Dothan High School
Photography
Syllabus
2015-2016

Instructor Contact Information

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The best way to contact me is e-mail. I check it first thing in the mornings and usually just before I leave. There are expenses with this course; if there are financial concerns please contact me, as I do not want this to be a limiting factor. I welcome student and parental contact, please let me answer your questions.

Course Description

This class is taught as a year-long course. It covers composition, use of single lens reflex digital camera (dSLR), exposure (ISO, aperture and shutter speeds), camera techniques, scanning, PhotoShop CS3®, photo history and reports. Specific design technology such as using scanners, digital cameras, Adobe Photoshop, and Adobe InDesign will be used in the completion of many final pieces. There are a variety of quizzes and tests. It is recommended that students have their own dSLR camera and a USB thumb drive. A very limited number of cameras are available for short-term loan.

Course Objective

- To learn specific technical skills needed in digital photography
    - Be able to manipulate exposure via ISO, aperture and shutter speed
    - Be able to demonstrate use of studio lights to create an image
    - Demonstrate knowledge and use of flash light meter
- To create work that conveys personal voice and vision
- To build on a working knowledge of the elements, principals and processes in both visual arts media and a variety of technology
- To translate personal artistic objectives, decisions and visual works into words, both spoken and written.
- To demonstrate literacy through writing, speaking and expressive media.
- To exhibit work in a public forum.
- To continue building a strong portfolio of work that demonstrates growth, risk-taking, skill and craftsmanship.

Work Samples

All of the reports (history of photography, biography of portrait photography, biography of art/landscape photographer, biographer of photojournalist may be used as writing work samples.

Required texts and other readings

None

Supplies

iPad – Supplied by School
This is limited to just point and shoot. The iPad can be used for photo editing however it is not recommended as an appropriate camera for class.

Recommended for Class -
Camera (dSLR best), memory card(s), USB Thumb (Flash) Drive (4 Gb recommended for transferring of digital files between home and school), three ring notebook, paper, pens/pencils, empty light tight box (large oatmeal box recommended).

Course Outline

First Semester

Students will work on the basics of photography starting with making their own simple camera. With the camera they create they will take paper negatives and learn basic darkroom skills. Then they will study composition, learn camera parts and camera operations.

First Quarter
1. Introduction to photography, rules, paper work and definition
2. Historical development, first camera, first photograph, research pinhole cameras, paper (technical development of photography).
3. Build pinhole cameras, create pinhole photographs, photographic paper development.
4. Intro to Composition
5. Scanning and intro to Bridge CS3 and PhotoShop CS3 (exposure control)
6. Modern cameras parts and functions, pixels and sensors
7. Exposure control and white balance — Gray Card Photo, PhotoShop CS3 (white balance)
8. Shutter control, stopping action / showing movement — Jump Shot Photos
9. Making COBs in PhotoShop CS3
10. Research paper, historical development of photography (choice from topics list)
11. Aperture control, depth-of-field — Shallow & deep depth-of-field Photo

Second Quarter
1. Composition — Elements of Art
2. Portraiture & Studio Lights
3. Research paper on portrait photographer
4. Putting it all together multiple photos in one PhotoShop CS3 file — creating a Postcard
5. Gallery Visit — CRLE (on own time)
6. Finals

Second Semester

Students choose from a menu of photo categories. Seven photos are required in addition they have to choose six additional photos from the list of categories, all to be completed by the end of the semester. Photos are due at the rate of two photos per each critiqué section, which is every two weeks. In addition, students are required to research (a photographers' life and work within a given genre and the technical aspect of a photographic technique) and then either write or present a speech (can be informative work sample). Instruction is given individually throughout the semester on individual projects. Required photos instruction is listed below while "choice" photos specific instruction is not listed. Students may substitute project requiring additional work in lieu of choice photo(s) for greater points (one project may take the place of two choice photos).

