BROOKHAVEN COLLEGE – COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION
COMM-1318-23001 – Photography I – 3 Credit Hours

Professor: Daniel Rodrigue Email: dtrodrigue@dctcd.edu Semester: SPRING 2019
Office: L113 Office Phone: 972-860-4747 (4779 for Lab Phone) Office Hours: M-TR 7:45-9 a.m.

[For undivided attention, please come by my office during my office hours listed above or look for me in the newsroom, U241.]

Dear Student,

Welcome to the world of photography. I hope you enjoy this course as much as I did when I was a student here at Brookhaven College. I will venture to wager that everyone enrolled in this course has at some point in their life snapped a photograph or two – whether with a single lens reflex camera, a simple disposable, a point-and-shoot or a smartphone.

But the goal of this course is to help student progress from taking casual snapshots to thinking like a photographer and shooting stunning scenery, captivating photo essays and capturing images one can only visualize in the mind. The course offers an introduction to the basics of photography and photojournalism while touching on technique, knowledge of chemistry, printing and presentation skills.

Enjoy yourself out there with those cameras and have fun capturing the images of your life. And, remember, this is an analog face-to-face class, and some of the due dates are fluid as a result.

I look forward to seeing your images,
Daniel Rodrigue

I. Course Number and Title: COMM 1318, Photography I [This is a Texas Common Course Number.]

II. Catalog Description: Prerequisite: None. “Introduction to the practices of photography and photojournalism. Includes instruction in camera operation, maintenance and printing using digital media. (2 Lec., 4 Lab.)”

III. Class Meeting Time: 10:30 – 11:50 a.m. on Tuesdays & Thursdays in L109.

IV. Student Learning Outcomes: See the Course Outline Competency Statements below.

V. Equipment and Materials: A fully manual 35mm film camera with manual exposure controls (f/stop and shutter speed) or alternative fully manual film camera will be required. Additionally, most students will need a digital camera (D-SLR). See supplemental supply list depending on digital or film. Students are required to bring their cameras to every class/lab session. The instructor reserves the right to subtract points for failure to do so.

+ Four (4) Apperson DataLink 1200 Scantrons and a #2 pencil

Semester Schedule Overview

| Week 1: Introduction to Syllabus & Course Materials | Students will receive a written course plan, list of required materials, written explanation of grading procedures, instructor expectations and tour of lab facilities. |
| Week 2: Camera Types and Pinhole Cameras | Camera operation and shooting exercise. Compare and contrast point-and-shoot cameras with single lens reflex cameras. |
| Week 3: The Digital Darkroom | Photoshop and Photoshop elements. Compare and contrast the digital darkroom with the film darkroom. |
| Week 4: Contrast Printing | Critique photographs from various photographers. |
| Week 5: Variables of Exposure | Compare and contrast film cameras with digital cameras. |
| Week 6: Composition | Students will produce images utilizing the six composition guidelines. |
| Week 7: Print Manipulation | |
| Week 8: Effective Use of Lenses | Compare and contrast fixed focal length lenses with zoom lenses. |
| Week 9: Presentation Techniques | Peer critiques of contrast projects |
| Week 10: Flash Photography | Compare and contrast flash photography with existing light photography. |
| Week 11: Landscape & Architecture Photography | Peer critiques of composition projects. |
| Week 12: Workflow Management | Print preparation for exhibition and display. Due by noon on April 18 in the photo lab (L116). |
| Week 13: Peer Critiques | Peer critiques of student exhibit projects. |
| Week 14: Peer Critiques (2) | Peer critiques of final projects and final review. |
| Week 15: Lab Final | |
| Week 16: Final Course Review | Final Course Review |
Course Outline

[Note: All assignments listed under “Materials for Evaluation” will be given in writing with applicable due dates and should not be confused with the weekly assignments.]

INTRODUCTION

- **Competency Statement:** Students will receive a written course plan, list of required materials, written explanation of grading procedures, instructor expectations and tour of lab facilities.
- **Enabling Activities:** Read material handouts. Attend tour of facilities.
- **Materials for Evaluation:** N/A.

