

Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University
School of Education
Department of Fine Arts, Art Program
"The Educator as Service Professional"
Course Syllabus for Art 298, Spring 2011

This syllabus represents a contract between the student and the instructor for this course. The syllabus delineates essential details about the course, course content, and performance assessment. Any official changes to this syllabus will be made in writing and provided to each student. Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is subject to change with advanced notice in writing. Additionally, a student is officially enrolled in this course until such time as the university procedure for withdrawal from this course has been executed. Some of the materials in this course are possibly copyrighted. They are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in this course and only for instructional activities associated with and for the duration of the course. They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further. They are provided in compliance with the provisions of the Teach Act.

Students are responsible for confirming that the call number for the course is the number for the section in which they are actually registered and should be attending.

Course: ART 299-01

Title: Photography II

Call #: 12520

Credit Hours: 3

Location: Room 201, Morrison Building

Meeting Times: Tuesday/Thursday 5:30pm - 8:20pm Spring 2011

Instructor: Cara Fuller

Office: 202A

Office Hours: By appointment only

Email: cara@carafuller.com

Class Website: www.aamuphoto.com

Prerequisites: None

Required Texts: None

Suggested Reading: *Light and Lens* by Robert Hirsh
A Short Course in Photography by Barbara London & Jim Stone
Learning to See Creatively: Design, Color & Composition in Photography by Brian Peterson

Course Description:

In this class, students will learn the advanced working methods associated with the use of a Digital Single Lens Reflex camera (DSLR) with an emphasis on principals of design in regards to composition. This course also includes a section about traditional black and white photographic materials: pinhole cameras, the use of manual 35mm film cameras, chemical processing of both film and gelatin silver paper and enlargement of photographs. The culmination of all the above will be evident in the student's final portfolio.

Course Objectives and Major Topics:

- ° To ascertain greater knowledge of the medium's technical processes (S31aZ/I3A/P2.2)
- ° To develop a personal style of photography (S31aZ/I1A/P2.1)
- ° To develop a vocabulary for discussing fellow students' work (S31aZ/I6C, 8B/P1.1)
- ° To have knowledge of historic and contemporary artists working in the medium (S31aZ/I1A/P2.1)

Rationale/Relationship to the Conceptual Framework

This course represents a performance-based approach designed to enable the advanced candidate to become an educational service professional with knowledge, skills, and dispositions required by institutional, state, regional, and national standards. Through a constructivist design, learning will be facilitated by collaboration and feedback that should result in continual reflection and self-assessment. The ultimate outcome of this course is the further development of a skilled, highly proficient, advanced-level educational practitioner.

Disability Statement (Americans with Disabilities Act):

Alabama A & M University is committed to serving the needs of students with disabilities, and the institution recognizes its responsibility for creating an instructional climate in which a student with disabilities can succeed. A student with a disability who needs academic accommodation should:

- (1) Register with and provide documentation to the AAMU certifying official in the Office of Disability Services to verify eligibility and to discuss the options for reasonable academic accommodations that might be available.
- (2) Provide a letter to the instructor indicating the type of accommodation that is needed.

This syllabus and other course materials are available in alternative format upon request. For more information about services available to AAMU students with disabilities, please go to the Office of Disability Services in Room 203 of the Ralph H. Lee Student Center.

Classroom Management Policies:

Disciplinary procedures may take place at the University level if a student causes a disruption or obstruction of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary proceedings, or other University activities on or off campus, including non-University activities, which occur on University property. Please read your copy of "Life on the Hill."

Participation:

You are expected to participate in class lectures, critiques and in the working environment. Due to different levels of familiarity with the medium among students, interaction is critical to promote creative problem solving and learning both inside and outside of the classroom. This is a hands-on course during which problems will be solved as they arise so the whole class can learn from each other's experiences. Failure to participate will result in a lowered grade.

Distraction:

The use of *cell phones, pagers, iPods*, or anything involving *headphones or telephones* is strictly *prohibited* during class time as it can cause a distraction and also prevent the collaboration that is vitally important in the comprehension of this subject matter. Much can be learned for your fellow students experiences, and to encourage this, *I will not be flexible about this rule.*

Attendance:

A student is permitted one unexcused absence for each credit hour generated by a class. *In the case of this class that is 3 absences.* Tardiness of more than twenty minutes will be considered an absence. *Critiques are a required attendance day* (it is the equivalent of missing a test), and an absence will result in a 25% reduction in your grade for the project being critiqued. Being absent on a critique day means you also forfeit your right to resubmit that project. Please talk to me at least two weeks in advance if there will be a known absence on a critique day.