Third Quarter
1. Review first semester final, handout syllabus, discuss requirements
2. Composition — Principles of Art and Design
3. Produce a photo using leading lines as main composition
4. Composition — Rules and Guidelines
5. Instruction on landscapes, cityscapes, seascapes; instruction on mounting; take photos
6. Paper/speech (biography of art/landscape photographer); critiqué
7. Instruction on Existing (low) Light photograph; take photos
8. Instruction on Sports photography; take photos
9. Take photos and work on computers; work on research paper (biography of photojournalist/documentary photographer); critiqué
10. Instruction on PhotoShop™ filters; take photos

Fourth Quarter
1. Review grades; instruction on Still Life photo; take photos and/or work on computers; work on research paper; critiqué
2. Create themed poster with multiple images using geometric shapes, take photos and/or work on computer; work on research paper; critiqué
3. More instruction on PhotoShop CS3; take photos and/or work on computers; research paper (or speech) due; critique
4. Instruction on Advertising (CD Cover or advertisement); take photos and/or work on computers; Interview CRLE due; critique
5. Create themed poster with multiple images using organic shapes, take photos and/or work on computer; critiqué
6. Enter work in the CHS Art Festival
7. Instruction on portfolio; work on assignments
8. Work on portfolio; critiqué

9.   Work on portfolio
10. Finals

Daily Assignments

Each period starts with an opener PowerPoint slide. Openers consist of a five-question list students do at the beginning of the period. They may use prior knowledge, the a book, each other, or even the Internet to find the answers. The questions review what we're working on, past lessons and may have general knowledge questions introducing new material. They are worth 5 points some points are always given even if all the answers are wrong. These are counted as participation points and cannot be taken if students are late to class or absent. If students are gone due to an excused absence then there will be an alternative assignment available related to current unit of study.

Most work done is in the form of a project which takes multiple days to finish.

Homework

The primary homework in this class is taking photos (remembering to record the exposure for each one). There will be a required gallery (student choice) visit first semester. About once a quarter there will be a formal research paper.

Grading Policies

- Students are required to complete assignments designed to extend knowledge in specific photographic skills.
- Due dates are final. Each student is obligated to meet due dates for assignments.
- For **each day** the assignment is late (beginning of period) student's grades will be reduced for missing due dates. Late work will not be accepted for unexcused absences (parents have 48 hours to clear absence).
- In cases of serious illness or loss the instructor is to be contacted as soon as possible to create a realistic schedule for make-up work.
- An assignment may be redone for a higher grade **if the original was turned in on time**.
- There is not any extra credit.

Grading Scale

A	100 – 90%
B	89 – 80%
C	79 – 70%
D	69 – 60%
F	59 – 0%

Classroom Policies

Attendance & Time

This is a lab class therefore attendance is necessary. Equipment (cameras. computers. card readers, light meters, studio lights,etc.) is limited and students must share. Since there is not a textbook, missing lectures, demonstrations and/or handouts are difficult to make-up. Students must plan their time to meet due dates.

In general it takes about a period to take photos. Another period is required to "process" digital negatives and to print them out. Again, in general, **at least two classes are needed to produce a final product for grading**. If a problem occurs (and they do!) it may be necessary to start over. Extra time may be arranged by talking to instructor. Never be afraid to ask!

Behavior Expectations
- Students are expected to arrive at class on time (be sitting at assigned desks, not at computers).
    - No going in and out of class, unless for an assignment and students must sign out, listing the specific location, reason and time student left the room.
    - Students are to come to class prepared
    - No trips to lockers for forgotten materials (camera, memory card, paper, pencils, notebook, etc.)
- Each student is expected to productive every class.
- Be respectful toward your fellow classmates and teacher.
    - o No swearing
    - o Do not interrupt others
    - o No throwing items
    - o Take turns and share
- Follow directions of instructor and advance students regarding photography, studio, computer and darkroom use.
- Accept responsibility for your own actions.
- Each student is expected to use check sign-out sheet to leave room for photography assignment.
- Each student is obligated to meet due dates for assignments. For each day the assignment is late (beginning of period) Student's grades will be reduced for missing due dates. Late work will not be accepted for unexcused absences (parents have 48 hours to clear absence.
- º Students are responsible for the following to be included with each photo assignment in their folder on photography server appropriately labeled:
    - o 20 images per assignment
    - o Contact sheet
    - o Printout (at least 8x10)
    - o Self evaluation form & exposure log
- No food or drinks are to be eaten in the classroom.
- No cell phones, MP3 players, iPods, electronic games or devises.
- Follow directions of instructor and all written instructions.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is the coping of any work is breaking copyright laws.
Coping of photographs is breaking copyright laws. Copying any work published (i.e.: posted on Internet, printed in book, magazine, etc.) and using it as your own is infringement on copyright laws. Materials can be used for educational uses provided the information and/or work is properly attributed via citations or quotations. The mere taking of ideas without citation is plagiarism. Ideas (not just the words written) taken and used without attribution is an example of plagiarism. Any form of plagiarism will result in a zero grade. Plagiarism will result in serious consequences. Students will be subject to parental contact and referral to the SMO. Students will be given the operturnity to rewrite/redo the assignment with proper attribution for 50 percent of the grade.

