FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

Syllabus

I. PGY 4420C  Advanced Photography, prerequisites: ART1201C, PGY 2401C or permission of instructor

II. 4 credit hours

III. Instructor, Dr. Lynne Bentley-Kemp
Contact: lbentley@fau.edu Office# VA 116H Ph.# 561-297-3873

IV. COURSE DESCRIPTION: Experience in camera handling, darkroom, digital and black-and-white processes required. Increasingly complex projects will explore the production and analysis of photographic images.

V. NO REQUIRED TEXT, there will be suggested readings related to student’s project focus

VI. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to demonstrate:

4.1. Knowledge of critical theory and the history of photography
4.2. Knowledge of the methods and techniques that enhance the content and articulation of the image
4.3. An understanding of techniques that comprise digital, non-silver and traditional photography
4.4. Knowledge of how to put together high quality body of work using modern and traditional photo-based technique and materials
4.5 An understanding of the role of the image in society and placing personal work in a larger context
VII. COURSE METHOD:

Methods of instruction include slide presentations, internet searches, class discussions, photographic assignments in and outside of class, technical demonstrations, critiques and individual student tutorials

VIII. METHOD OF STUDENT EVALUATION:

Class attendance and Participation in class discussions and critiques  30%
Assignments / readings  20%
Final Portfolio  50%

IX. POLICY FOR CLASS ATTENDANCE AND MAKE-UP OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Each absence after the first will reduce the percentage of the portion of your grade in the attendance and participation category. The quality of your work is extremely important. If you have missed classes and demos it will show in your work and the grade will reflect your lack of attention. Due dates are set and all work must be turned in. You will always have the opportunity for one re-do to better your grade, but understand that re-dos can not receive a grade higher than “B”. Withdraw if you are unable to attend class regularly.
EXPECTATIONS:

The primary objective of this course is for students to explore traditional, hybrid and digital techniques so that the finished product supports the emotional, intellectual and conceptual concerns of the artist. As an advanced photography student you will be expected to engage primarily in the production and critique of images. You will need to apply time management and be self-directed in your approach.

Independent research is critical to your success in this class. Whether your goal is to apply to graduate school, begin work as a professional or become a practicing artist this class should help you initiate that transition.

All students will be required to be proficient in lab procedures including basic equipment use, safety practice, craftsmanship and best practices in relationship to traditional, non-silver and digital materials and workflow. You will be required to take part in lab clean up, maintenance and set responsible standards for all students working in the photo lab.

Reading and writing will be integrated throughout the course. All students will be expected to do the research necessary to write project proposals, artist statements, critiques and essays in a coherent and professional manner. Use spell check, proper grammar and always hand in typewritten, clearly labeled, well-designed work.

Work shown in the summative critiques – Mid-Term AND FINAL MUST be presented in a professional manner. Craftsmanship is extremely important – follow best practices in whatever medium you choose.

HONOR CODE:

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more comprehensive information see: http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Honor_Code.pdf

The FAU Code of Academic Integrity prohibits dishonesty and requires a faculty member, student, or staff member to notify an instructor when there is reason to believe dishonesty has occurred in a course/program requirement. The instructor must pursue any reasonable allegation, taking action where appropriate. Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, the following:
(A) Cheating
1. The unauthorized use of notes, books, electronic devices, or other study aids while taking an examination or working on an assignment.
2. Providing unauthorized assistance to or receiving assistance from another student during an examination or while working on an assignment.
3. Having someone take an exam or complete an assignment in one’s place.
4. Securing an exam, receiving an unauthorized copy of an exam, or sharing a copy of an exam.

(B) Plagiarism
1. The presentation of words from any other source or another person as one’s own without proper quotation and citation.
2. Putting someone else’s ideas or facts into your own words (paraphrasing) without proper citation.
3. Turning in someone else’s work as one’s own, including the buying and selling of term papers or assignments.

(C) Other Forms of Dishonesty
1. Falsifying or inventing information, data, or citations.
2. Failing to comply with examination regulations or failing to obey the instructions of an examination proctor.
3. Submitting the same paper or assignment, or part thereof, in more than one class without the written consent of both instructors.
4. Any other form of academic cheating, plagiarism, or dishonesty.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

In compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) students who require special accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) SU 133 (561-297-3880) in Boca, in Davie – MOD I (954-236-1222) and follow all OSD procedures.
Course Content

WEEK 1
Introduction to the course, distribution of expectations and supply list. Introduction to the implications of the photographic image, recent technical innovations in imaging and the role of photography as a form of communication and art.

Bring in a selection of your work for Wednesday’s class. Be prepared to engage in a thorough discussion of your work.

For the entire course we will be working with 3 overarching ideas in art. Be prepared to discuss your work in the context of these components.

*Conception – you decide upon media (the syntax) “Form supports content”
*Construction – you made a choice of camera, format, film, digital
*Communication- employing unique forms of presentation; books, slideshows, video presentations, matted prints in a handmade box

WEEK 2
Darkroom and Lab procedures- review, demo, expectations

- Image Capture: Visual Foundations. Review of camera handling, maintenance, the characteristics of digital vs. traditional, different camera formats, lens types and viewing systems, scanners, negatives for non-silver processes
- Project proposal assigned

WEEK 3
Demo on cyanotype, van dyke brown processes

Review of work, preliminary research presentation. Find 3 different artists/photographers whose work inspires you and write up a critique of their work or create an internet presentation on the work of these people

WEEK 4
Create a written statement explaining the visual, emotional and intellectual motivation behind the preliminary work you have done so far in the course.
Review of student work in progress
WEEK 5
Scanograms and photograms, pinhole cameras

WEEK 6
Digital vs Traditional
Scanning negatives

WEEK 7
Mid Term Critique

WEEK 8

“A photographer never confronts an empty canvas, an abstract pictorial potentiality, but always a world already shaped, already understood”
Alan Trachtenberg

Discussion of social aspects of photography – reading assignment
Presentation on reading assignment

WEEK 9
Class discussion on realism, abstraction, kitsch, high and low art. What is the function of the photograph?

WEEK 10
Review of work in progress

WEEK 11
Presenting your work in a professional manner. Conservation and preservation philosophies. The role of the museum and gallery. Commercial vs Fine Art

Week 12
Student’s choice – field trip or group project

Week 13
The Business of Photography (possible Guest lecturer)
Professional Practice – an introduction to self-promotion and career paths

Week 14 – Editing/Printing of Final projects, finalize all plans for projects. Hand in your plans for display technique if you are doing an installation. Indicate all media needed to exhibit your work.

Week 15
Final Project Critique
Recommended Reading:


