

**Spring 2012 Syllabus**  
**AR 200 Photo 1 (Three credit hours)**

Professor: Wayne Sides  
Class Times: Mon, Wed 2:00 am – 4:45 pm  
Room: Art Building 303  
Office: 366-5573  
Dark Room: 765-4594  
Office Hours: Tues, Thurs, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Mon, Wed, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

A Short Course in Photography

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The class will cover use of the camera, developing film, printing and enlarging techniques used in photography. There are two scheduled class periods per week, to include a 2-hour lab period (adjusted as needed). Special fee: \$30.00

**COURSE OBJECTIVE**

Photography's creative potential for personal expression is explored in this introductory course. Students will learn how to operate a 35mm camera, develop film, and print black and white photographs. Students will become aware of what makes a photograph pleasing from both a technical and a visual standpoint. The first half of this class will focus on developing technical darkroom skills. The second half will concentrate on using these skills together with content and presentation to produce a strong group of images for the final project. Constructive criticism and classroom discussions will occur. Students will also be exposed to some of the history of photography and will become familiar with the work of many contemporary photographers.

**COE CF1, 4; Alabama Standard/Rule 290-3-3-.31 Visual Arts (2)(a)1.(ii) and (2)(a)1.(iii) and (2)(b)2.(i) and (2)(b)2.(ii)**

| Standard                                                                                                            | Assessment                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 290-3-3-.31(2)(b)1.(ii)<br>Knowledge of traditional and current technological developments in art and design.       | Students will learn to operate the 35 mm film camera in both indoor and outdoor environments. They will develop film, print contact sheets, and black and white photographs up to eight by ten inches. |
| 290-3-3-.31(2)(b)1.(iii)<br>Knowledge of the health and safety regulations related to art materials and facilities. | Students will study and be tested on information presented in the Material Safety Data Sheet for the chemicals used in film photography.                                                               |

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| 290-3-3-.31(2)(b)2.(i) Ability to create expressive forms in drawing, painting, design, printmaking, computer generated art, sculpture, ceramics, and crafts. | Students will create and submit eight to ten enlarged photographs for each assignment. They are required to shoot a minimum of 24 rolls of film by the end of the semester to demonstrate their proficiency. Subjects for assignments will include still life, landscape and portraiture.                         |
| 290-3-3-.31(2)(b)2.(ii) Ability to demonstrate abilities across a variety of areas of art production and art theory.                                          | Students will present a series of images for each assignment for progress evaluation, and will present a comprehensive portfolio for final course evaluation. Throughout the semester, they will discuss aesthetic concerns and technical challenges pertaining to the assignments in structured class critiques. |

## RESEARCH PROJECT PRESENTATION

You will be assigned a photographer to research. This will be a 5-10 minute oral presentation with visual examples of your photographer's work. One to two classes are set aside for the presentations.

## GRADING

Your grade will be based primarily on the quality and quantity of your work. Class assignments, attendance, and participation are important factors. Written examinations will be given at the discretion of the instructor.

In addition, we do recognize and appreciate improvement, imagination, enthusiasm, humor, and a willingness to experiment and take risks. Reading and looking at photographic books and periodicals outside of class are encouraged.

The assigned creative projects will be evaluated on originality, creativity, design, concept or idea, clarity, execution, time management, interim progress, effort, presentation, critique participation and timeliness.

### Grades are figured on the following scale:

90-100 A    80-89 B    70-79 C  
60-69 D    59 and below F.

- An (A) student is very active in class critique and discussions; comes to class prepared at all times and is punctual; completes work on time; displays a sense of commitment to work that is far beyond normal expectations [i.e. more than just doing the assignment]; excels in the conception and execution of projects clearly beyond the basic directives of the instructor.
- A (B) student is active in class critique and discussions; comes to class prepared almost every time; displays a sense of commitment to work that goes beyond normal expectations [i.e. beyond just doing the assignment]; excels in the conception and execution of projects beyond most reasonable norms.
- A (C) student is occasionally active in class critique and discussions; comes to

- class prepared more often than not; displays a reasonable commitment to work within normal expectations [i.e. does what is expected and no more]; is reasonably successful in developing the concept and execution of projects within reasonable norms.
- A (D) student is seldom active in class discussions and critique; comes to class prepared only part of the time; displays occasional commitment to work; is mostly unsuccessful in developing concept and execution of projects within reasonable norms.
- An (F) student is rarely if at all active in class discussions and critique; rarely comes to class prepared; displays little commitment to work; is usually quite unsuccessful in developing concept and execution of projects within reasonable norms.