Academic Support

The classroom (407) is open Tuesday & Thursday mornings about 8 a.m. as well as Tuesday & some Thursday afternoons (until 5 p.m. or the last student leaves, whichever comes first). Other afternoons can be made available as needed.

Check for basic deadlines, required late nights and class assignments by going to the Photography Overview webpage. There are several additional pages on the site related to specific assignments.

Second Semester Photo Assignment Requirements

Students choose which assignment to turn in at critqué date.

All Photos (100 points unless otherwise noted)
- must have thought behind (know why taking photo and be able to support category placed)
- must be of artistic nature, composition is emphasis
- must make statement
- must be able to describe, in detail, methods used to determine time in written form
- must follow basic rules of composition
  - rule of thirds
  - reverse S shape
  - foreground, mid ground and background
  - stopper (preventing eye from being lead out of photo)
- may have leading lines or repeating patterns
- must be 8 by 10 inches in at least one dimension
- may be cropped as long as at least one dimension is 8 or 10 inches after being taught
- must take at least 20 images (take several exposures with slight variations on same subject)
- must turn in contact sheet with frames used marked
- must have self-evaluation sheet completely filled out with complete sentences
- must package each assignment for easy evaluation (put contact sheet, photo(s) and self-evaluation sheet together neatly)
- must have digital files on photography server
- must be legal (or depicting illegal activity/substance in negative way — NOTE: illegal activity or substance will be reported to appropriate authorities)
- must be spotted after being taught

Required Photos

Landscape / Cityscape / Seascape Photo (100 points)
- may be any of the above
- must be of artistic nature, composition is emphasis
- must make statement
- must have horizon in photo (should be on a horizontal third)
- may be vertical, but normally taken as horizontal
- may be timed (using tripod)
- may use tripod for sharper photo

Existing Light Photo (100 points)
- may have exposure index (EI) 800, 1600, 3200
- can be of any subject
- must be able to describe, in detail, methods used to determine time in written form
- must not use flash
- may be outdoors, but generally taken indoors (gym, living room, etc.)

Sports Photo (100 points)
- must be a team, individual or recreational sport
- should have equipment showing [ball (most important), net, racket, etc.]
- should be sharp and clear with main focal point in focus ($\frac{1}{250}$ sec. or greater shutter speed)
- must show action
- should show emotion
- can have any depth-of-field, but greater depth preferred (f/11)

Poster with geometric shapes (100 points)
- must have theme
- must be geometric in design
- can be of any subject

Still Life Photo (provided by instructor) (100 points)
- must use studio lights and flash meter
- must be of artistic nature, composition is emphasis
- must use non-paper background (cloth, boards, whatever is provided)

- must create individual arrangements
- must use each type of object
- must use at least one object of same type (three books, must use at least one)
- may use additional items to enhance provided objects

Advertising Photo (100 points)
- must discuss ideas with instructor before beginning project
- should use studio lights (size of object will determine this) to enhance product
- should use PhotoShop to improve product's look
- must use computer program to enhance advertisement (graphics, copy, photo enhancement, etc.)
- must include copy to sell product
- must include final advertisement (contact sheet, photo, advertisement) printout from computer

Poster with organic shapes (100 points)
- must have theme
- must be geometric in design
- can be of any subject

Choice Photos (all photos are worth 100 pts. unless otherwise noted)

Timed Photo
- must be timed using tripod and cable release
- must be of artistic nature, composition is emphasis
- can be of any subject
- may be feathered effect $1/15$ sec. — 30 min. (or longer — talk to instructor before attempting this length of exposure)
- must use reciprocity rules to calculate exposure times (remember one change in f/stop equals one opposite change in shutter speed)
- must be able to describe, in detail, methods used to determine time in written form

Still Life Photo (your objects)
- must use studio lights and flash meter
- must use non-paper background (cloth, boards, whatever is provided)
- must create individual arrangements
- must contain at least four objects
- may use any legal objects

Hands Photo
- must be primarily of hands, hands are emphasis
- may show emotion (preferred)
- can have any depth-of-field, but greater depth preferred ($f/11^+$ & remember closer work needs greater depth-of-field)

Multiple Exposure (Digital Negative) Photo (extra points — 125 pts.)
- must discuss ideas with instructor before beginning project
- must be of artistic nature, composition is emphasis
- must make statement
- must use only one negative
- can be of any subject
- must be able to describe, in detail, methods used to determine time in written form
- must make at least two (more usually does not work) exposures per negative
- must reduce exposure by number plan on taking (for doubles reduce each by half)
- should take many double exposures of same subjects changing exposure variables

