

ADVANCED PHOTO STUDY : SYLLABUS

Tyler School of Art/ Department of Art & Art Education/ ART 4848, 4849, Sections 401

Class Meetings: Tuesdays & Thursdays 7:40 - 10:00 PM in the TUCC Critique Room 317.

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Office Hours by appointment: at TUCC, Wednesdays, 4 - 4:40 PM
on Main Campus, Tuesdays, 4 - 4:40 PM

Prerequisites: at least two Art Photography courses, Darkroom or Digital

CLASS PHILOSOPHY

The **Advanced Photo Study** classes have evolved from the original darkroom curriculum, but lately many digital photographers have been enrolling. The photographs produced in this class have to incorporate some **technical and aesthetic aspects that are outside of the usual photography curriculum**. This means you have to make something unique. This could come from either an altered subject or an altered print, or could be some form of alternative presentation.

To make any of these technical considerations work, however, one must have a reason or motivation for using them. The form of the photographs has to be consistent with the content. "Form supports content". This is a matter of developing a personal philosophy of what you photography wants to say, and then building a visual vocabulary to construct the images. The success of the project is determined by how your audience perceives the work. This is the purpose of the critiques.

CLASS STRUCTURE / PROJECT PROPOSAL

This class functions as an Independent Study class, but with regular class meetings, and regular critiques. The content however, is up to you. It is required that you **develop work following two distinct themes**. The variations could be the type of image capture, the type of processing, or the type of presentation, preferable a combination of most if not all of these. You must come to class the first week with your own two-part project proposal to be cleared by the instructor. Then you will do research on artists that are working in similar or inspiring ways, and produce photo-based images that are beyond the realm of 'usual' photo classes.

LECTURE/DEMONSTRATION

The basic technical information is examined with the class throughout the semester. The actual content will vary from semester to semester depending on the direction set by the individual students enrolled in the class. Most of the information you will need to learn for these classes should be garnered from your own research.

INDEPENDENT LAB WORK

The bulk of the semester will be spent in the TUCC computer labs or the SCAT Darkroom preparing photographs shot and manipulated outside of class time. It is expected that the student will spend at least as much time working outside the class as in. Seventy five to one hundred fifty shots per week (equivalent to 2 - 4 rolls of film) is the minimum just to pass this course.

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH

Everyone is expected to find at least 3 photo-based artists that are working in ways that they find inspirational. Work by these artists will be gathered either from the web or from books, and presented to the class in a coherent digital (projected) format.

GROUP CRITIQUES

Student's photographs will be discussed during group critiques approximately every two or three weeks. **The Advanced Photo Study students must attend and participate in all of the regular class critiques.** Work will be evaluated in terms of its subject/idea, technical execution, and solution of aesthetic problems. It is required that you work on at least two bodies of work throughout the semester. Do not make prints you think the teacher will like, make the prints you want to make. See the online schedule <www.berk-edu.com> for exact dates, as the schedule may change. Everyone must show on their assigned days – no lateness or absence will be tolerated.

WRITTEN STATEMENTS

A typewritten statement explaining the **visual, emotional, and intellectual motivations** behind each of the three groups of photos being presented must accompany each critique. These must be handed in before the work is critiqued. This writing can be anywhere from nine words to nine paragraphs long. Include name, crit number, class, semester, and year at the top of each document. No lateness or absence will be tolerated

WEB PAGE

The best student work from each critique will be published on the AAE Photo web site. Students are responsible for creating their own web pictures and web pages, following the guidelines that will be taught. These files are due at the class meeting immediately following the end of the crit. No lateness or absence will be tolerated

SLIDES and PORTFOLIO

Darkroom students are required to hand in a minimum of one page of 18 slides of your best work, formally labeled, while Digital students must produce a CD portfolio with a printed image label, for inclusion in the TUCC archives and to show to future students.

FINAL REVIEWS

Final reviews take place during final exams week. The basic requirements for finals will vary depending on the nature of the work. (Advanced Photo classes show 36 prints, 12 matted and 12 new, just for comparison). A sense of consistency, both in content and style, is necessary. Again, form supports content. Consider how you group your photographs, realizing that creative editing can help present images so they reinforce each other. All students must attend all Final Reviews – no exceptions!

CLASS ATTENDANCE

It is required that the student show their work at all critiques. The schedule is four critiques during the semester plus final reviews. There is no such thing as late. Consider this as your job – if you are late for a deadline at The Philadelphia Inquirer, for example, you are fired.

GRADING

If you attend all class meetings, talk at least once a week, and show the minimum number of prints required at each critique, then you will receive a grade of C. That is average. If you want a better than average grade then you need to do better than average and more than average work. This means participating in discussions, demonstrating an ongoing effort to produce quality work, doing research, and being on time for all class meeting.

“Course syllabi do not constitute a contract with students and do not supersede University policies.”