## **CRITIQUES**

Critiquing is a fundamental part of the learning process. Class attendance during critiques is mandatory and failure to attend a critique will result in lowering of a project grade by one letter. Your participation in critiques will be evaluated and will affect the appropriate project grade.

Participation includes: students asking instructor questions, students answering instructor questions, students responding to other students' questions, students initiating discussion, and participation in group discussion. If you have to be absent on critique day, have someone else deliver your work to class on or before the due date in order to not lose one letter grade for being late. Send me an email if you need to schedule a time to drop off work.

There will be two major class critiques at midterm and the end of the semester. Each critique is equivalent to a test grade. There will also be individual critiques with each student throughout the semester.

### **Critique Schedule:**

Work should be turned in inside a manilla envelope with contact sheets. **DO NOT** include **NEGATIVES** or **TEST STRIPS**! Your name should appear on the back of all of your prints and on the outside of the envelope.

- Crit #1: Midterm- week of February 20 and 22
- Informal Critique- scheduled sometime between
- Crit #2: Final- week of April 30 and May 4

## **IMPORTANT NOTES**

- **CLASS TIME** must only be used for work in this class. Unless I specifically allow it, you may not surf the internet or check your email during class time. Also, working on another class project is not allowed during my class time. If you are found doing any of these things, you will be asked to leave the class and earn an absence for that session. If you are finished with the current project or waiting for equipment, you should be looking ahead in the syllabus, reading, or doing research for your next project. Also, work done for another class cannot be turned in for credit in this class.
- **LATE PROJECTS** All projects are due at the beginning of class unless otherwise

specified. Students will lose one letter grade for a late project (even if it is late on the day it is due) and will have up to a week to submit the work. After one week, the late project will not be accepted and will receive a grade of ZERO. If you can't come to critique, if possible, please send your work with somebody or arrange to leave your project for me.

- **WRITING GUIDELINES** Any papers submitted to me will be typed, spell checked and grammatically correct. They are due at the beginning of class or during the discussion and may not be typed during class. Handwritten papers will not be accepted.
- **SCHEDULE CHANGES** Occasionally, project due dates will be shifted or requirements will be adjusted after the project has been assigned. These changes will be relayed to the student orally and the students will be responsible for knowing about the changes. Please be sure you can access your UNA email accounts as I may send important information for the class via email.
- **GRADE ANNOUNCEMENT** Grades will be submitted to students on a grade sheet that will accompany the work when it is returned to the student after critique. Grading may take anywhere from one to two weeks per project. There will be no posting of grades.

## **MATERIALS/SUPPLIES**

**YOU MUST HAVE ALL THESE SUPPLIES IN ORDER TO TAKE THE CLASS!**

**The Off-Campus Bookstore carries a limited supply of basic photo starter kits!**

Bring paper and pencils every class day

35mm camera with manual controls

Negative envelopes

Negative brush or air brush

2" to 3" three-ring binder, with page protectors

Scissors, Towel

Plastic developing tanks and reels for 35mm film – 2-reel tank

Lock to share with locker partner

Rubber gloves

Thermometer

Bottle opener

Any ISO 400: Ilford, Tri-X or T-Max, 24 exposure - 6 rolls per week minimum (anticipate running out of film, buy before you run out!) See instructor about other types of B/W films

Manilla Envelopes aprox. 9x12" (large enough to hold 8x10 photos)

Ilford Multigrade (Deluxe or Rapid R.C.) box of 25 or 100 sheet count, satin or pearl finish, no glossy surface on any of these (see Freestyle Catalogue for equivalent)

(Anticipate running out of paper & film. Buy before you run out!)

### **Optional:**

Lloyd's bulk loader

100' 35mm B&W Film, bulk

Six (6) cassettes

Masking tape

Negative cleaner and papers

## COURSE SCHEDULE

- You will have three major assignments. The due dates for their completion will be scheduled when they are assigned.
- The first few classes will cover basic orientation of the camera, darkroom, and materials needed for the class.
- You will have two class critiques. The final critique will serve as your final exam. All assignments must be completed and turned in by that time. Attendance is mandatory for all critiques. Missing a critique is equivalent to missing an exam.