Facilities:

Our darkroom and classroom is a community area for students and faculty working at this university. The equipment belongs only in this area, and *is not to be removed for any reason*. Equipment must be left clean, dry, and ready to be used by the next student. Failure to comply with the above will adversely affect your grade. *Abuse of the darkroom, classroom, and equipment within will not be tolerated and may result in the student being asked to withdraw from the course.*

Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, and Ethics:

All acts of dishonesty in any work constitute academic misconduct that could result in such consequences as receipt of an "F" on a single assignment, failure in a course, and up to dismissal from the university. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication of information

Materials:

Required:

- A Digital Single Lens Reflex (DSLR) Camera in working condition
- Memory Card
- Tripod
- Spare body cap for your make of camera

Nice to have, not required

- UV Filter
- Remote
- Jumpdrive

Course Outline: (This is subject to change.)

Class 1 (1/11): Lecture: *Introduction to Course*

Class 2 (1/13): Lecture: *Review Of DSLR functions. Aperture & Shutter Speed. Bracketing.*

ASSIGNMENT: *Bracketing:* Putting your camera on the tripod, make a series of different exposures of five scenes: Take 1 at the Indicated Meter Reading, 1 one stop overexposed, 1 two stops overexposed, 1 one stop underexposed, 1 two stops underexposed. You should have 5 shots of varying densities for each of the five scenes you choose to photograph for a total of 25 images. Due Class 4 (50 points)

JANUARY 17 – DR MLK, JR HOLIDAY

Class 3 (1/18): Lecture: *ISO settings and White Balancing.*

ASSIGNMENT: *White Balancing:* NOT using the automatic white balance setting, experiment with selecting which white balance you think is appropriate according to the lighting situation found within the scene your trying to photograph. Make a point to take five pictures under each of the following kinds of light: natural light, shade, tungsten and fluorescent lights. Also make five images setting the white balance yourself using the Custom White Balance option. Due Class 5 (50 points)

Class 4 (1/20): CRITIQUE: *Bracketing* (50 points)

JANUARY 24 – Cara judges Huntsville Photographic Society’s monthly competition, Minimalism, at 7pm at the Main Branch Library downtown. All are invited to attend! If interested, ask for more details.

Class 5 (1/25): CRITIQUE: *White Balance* (50 points)

Class 6 (1/27): Lecture: *The Zone System*.

ASSIGNMENT: *The Zone System:* Prove that you have mastered exposure by making 10 photographs that are filled with extremely dark subject matter. Make 10 photographs that are filled with extremely bright subject matter. Make 10 that are filled with neutral subject matter. Make another 20 photographs that have mixed tonalities present. Due Class 8 (50 points)

JANUARY 28 – Closing reception for *The Beauty of Imperfection*, an exhibition of teabowls by Jennie Couch and Monte McKnight, and *Natural Selection*, photographs by Cara Fuller. Third Floor exhibition space at Lowe Mill, 6-8pm. Ask for details if interested in attending.

Class 7 (2/1): Lecture: *Selective Focusing*.

ASSIGNMENT: *Focusing:* Take 50 pictures using the shallowest depth of field your lens has and select which portion of the image is going to be in focus and which portion is going to be out of focus in efforts to emphasize the focal point. Take 50 photographs that are out of focus. Due Class 10 (50 points)

Class 8 (2/3): CRITIQUE: *Zone System*. (50 points)

FEBRUARY 3 – JUNIOR AUDITS FOR GRADUATION DUE

Class 9 (2/8): Lecture: *Staged Photographs*.

ASSIGNMENT: *Staged Photographs: Your Personal Story.* Write a brief story, a few pages in length, describing a personally significant event. Be descriptive! Also be prepared to read it aloud in class. Due Class 11.

Class 10 (2/10): CRITIQUE: *Focusing* (50 points)

Class 11 (2/15): CRITIQUE: *Staged Photographs: Your Personal Story*.

ASSIGNMENT: *Staged Photographs: Storyboard.* Sketch out a story board of what you have written, composed of 10 frames. Also bring to class a scene from your favorite movie that you think was well seen by the director. Be prepared to discuss how you think the screenplay influenced the director to make his or her visual decisions. Due Class 12.

Class 12 (2/17): CRITIQUE: *Staged Photographs: Storyboard*.

ASSIGNMENT: *Staged Photographs.* Photograph the images you drew out in the storyboard, paying close attention to details. Turn in these 10 images and your revised written story. Due Class 15. (150 points)

Class 13 (2/22): Lecture: *Filters*.