THE CAMERA (AND LENS)

- **Competency Statement:** Students will demonstrate an understanding of the types of cameras, types of shutters and different focal lengths of lenses.
- **Enabling Activities:** Read text material on cameras and lenses. Attend mediated classroom lectures on the camera to include its operational functions. Classroom photograph critiques.
- **Materials for Evaluation:** Participation in classroom discussions. Written examination on camera, lenses, camera system and exposure.

EXPOSURE

- **Competency Statement:** Students will acquire techniques of camera operation that will ensure the proper exposure of film. Students will be introduced to techniques of film development, enlarger operation and production of contact sheets and projection prints.
- **Enabling Activities:** Read materials that define and explain exposure controls to include f/stops, shutter speeds and ASA/ISO ratings. Attend classroom lectures that define and explain film and enlarging paper, exposure controls and enlarger operation. Attend laboratory demonstration of film developing and printing. Participate in outdoor shooting exercise.
- **Materials for Evaluation:** Weekly assignment (5x7 and 8x10 prints, 20-30 sleeved negatives, contact print). Participation in classroom discussions. Written examination.

FILM AND PRINT PROCESSING

- **Competency Statement:** Through practical application, students will demonstrate competency in developing film, using the enlarger, making photographic prints and the proper selection and use of polycontrast filters.
- **Enabling Activities:** Read the textbook assignments that deal with the camera, the lens, film processing, the darkroom and the print. Attend classroom lectures on the various types of cameras, film developing, the enlarger and print developing. Attend laboratory demonstration on film developing, print exposure and use of polycontrast filters. Develop one roll of film, make a contact sheet, select and make three 8x10 enlargements showing the effects of specified polycontrast filters.
- **Materials for Evaluation:** Weekly assignment (5x7 and 8x10 prints, 20-30 sleeved negatives, contact print). Participation in classroom discussions. Written examination.

COMPOSITION

- **Competency Statement:** Students will learn the concepts and tools affecting the aesthetic arrangement of elements in a photograph, as well as recognize good communication elements in photography as they relate to photojournalism.
- **Enabling Activities:** Read the textbook assignment relating to composition and articles on composition placed in the photography lab. Attend classroom lectures on elements of good composition. Make photographs using elements and guidelines of good composition. Attend photograph critique by instructor and students. View program: “Smash His Camera.” Read from optional text: “Hot Shots.”
- **Materials for Evaluation:** Submit photographs that demonstrate as many positive elements of composition as possible. Participation in classroom discussions. Written examination.

LIGHTING

- **Competency Statement:** Students will make distinctions between direct and diffused lighting conditions, gain an awareness of lighting ratios and their uses and the general properties of light sources.
• Enabling Activities: Read textbook material relating to light. Attend classroom lectures and demonstrations.
• Materials for Evaluation: Submit photographs showing various lighting conditions as specified. Participation in classroom discussions. Written examination.

ACTION PHOTOGRAPHY
• Competency Statement: Students will acquire skills in using correct action photography techniques for shutter speed and panning control procedures.
• Enabling Activities: Read textbook to review material on shutter speed. Observe textbook examples of action photography. Attend classroom lectures on action photography techniques. Make photographs using action photography techniques discussed in class.
• Materials for Evaluation: Submit sleeved negatives with contact sheet and specified examples. Participation in classroom discussions. Written examination.

PRINT FINISHING AND DISPLAY
• Competency Statement: Students will demonstrate competence in using selected print finishing tools and processes.
• Enabling Activities: Read textbook on preparation of photographs for display. Spot photographs that contain dust, hair and scratch marks. Using a tacking iron, dry mount tissue, mounting board and dry mount press, attach the finished photographs to mount boards. Attend classroom and laboratory demonstrations. Read handout on photography exhibit guidelines.
• Materials for Evaluation: Students will ensure that the following require photographs have been finished and submitted for analysis and evaluation at a date to be announced in class. Submit 8x10 photographs mounted on 11x14 mount boards for student photography exhibit.

LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY
• Competency Statement: Students will acquire the basic compositional techniques to create pleasing landscape photographs.
• Enabling Activities: Observe and participate in classroom critiques of landscape photographs. Produce landscape photographs.
• Materials for Evaluation: Production of landscape photographs for specific assignment.

Plan for the Course/Grades
For the purposes of planning, circle the assignments you are considering and total the points possible. Be realistic. Be sure to select sufficient assignments because you may not receive all the points possible for the assignments. Check your total with points needed for each grade. Be sure you’re planning to do enough assignments to get the grade you desire in the course. Keep track of your points as the course progresses so you will know if you need to add more assignments.

Weekly Projects (4) (REQUIRED)
#1: 25 points – [“Catching Light”] – Two 8x10 prints, contact sheet, 20-36 negatives in negative preservers
#2: 25 points – [“Composition”] – Two 8x10 prints, contact sheet, 20-36 negatives in negative preservers
#3: 25 points – [COPYCAT PROJECT] – Two 8x10 prints, contact sheet, 20-36 negatives in negative preservers (OR a CD with 40-50 images as JPEGs)
#4: 25 points – [For critique] – Two 8x10 prints, contact sheet, 20-36 negatives in negative preservers (OR a CD with 40-50 images as JPEGs) with two prints submitted in 11x14 mat boards

Part of the student’s laboratory responsibility will include weekly assignment of one contact sheet of up to 20-30 exposures in addition to one 5x7 and one 8x10 enlargement from two different digital images. Assignments will be due on the dates given in class and written on the assignment envelope. It will be worth 25 points with the grade being based on consistency and number of good images, diversity of subject matter and composition. The contact sheet and two enlargements should be placed in the envelope provided and deposited in L113. When the assignment has been evaluated, the envelope will be returned at the next class session. If a student misses the next session, he or she is responsible for retrieving the envelope as soon as possible and retaining it for re-use.
Tests (5)

150 points – Tests #1-5 (30 points for each test)

These five (5) tests will be taken on your own time, some in the Testing Center, and you will have at least a week to take each test. If you miss the deadline for a test, you will receive a zero (0). No exceptions.

Lab Final (1)

50 points – Lab Final

Major Projects (4)

***Required projects are underlined***

50 points – Watch two documentaries
75 points – Rayograms/pinhole camera
50 points – “Shoot a story” for The Courier (w/ cutlines)
50 points – Contrast printing or composition/print manipulation
100 points – Scavenger hunt
100 points – Photo essay
100 points – Exhibition prints – Prints are due by noon on April 18 in the photo lab (Room L116)

825 possible points (+ up to 25 possible bonus points)

Grades
A = 575 and above    B = 460-574    C = 402-459    D = 345-401    F = 344 and below

Bonus Points (Not to exceed 25 points)

1. 5-10 points → Visit art/photography galleries in Dallas. Gallery visits for bonus points must be approved by the instructor and points will be offered at the instructor’s discretion.
2. 25 points → Read Brookhaven’s Open Book selection and shoot a photo essay based on the themes found in the book.
3. 25 points → Attend one of the Open Book events and write a critical response essay of 500-800 words.
4. There will be additional bonus point options offered at the discretion of the instructor for participating in photography club outings such as our annual gallery crawls.

Lab Requirement

The photography laboratory experience is extremely important to the photography student. The quantity and quality of theory learning and photograph production is closely correlated with the regularity, amount and quality of time the student spends in the “laboratory” – shooting lots of photos. The adage “one learns by doing” cannot be overemphasized. It is worth restating: The primary value of the weekly lab assignment is that the student is required to spend time each week in the lab practicing the theory presented in the classroom. “Make up” weekly assignments will be accepted.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all classes. Students who miss class will not be able to complete the assignments. If you are tardy, it is your responsibility to check with me immediately after class or you will be counted absent. The attendance policy for this class is consistent with the Dallas County Community College District policy.

Spring 2019 Important Dates
Certification date: Feb. 4  |  Drop/withdrawal date: April 17  |  Final exams: May 13-16  |  Holidays (NO CLASS): Feb. 28-March 1, March 11-15, April 19

Institutional Policies
Institutional Policies relating to this course can be accessed from the following link:
https://www.Brookhavencollege.edu/syllabusaddendum