**Project One: Getting Closer-** Using 50mm lens setting and close focus. Make compositions out of scattered chaos. (2 rolls film, 5 prints)

**Project Two: Portrait/Self-portrait-** Use 50mm lens, incorporating reflections, mirrors, windows in compositions. Using the self-timer and other techniques for portraits and self-portraits. Use the following artists as reference: Lee Friedlander, Cindy Sherman, Robert Frank

**Project Three: Landscape and Cityscape-** Using any lens, make a series of photos using the following artists as reference: Walker Evans, Lee Friedlander, Gary Winogrand, Ansel Adams, Eugene Atget

### **UNA provides the following:**

Film developing equipment including chemicals and graduates.

Printing equipment including: Polycontrast filters, Dektol developer, trays, graduates, negative carrier, and easels.

## ATTENDANCE

Regular and punctual attendance at all scheduled classes and activities is expected of all students and is regarded as integral to course credit. Each student is directly responsible to the individual professor for absences and for making up work missed. Particular policies and procedures on absences and makeup work are established for each class, are announced by the professor at the beginning of the term, and for excessive absences, may provide for appropriate penalties including reduction in grades or ultimate dismissal from class with a failing grade. Official written excuses for absences are issued only for group absences incurred in connection with required regularly scheduled University-sponsored activities such as intercollegiate athletics (see UNA Athletic Manual for further requirements) and special performances. **For all other types of group or individual absences, including illness, authorization or excuse is the province of the individual professor.**

When a student's cumulative absences for any reason, excused or unexcused, exceed the equivalent of four weeks of scheduled classes and activities, no credit may be earned in the course. When extended absences are caused by illness or similar extraordinary conditions, the student has recourse to the official withdrawal procedure and the WP-WF options provided therein; otherwise, the grade reported will be F.

My attendance policy is described below.

- Students will be allowed two absences without penalty (this means that two absences are excused, for whatever reason: death of a family member, car accident, sickness, emotional sick day, working on another project, studying for a

test, staying at home watching TV, whatever). Any absences after the second absence are NOT excused.

- The student's final grade will drop one letter grade for each absence after the second one.
- Tardiness: Students will be allowed three (3) tardies. A tardy is coming to class after the roll has been taken. Roll will be taken 5 minutes after class has begun. A 6<sup>th</sup> tardy will count as 1 absence. Every tardy after the 4<sup>th</sup> will result in 5 points being deducted from the final grade.
- Coming to class late (as stated above) and/or leaving before the class period is over will constitute a tardy.
- If a student is late, he/she should notify me at the end of class so that the record may be corrected. This is the student's responsibility. I will only adjust the roll that same day.

## **INTEGRITY**

It is the aim of the faculty of the University of North Alabama to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work that they have not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense, and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension. More information about this can be found in the Student Code of Conduct.

## **CIVILITY**

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have an opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are prohibited from using cellular phones or beepers, eating or drinking in class, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in, minimally, a request to leave class.

## **PHOTO LAB USE**

Every student is responsible for keeping the studio area clean during class and after hours. After each open lab session the class will clean up their lab area. We have a lab monitor whose schedule will soon be posted. He is here to help keep chemicals mixed and to check out equipment to you. His job is NOT to clean up after you. Please feel free for help changing chemicals, etc. If something breaks, is missing, or stops working, you must notify the lab monitor or me ASAP so we can take care of the problem. There is a notebook hanging outside the darkroom for this purpose.

## **PHOTO LAB HOURS**

Please administer your time efficiently. Lab hour changes will not be accepted as an excuse for not having work ready.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Students are expected to take note of cautions and safety procedures listed in textbooks or covered in class. Accidents should be reported immediately and injuries should receive prompt medical attention. Broken equipment should be reported in order to make timely repairs and avoid hazards.

## ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the University offers reasonable accommodations to students with eligible documented learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. Under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a disability is defined as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities as compared to an average person in the population. It is the responsibility of the student to contact Developmental Services prior to the beginning of the semester to initiate the accommodation process and to notify instructors *within the first three class meetings* to develop an accommodation plan. Appropriate, reasonable accommodations will be made to allow each student to meet course requirements, but no fundamental or substantial alteration of academic standards will be made. Students needing assistance should contact Developmental Services.