Night Photo
- must be at night, composition is emphasis
- must make statement
- may be timed using tripod and cable release

- may be push processed — exposure index (EI) 800, 1600, 3200
- can be of any subject
- may be feathered or have streamer effect $^1/_{15}$ sec. — 30 min. (or longer — talk to instructor before attempting this length of exposure)
- must use reciprocity rules to calculate exposure times (remember one change in f/stop equals one opposite change in shutter speed)
- must be able to describe, in detail, methods used to determine time in written form
- must not use flash
- must be outdoors

Wildlife / Animal Photo
- must be animal, animal is emphasis
- must not be caged
- should discuss ideas with instructor before beginning project
- should be sharp and clear with main focal point in focus ($^1/_{250}$ sec. or greater shutter speed)
- should show action
- should show emotion
- can have any depth-of-field, but greater depth preferred ($f/11^+$)

Photo about Light Photo
- must show light as emphasis (light rays, reflection of light, etc.)
- must be of artistic nature, composition is emphasis
- must make statement

Photo about Shape / Form Photo
- must show shapes and/or form as emphasis (circles, ovals, hexagons, etc.)
- may be repeating pattern
- must be of artistic nature, composition is emphasis
- must make statement

Photo about Movement Photo
- must show movement as emphasis
- must be of artistic nature, composition is emphasis
- must make statement
- may use panning (slow shutter speed taken as moving camera with subject)
- may timed using tripod and cable release
- can be of any subject
- may be feathered effect $^1/_{15}$ sec. — 30 min. (or longer — talk to instructor before attempting this length of exposure)
- must use reciprocity rules to calculate exposure times (remember one change in f/stop equals one opposite change in shutter speed)
- must be able to describe, in detail, methods used to determine time in written form
- should show action
- may show emotion

Architecture Photo
- must be primarily of building or man-made structure, building is emphasis
- should use tripod and cable release for sharper photo
- must enhance or "show-off" structure
- should reduce extraneous backgrounds (unless feature enhances structure i.e.: Mt. Hood in background, waterfall to side)
- should have lines that are parallel (generally not possible without special lens or bellows)

Close-up / Macro Photo
- must use studio lights and flash meter or flash
- must use close-up filters, bellows or extension tubes

- should discuss ideas with instructor before beginning project
- should be sharp and clear with main focal point in focus
- must have greater depth ($f/11^+$ preferred)
- must use reciprocity rules to calculate exposure times (remember one change in f/stop equals one opposite change in shutter speed)
- may use any legal objects
- must be able to describe, in detail, methods used to determine time in written form
- must calculate EI based on focal length and flash guide number(s) to determine correct exposure — must know following information:
    - GN = Guide Number (from flash)
    - EA = Exposure Aperture (from lens(es), bellows, extension tubes or close-up filters)
    - FD = Flash Distance
    - FL = Focal Length [in millimeters from lens(es), bellows, extension tubes or close-up filters]
    - EI = Exposure Index

Micro Photo
- must use microscope
- may use bellows or extension tubes
- should discuss ideas with instructor before beginning project
- should be sharp and clear with main focal point in focus
- must use reciprocity rules to calculate exposure times (remember one change in f/stop equals one opposite change in shutter speed)
- must be able to describe, in detail, methods used to determine time in written form
- may use any legal objects

Glamour Photo
- must be portrait using glamour lighting
- should use tripod
- must do make-up, hair, clothing, etc.
- should show emotion

Nature Photo
- must be of nature, nature is emphasis — no man-made objects or human(s)
- must be of artistic nature, composition is emphasis
- should use tripod for sharper photo
- may be timed using tripod
- may be action stopped ($^1/_{1,000}$ — $^1/_{250}$ sec.)
- must use reciprocity rules to calculate exposure times (remember one change in f/stop equals one opposite change in shutter speed)
- should show action and/ or emotion
- can have any depth-of-field, but greater depth preferred ($f/11^+$)

Photojournalism Photo
- must contain human or human element — emphasis on human interest
- must not have individual looking into camera
- should be candid
- must tell story — job, hobby, fire, recreation, etc.
- should have action stopped ($^1/_{1,000}$ — $^1/_{250}$ sec. or substantial reason not to)
- must show action and/ or emotion
- can have any depth-of-field, but greater depth preferred ($f/11^+$)