Class 14 (2/24): Lecture: *Multiple Exposures In-Camera.*

ASSIGNMENT: *Multiple Exposures In-Camera.* Make 25 multiple exposures in-camera. Due Class 17. (50 points)

Class 15 (3/1): CRITIQUE: *Staged Photographs.* (150 points)

Class 16 (3/3): Lecture: *Legal Rights. Contracts. Copyright.*

MARCH 5-11 MIDTERMS

Class 17 (3/8): CRITIQUE: *Multiple Exposures In-Camera.* (50 points)

MARCH 14-18 SPRING RECESS (NO CLASSES)

Class 18 (3/22): Lecture: *Using Flash. Creative Location Lighting.*

Class 19 (3/24): Lecture: *Studio Lighting.*

ASSIGNMENT: *Studio Lighting.* Using the equipment in the classroom and not removing it from there, make four images of a single object, one still life, and four portraits. You must have a shot of one white object, one black object, one clear glass object, one metallic object and a still life shot of at least five objects altogether. You must have a full body portrait, a close-up and a group (at least three people) close up & group portrait. You must also make six photographs using creative lighting on location. Please note: this does NOT incorporate the use of the lighting equipment outside of the classroom! 15 images total. Due Class 23. (200 points)

Class 20 (3/29): Lab Day: Work on studio shots.

Class 21 (3/31): Lab Day: Work on studio shots.

Class 22 (4/5): Lab Day: Work on studio shots.

Class 23 (4/7): Lab Day: Work on studio shots.

APRIL 11 – Cara is giving a lecture about Large Format Photography at the Huntsville Photographic Society meeting, 7pm at the Main Branch Library downtown. All are invited to attend! Ask for details if interested in attending.

Class 24 (4/12): Lab Day: Work on studio shots.

Class 25 (4/14): CRITIQUE: *Studio Lighting & Creative Location Lighting.* (200 points)

APRIL 18 – LAST DAY TO DROP CLASSES

Class 26 (4/19): Lecture: *Cohesive Bodies of Work*

ASSIGNMENT: Take at least 250 photographs to further explore the subject you find yourself most interested in. You will need twenty superb images that are all cohesively unified to create a solid body of work. You also must write a 250 word artist statement to be submitted

as a Word file (.doc or .docx) at the same time as your final project. Due Class 30. (300 points)

Class 27 (4/21): Lecture: *Writing an Artist Statement*

APRIL 22 – HOLIDAY OBSERVED

Class 28 (4/26): Demo: *Cutting Mats & Framing Photographs*

Class 29 (4/28): Lab Day: Come prepared to cut your mat

APRIL 29, 30 MAY 1 – Panoply Art Festival (Huntsville, AL) Artist marketplace to include work by Professor Cara Fuller, Alumni Bob Gile, and current student Monte McKnight. Admission \$5, in Big Springs Park downtown. Ask for details if interested in attending.

Class 30 (5/3): FINAL CRITIQUES-- For Final Critique, have twenty of your favorite images organized into a folder separate from the other 230 images. Also turn in your artist statement as a Word file (.doc or .docx) (300 points)

Class 31 (5/5): FINAL CRITIQUES-- Continue
RESUBMISSIONS DUE

FINAL CLASS MEETING: May 10th 2PM

Grading Opportunities:

Bracketing (Due Class 4):	50 points
White Balance (Due Class 5):	50 points
Zone System (Due Class 8)	50 points
Focusing (Due Class 10)	50 points
Staged Photographs (Due Class 15):	150 points
Multiple Exposures In-Camera (Due Class 17)	50 points
Studio Lighting & Creative On-Location Lighting (Due Class 25):	200 points
Final Critique (Due Class 30 or 31):	300 points
Class Participation	100 points
<i>Total:</i>	<i>1000 points</i>

Grading Scale:

900 – 1000 points	90%-100%	A	600 – 699 points	60%-70%	D
800 – 899 points	80%-90%	B	Below 599 points	Below 60%	F
700 – 799 points	70%-80%	C			

Please Note:

- Being unprepared for critique and turning the project in late will result in a 25% reduction in your grade for the project in question. This is addition to the 25% reduction mentioned above. University-issued excuses are the only way of receiving full credit unless you have notified me of a known absence one week in advance.
- There are *no* extra credit assignments.
- You may *resubmit any project* in an attempt to raise your grade. All resubmissions will result in a higher grade *only* if the work turned in is superior to what was initially turned in. You must turn in the original along with the updated version. Resubmissions will NOT replace points lost due to missing critiques or late submissions. All resubmissions are due Class 31, but can be turned in at any point prior to that day.