Photography

## Mrs. Huber

Course Description

Photography is a one-semester class that is designed to give students a basic understanding of traditional black and white photography. In this class, students will be instructed in the fundamentals of photography such as the meanings of photographic terms, functions of cameras and camera parts, methods of exposing and developing film, and printing black and white photographs.

### Materials Required

1. 35-mm SLR film camera with manual focus, shutter speeds and f/stops. Students may use their own or borrow one for the semester. Students repeating the class should be prepared to provide their own camera.
2. Tripod. Students may borrow one on a weekly basis.
3. 1-inch 3-ring binder with pockets.

Course Objectives

A. The general objectives for this course are to:

1. Comprehend and perform the technical procedures of photography.

2. Expand aesthetic understanding.

3. Create visually strong photographic compositions.

4. Convey an imaginative, expressive, and concerned individual response to

life through photographic images.

5. Understand and analyze photographic compositions.

6. Use photographic equipment with consistency, confidence, and

imagination.

7. Learn photographic procedures.

8. Respect the history, materials, and equipment of photography.

B. Upon exiting the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a reasonable understanding of how most cameras operate.

2. Operate a manual camera to its maximum advantage.

3. Process standard black and white film.

4. Produce quality negatives through exposure and processing.

5. Demonstrate a proficiency in darkroom operations and printing

procedures.

6. Produce prints of consistent quality.

7. Convey a strong sense of light, tone, contrast, shape, texture, space, and

line.

8. Demonstrate a personal and concrete compositional sense.

9. Express ideas and feelings through compositions.

10. Show knowledge of the history of photographic processes and photographers.

Principal Topics:

1. The Camera: types, parts, and operation

2. Film and Film Processing

3. The Darkroom: equipment, operation, and procedures

4. Printing

5. Composition: the design and visual elements

7. Tone, Contrast, and Quality in Printing: printing filters, burning and dodging, and

retouching

8. Analyzing Prints

9. Depth of Field

10. Exposure Manipulation

11. Finishing the Print

12. Show Prints

Projects

Lab assignments will include, but not be limited to, the following: photograms, depth of field, nature, landscapes, portraits, still-lifes, sports, motion, lighting, forced perspective, and creative darkroom techniques.

Negatives, contact sheets, and prints will be graded from your binder and must be kept in order. Projects will be graded on technical precision, creativity, craftsmanship, following directions, aesthetics, and perceived effort. Meaningful participation in class will be included in your grade.

Students are responsible for keeping up with the work. All pictures will be taken outside of class, as homework. **To do well in this class, you must successfully complete every shooting assignment.**

Re-dos and Late Work

Each student will be allowed to re-do one shooting assignment without penalty. All prints must be turned in within one week of the original due date. Additional shooting assignments may be redone with a point penalty. If you fall behind or if you need to redo an assignment, you must schedule time during 10th period.

Late work will be accepted, but points will be reduced for each day late. In general, project grades will be reduced by 10% for each day late. There may be exceptions based on enlarger availability. “On time” grades for shooting assignments will be graded as follows: on time = 100%; one day late = 85%, two days late = 75%, three days late = 65%, and so on. Please remember: late work is better than no work, as missing a shooting assignment will greatly lower your grade.

Quizzes and Written Assignments

Short quizzes will be given following the study of design elements and photographic terminology discussed during class and included in class handouts. Quizzes will always be announced at least one day in advance. One research paper and/or presentation may be required. Several assignments will be completed in the LMC or in a computer lab.

Final Portfolio

In lieu of a final exam, students will present a final portfolio of ten finished (matted or mounted) prints. A one-page written artist’s statement will accompany the final portfolio.

Grading

The quarterly grading scale will be approximately as follows:

65-75% - Projects (Negatives, Contact Sheets, and Prints)

10-15% - Classwork and Participation

10% - Quizzes

5-10% - Homework (including turning film in on time)

Your “Final Exam” grade will count for 20% of your semester grade. It will consist evenly of the final exam (SLO test) and your portfolio.

**College Credit**

**Students may apply for credit for the ART 150: Photography course at North Country Community College. This course outline is in connection with the course taught by NCCC instructor John La Falce. Please take note of the NCCC attendance policy.**

Bibliography:

Klasey, Jack. Photo & Digital Imaging. The Goodheart-Willcox Company, Inc. 2002.

London, Barbara. A Short Course in Photography. 8th ed. Harper Collins.

Merchant, Martin. <http://mmerchant.us/class_work>

Way, Cynthia. Focus on Photography: A Curriculum Guide. International Center of Photography. 2006.