



DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE – AR 2350 A2 / Photography I / 3 (3-0-3)

Mondays and Wednesdays 14:30-17:20

INSTRUCTOR: Laura St.Pierre **PHONE:** 780.539.2835
OFFICE: L215 **E-MAIL:** lstpierre@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Mondays and Wednesdays 11:30-1, 1:30-2:30

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:

DD1380 (Design Fundamentals) and one of AR 1370 (Visual Fundamentals II) or AR2430 (Drawing II)

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

- No textbook is required
- External hard drive or other method of backing up files (i.e. large USB key + stack of DVD's)
- \$90 materials fee to cover paper and printer ink, to be billed by Financial Services

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

An introductory studio course investigating the technical and conceptual aspects of digital photography as a contemporary art medium. Students will learn to use basic digital photographic equipment and to manipulate images.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS:

3 credits, 6 contact hours per week

DELIVERY MODE(S):

Lecture/ lab

OBJECTIVES:

This studio course introduces the fundamental principles and techniques of digital photography. Lectures will address the historical and theoretical underpinnings of photography as a creative medium and present a survey of contemporary photographic practices. Students will gain technical skills in the operation of a digital SLR camera, RAW capture and conversion, file management, lighting, image manipulation with Adobe Photoshop, and output. Assignments will challenge students formally, technically, and conceptually, and will require a high degree of autonomous research, experimentation, and problem solving.

During this course students will:

1. Develop a basic understanding of digital SLR cameras and how to use them, including exposure, focus, and white balance.
2. Further develop Photoshop skills, especially those pertinent to digital photography.
3. Demonstrate and discuss their knowledge of the basic elements and principles of art and design as they pertain to two-dimensional art, including balance, rhythm, repetition, dominance, contrast and variety, and to develop a more advanced understanding of compositional strategies.
4. Acquire a basic understanding of the history, theory and contemporary practice of photography, and develop a common vocabulary to discuss and critique both their own assignments and the work of other artists.

TRANSFERABILITY: U of A (ART 3XX (3) or AUART 2XX (3)) and to the U of L (ART 3026 (3))

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.**

GRADING CRITERIA:

Assignments

Assignments will be graded on an ongoing basis, and will be worth 70% of the final mark.

Overdue assignments will be penalized 10% per day.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be worth 10% of the final mark. Missed quizzes will be assigned a grade of 0 unless the student provides a doctor's note.

Living Artist Presentation

10% of the final grade

Participation

10% of the final mark is allocated to attendance and participation during class activities and critiques.

EXAMINATIONS:

There are no final examinations in this course.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Attendance is critical to your success in this course.

- Please notify the instructor of illness or absence.
- It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to obtain handouts, lecture notes and assignments from classmates when you are absent or late. The instructor will not repeat lectures for latecomers.
- Three late arrivals constitute one absence.
- Note that **MORE THAN 20% ABSENTEEISM MAY CONSTITUTE A FAILURE EXCEPT FOR MEDICAL OR EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH CASE A DOCTOR'S LETTER MAY BE REQUIRED.**

Equipment and lab use

- Cameras and tripods are on reserve at the library for student use. Students are responsible for all equipment while it is signed out. Damage, loss or late return of equipment may result in limited or no access for the remainder of the term. Students are responsible for costs associated with replacing lost or damaged equipment.
- Computers and printers are available for student use in the digital lab. Students are asked to treat equipment with care, keep the lab clean, and respect other lab users by maintaining a quiet and clean workspace.

Electronic Communication Devices

All forms of electronic communication, including cell phones, Blackberries, and other devices should not be used in class. Exceptions include parental responsibilities or emergency situations.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Please refer to pages 49-50 of the College calendar regarding plagiarism, cheating and the resultant penalties. These are serious issues and will be dealt with severely.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Studio based activities in addition to homework assignments to be determined by the instructor. Fieldwork may require visits to sites off campus, including museums and galleries. Students will be expected to invest a minimum of **six hours per week** outside of class time.

