in the darkroom, you must buy your own film and paper. If you're printing digitally, you must buy your own SD cards and paper.

---A portable large capacity USB drive is MANDATORY for all students in this class

Local Dealers:

Gordon's Photo Service in Reno: <http://gordonsphotoservice.com/>

Online Resources:

Freestyle (800-292-6137) <http://www.freestylephoto.biz/> (shipping can be pricey)

Adorama <http://www.adorama.com> (good deals on used cameras)

B&H Photo (800-947-6628) www.bhphotovideo.com). You don't have to pay tax, but do pay shipping

KEH Camera <http://www.keh.com/>