

BUTTE COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

PHO 2 - Introduction to Photography

3 Unit(s)

Prerequisite(s): NONE

Recommended Prep: Reading Level IV; English Level III; Math Level II

Transfer Status: CSU/UC

34 hours Lecture

51 hours Lab

This course is an introduction to the processes, principles, and tools of photography. Topics include the development of technical and aesthetic skills, elements of design and composition, camera technology (film and digital), materials and equipment, and contemporary trends in photography.

II. OBJECTIVES

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

- A. Safely handle and maintain photographic equipment and materials.
- B. Apply the elements and principles of design in finished photographs.
- C. Create a portfolio of work demonstrating formal, conceptual, and technical development.
- D. Produce photographs skillfully utilizing photographic tools, materials, and processes, including camera controls, image exposure, image processing, printing, and presentation.
- E. Examine and describe historical and contemporary trends, language, aesthetics and emerging media in photography.
- F. Analyze and describe the role of photography in contemporary culture and media.
- G. Evaluate and critique photographic images utilizing relevant terminology and concepts.

III. COURSE CONTENT

A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule

Lecture

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Safe handling, maintenance, and appropriate use of photography equipment and materials	4.00
2. Elements and principles of design as they relate to photography	6.00
3. Concept development and project based approaches to photography	6.00
4. Photographic tools, materials and processes, including camera controls, image exposure, image manipulation, processing, and printing	7.00
5. Historical and contemporary trends, language, aesthetics and emerging media as they relate to film and digital photography	6.00
6. Group and individual critiques of photographic images utilizing relevant terminology and concepts	5.00
Total Hours	34.00

Lab

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Lab policies and procedures	1.00
2. Wet-lab film development and darkroom printmaking, and/or digital management, editing, software, and printing techniques	17.00

3. Assignment covering photographic tools, materials and processes, compositional techniques and principles, camera controls, and image exposure	17.00
4. Group and individual critiques	16.00
Total Hours	51.00

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lecture
- B. Instructor Demonstrations
- C. Collaborative Group Work
- D. Field Trips
- E. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- F. Discussion
- G. Problem-Solving Sessions
- H. Reading Assignments
- I. Multimedia Presentations

V. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Portfolios
- B. Homework
- C. Lab Projects
- D. Written Assignments
- E. Mid-term and final examinations
- F. Critiques/Discussion

VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Reading Assignments
 - 1. Read handout on the "Brief History of Photography" and select one photographer of interest to research. Write a short objective essay describing the photographer's historical and personal context.
 - 2. Read the chapter on the camera and complete the "Parts of the Camera" worksheet by correctly labeling the 35mm and digital camera diagram. Use your camera as reference.
- B. Writing Assignments
 - 1. Read about the philosophical questions concerning the nature of photography in your class text. In 2-3 pages discuss the difference between a static black and white image on paper (the photograph) and real life experience.
 - 2. Listen to a student's critique of your work and in 100-200 words write a response to the comments they made. Explain what you think about what was said and why.
- C. Out-of-Class Assignments
 - 1. Shoot three rolls of film of simple abstractions from everyday objects. Photograph a single plane using maximum depth-of-field. Do not record motion. Be prepared to give an oral critique of five of your best images based on the criteria in the class handout.
 - 2. Select a digital or analog work to create a digital negative for cyanotype printing. Write a 2-3 page paper answering these questions: Will you use multi-media i.e. handcoloring or sculptural elements to enhance your cyanotype photograph? What is the expressive content of your work? How do your choices of image and materials convey meaning?

VII. RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION

Textbooks:

- A. Barnbaum, B. The Art of Photography: An Approach to Personal Expression. First Edition.
Rocky Nook Publishers, 2010.
- B. London, B. and Stone, J. Short Course in Photography. Pearson Publishing, 2011.

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