EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

VISUAL ARTS
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Visual Art Art History
FA / VISA 2061 3.0 SECTION M
PHOTO STUDIO 1
FALL 2018 / WINTER 2019

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Offers an introductory studio in photographic theory and practice fundamentals. Tools, techniques and ideas related to seeing and camera art are explored with emphasis on the photographer as informed image-maker. Open to visual arts majors and others by permission of the department. This course is a prerequisite for 3000-level photography courses.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

TBD

SPECIAL FEATURES

Developing a critical and curious approach to photography is the focus of this course. Creative and technical challenges prepare students for upper level photography work. This course must be taken in conjunction with at least one other 2000 level photography course to progress to the 3000 level. Projects integrating technical, conceptual and creative challenge are assigned in a lecture class and further developed through tutorials and independent work. Course does not include darkroom practice. Success in the course requires a commitment to both technical and creative aspects of making photographs.

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

This course is blended and combines 1.5 hrs weekly online content and independent work with 2 hrs weekly face to face lab in the digital lab 328/classroom 330. The production studio 326 will be open from 12:30-4:30. Your weekly workload includes 1.5 hours online + 2 hour LAB + 3 hours of independent work practicing your skills and completing your assignments.

1.5 hours weekly. Each student will independently complete 1.5 hours of online activities weekly including:
  • Introduction of a technical camera skill
  • Introduction of a contemporary photographer and practice
  • Completion of an online journal reflecting on the photographer of the week
  • Completion of an online gallery demonstrating the weekly camera skill

2-hour lab weekly supervised by your instructor. The 2-hour lab includes:
  • Face to face review of camera skill
  • Practice on LAB computers
  • Group discussion and critique
3 hours independent work completing assignments and Photoshop tutorials
- Complete a minimum of 1 hour independent work per week completing your shooting assignment in the lighting studio 326 or outdoor using natural light and open shade.
- Complete a minimum of 2 hours working with Photoshop CC in lab 326 or on your personal computer.

LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF

The course syllabus, schedule, assignments, course announcements and the weekly online component are delivered through Moodle. Log into Moodle through your yorku.ca account and keep this account active. Check the Moodle site at least twice a week for up to date information.

Technical outcomes:
Understand photographic fundamentals including:
- Camera basics
- Working with light
- Digital workflow basics

Creative outcomes
- Confidence in creating photographs
- Willingness to problem solve and take creative risk
- Knowledge of working methodologies

Historical and theoretical outcomes
- Awareness of photography’s history
- Knowledge of contemporary photographic practice
- Willingness to engage critically with ones own practice

GRADED ASSESSMENT

Assignments & Grading
All assignments are listed on Moodle.

Gallery 1                                            20% DUE Feb 1
Gallery 2                                            20% DUE March 1
Gallery 3                                            20% DUE March 29
Photographic Print Portfolio             15% DUE March 29
Journals                                            7% (due weekly)
Quizzes                                             10% (Pop up during lecture)
Attendance                                        8% (weekly)
TOTAL:                                             100%

Refer to http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2012-2013/academic/grades/
A+ 90-100 Rare and exceptional work
A  80-89 Excellent (ability to formulate & communicate ideas with clarity and originality)
B+ 75-79 Very good work
B  70-74 Good work (thorough understanding and firm grasp of materials and skills)
C+ 65-69 Competent work (sufficient skills to permit the student to continue)
C  60-64 Some understanding and control (not permitted to continue)
D+ 55-59 Passable grade
D  50-54 Poor work (demonstrates little comprehension)
E  31-49 Inadequate
F   0-30 Inadequate
*Please note that all grades are converted to a final letter grade.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Important Dates
FA/VISA 2061 is a half-year course. The LAST DATE TO DROP this course without academic penalty is March 8, 2019. https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/fw17

Weekly Schedule
The weekly schedule is subject to change. Check Moodle regularly. Changes are announced in Moodle's weekly component or through course announcements.

NOTE: if a class is missed it is your responsibility to find out what was covered in the class and to obtain copies of any written materials given out (i.e. handouts, readings, etc.)

Instruction occurs in lectures, technical demonstrations, and applied practice, supplemented by group critiques, assigned readings and class discussions. Throughout the course, students are challenged to apply their technical and theoretical skills through three assignments and one major project. Success in the course requires a commitment to both technical and creative aspects of making photographs. This course requires TIME, ENERGY, and CREATIVE RISK-TAKING. COME PREPARED. YOU ARE EXPECTED TO WORK DURING CLASS TIME.

This class meets 2 hours per week with an additional 1.5 hour spent online, outside of class time, completing weekly course journals / galleries. Students are expected to dedicate a minimum of 6 additional hours towards the creation and the production of work. This time includes thinking, planning, photographing, printing, reading, and visiting galleries. **Participation in all critiques is mandatory. Consistent and punctual attendance is required.** Individuals who miss more then one project deadline without documented reason will not have their project accepted for marking and a fail grade will be issued for the final transcript. Respectful, collegial behavior is required within the photo areas. Students are required to purchase and bring to class supplies and required materials (see supply list).

Supply List:
- DSLR
- 1 box Epson Semigloss (25 sheets) $15.99 *Instructor will discuss further in class Key Text

Key Text

Knight, Katherine (2015) PHOTOSTART – online course reader available through the VISA 2061 course Moodle page.

*Many other good photography reference texts may be found in the library in the general area of TR145.

Material Fee: $80

Damage Collection Policy in Photography, Print Media and Time Based Art

In the case of damaged, lost or stolen tools and equipment that are the property of the Dept. of Visual Arts, technical staff will determine if the damage is a result of normal wear and tear and if the item is repairable. If it is determined that the damage was the result of abuse, the student will be responsible for the full cost of the repair, or the full cost of replacement if the item is not repairable.

All students shall sign a waiver upon using and borrowing tools and equipment, during the first class of each studio course, which outlines procedures and policies regarding insurance, damage, loss or theft to equipment.
All students are subject to the **policies and procedures regarding academic honesty** as defined by the Senate of York University. Please see:

http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-honesty-senate-policy-on/

---

Many courses utilize Moodle, York University’s course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

**Moodle @ York University**