

Las Positas College  
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## Course Outline for PHTO 50

### INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOGRAPHY

Effective: Fall 2018

#### I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

PHTO 50 — INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOGRAPHY — 3.00 units

Introduction to the history and development of photography, basic processes, various types of cameras, materials, basic shooting, processing, developing, and printing of photographs.

1.50 Units Lecture 1.50 Units Lab

#### Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

#### Discipline:

- Photography

	<b>MIN</b>
<b>Lecture Hours:</b>	27.00
<b>Expected Outside of Class Hours:</b>	54.00
<b>Lab Hours:</b>	81.00
<b>Total Hours:</b>	162.00

#### II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

#### III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

#### IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

**Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:**

- Discuss the history of photography and its various vocational and avocational applications
- Apply the basic principles of the photographic process from the forming of the image and the exposure of the film, to the reproduction of a photograph by means of contact printing and enlarging
- Demonstrate the essential mechanisms of the camera and the functional relationships of those mechanism
- Use various photographic materials, including film printing paper and photo chemistry
- Develop black and white film, and make contact prints and enlargements from negatives
- Apply the skills and discipline necessary for reasonable success in photography through proper handling of equipment, facilities, and materials
- Practice spotting and dry mounting black and white photographs

#### V. CONTENT:

- Camera
  - Basic camera construction
  - Basic types of cameras
  - Lens and camera care
  - Camera controls
    - Panning
    - Stop action
    - Blurring for motion
    - Focus
- Exposure
  - Basic types of meters and metering techniques
  - Equivalent exposures
  - Depth of field
  - Exposure/development relationships
- Lenses
  - Focal length
  - F stop/aperture
  - Basic types of lenses
- Light sensitive materials
  - Films
  - Papers
- Basic photo chemistry

1. Basic function of chemicals
2. Developer
3. Stop bath
4. Fixer
5. Hypo clearing agent
- F. Composition
  1. Basic guidelines
  2. Seeing photographically
- G. History of photography
  1. Brief survey of the development of photography
- H. Flash photography
  1. Electronic flash units
  2. Calculating flash exposure
  3. Flash accessories
- I. Mounting and presentation
  1. Print spotting
  2. Dry mounting
  3. Window mats

#### VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Field Trips** -
- B. **Demonstration** - lab
- C. Selected Readings
- D. Audio/Visual Materials
- E. **Critique** - in-class
- F. **Lecture** -

#### VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Collect and provide written critiques on examples of excellent photography based on criteria developed in class discussions
- B. Shoot an entire roll of film divided among four different subjects
  1. Each approached in both vertical and horizontal formats, and each from close, medium and long range, using a 'normal' 50mm lens.
- C. Find a location to shoot at early morning, midday, late afternoon, and at night.
  1. Shoot six different views of chosen location at each of the four times of day.
- D. Photograph the same single person in different settings and with different lighting conditions, including artificial bulb and flash lighting, and in each case include direct, back, and shear lit situations.

#### VIII. EVALUATION:

##### A. **Methods**

1. Exams/Tests
2. Quizzes
3. Projects
4. Field Trips
5. Class Participation
6. Home Work
7. Lab Activities
8. Other:
  - a. classroom critiques after each assignment in which students work with instructor to determine at least five criteria appropriate to the given assignment and apply them to oral critique of photographs submitted

##### B. **Frequency**

1. Classroom critiques at the conclusion of every class
2. Quizzes at the conclusion of each unit, approximately 6 times per semester
3. One exam and a final
4. Weekly lab activities
5. Weekly reading and homework
6. One final project
7. Daily class participation
8. One field trip

#### IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. London, Barbara , and Jim Stone. *Short Course in Photography*. 9th ed., Prentice Hall, 2015.
2. Landford, Michael , and Anna Fox. *Langford's Basic Photography*. 10th ed., Focal Press, 2015.
3. London, Barbara, Jim Stone, and John Upton. *Photography, 12th Edition*. 12th ed., Pearson, 2017.

#### X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. Black/white Film--Kodak Plus-X, Kodak Tri-X, Kodak T-Max 100, or Ilford FP-4.
- B. Photo paper--Arista RC, 8"x10" glossy, or Ilford Multigrade RC 8"x10" glossy, or Kentmere RC, 8"x10" glossy.
- C. An anti-static cloth or a blower brush or hurricane blower.
- D. Negative pages (one for each role of film shot).
- E. A pair of cotton gloves.
- F. An absorbent cotton hand towel.
- G. 35 mm camera; one that accepts interchangeable lens preferred.
- H. 11"x14" Matte Board for prints.