Art Photo
- must be of artistic nature, composition is emphasis
- must make statement
- should use tripod for sharper photo
- may be timed using tripod

- may be action stopped ($^1/_{1,000}$ — $^1/_{250}$ sec.)
- must use reciprocity rules to calculate longer exposure times (remember one change in f/stop equals one opposite change in shutter speed)
- should show or inflict emotion
- can have any depth-of-field
- can be of any thing legal (or depicting illegal activity/substance in negative way — NOTE: illegal activity or substance will be reported to appropriate authorities)

Academic Subject Photo
- must contain human or human element — emphasis on human interest
- must not have individual looking into camera
- should be candid
- must be able to tell subject matter — math, English, civics, personal finance, etc.
- must tell story — teaching, reading, learning
- should have action stopped ($^1/_{1,000}$ — $^1/_{250}$ sec. or substantial reason not to)
- must show action and/ or emotion
- can have any depth-of-field, but greater depth preferred ($f/11^+$)

Water Photo
- must be primarily of water, water is emphasis
- may be timed using tripod (feathered effect $^1/_{30}$ sec. — 1 min.)
- may be action stopped ($^1/_{1,000}$ — $^1/_{250}$ sec.)
- must use reciprocity rules to calculate exposure times (remember one change in f/stop equals one opposite change in shutter speed)
- should show action

Multi-media Presentation (125-200 variable points based on effort and results)
- must use multiple media — generally sound and visual (sound or tape and slide projector, computer, etc.)
- should discuss ideas with instructor before beginning project
- must make statement — have specific reason for doing
- must be able to describe, in detail, methods used to determine time in written form
- should be sharp and clear with main focal point in focus

Mixed-media Photo Art (variable points based on effort and results)
- must use different art media (paper, clay, pieces of candy, paper clips, etc.— be creative and yes all these have been used)
- should discuss ideas with instructor before beginning project
- must make statement — have specific reason for doing
- must be able to describe, in detail, methods used to determine time in written form
- should be clear with main focus

Portrait Photo
- must be using portrait lighting with both main and fill lights
- should use tripod
- must be able to describe, in detail, lighting method(s) used to create
- must show emotion

Variations on a Single Subject Photos (150 points)
- must take multiple photos of same subject
- must be of artistic nature, composition is emphasis
- should make statement
- must be able to describe, in detail, methods used to determine time in written form

Wild Card Photo (50 points — note: this is a last resort and can be used only once)
- must take photo
- must be of artistic nature, composition is emphasis

• should make statement

Filtration of Image in Camera Photo (two photos)
- • may be of any subject
- • should discuss ideas with instructor before beginning project
- • must be of artistic nature, composition is emphasis
- • must take two photos one with filtration and one without filtration showing difference
- • must be able to describe, in detail, methods used to determine time in written form
- • may use any color of filter
- • must have reticulation showing on negative through heat manipulation during processing

Flash Photo
- • must use flash
- • should discuss ideas with instructor before beginning project
- • may be of any subject
- • must be able to describe, in detail, methods used to determine time in written form
- • should be sharp and clear with main focal point in focus
- • must be in synchronization ($^1/_{60}$ sec. or longer shutter speed)
- • should show action
- • should show emotion
- • can have any depth-of-field based on reciprocity

Photo Essay (150 – 200 points — additional points may be awarded for extra work/effort)
- • can be of any subject
- • must discuss ideas with instructor before beginning project
- • must have dominate photo ($^2/_3$ larger than other photos and tell story as stand alone photo)
- • must have at least five photos — may have up to eight photos furthering support of dominate photo story
- • must have variation in photo shape and size
- • must tell story primarily with photos
- • must have story copy (typed) on layout
- • must be in magazine, yearbook or newspaper layout form (see magazine layouts for ideas)
- • may be scanned into computer and placed in PageMaker
- • must start early — this takes time (computer work cannot be done in one class period)
- • will require multiple rolls of film to complete
- • may require several different days, times, locations, etc. to cover completely

Other Photo (must talk to instructor)
- • may be of any subject after discussing ideas with instructor before beginning project
- • must be able to describe, in detail, methods used to determine time in written form
- • must meet general photo requirements

Photography Research Papers

In General:

Papers must have citations, attributions and bibliographies must include at least two successful web search and at least two other sources (encyclopedias are not considered a source) such as books, journals and magazines for **a total minimum of four sources**. **Print outs of web pages must be included for complete bibliography**. These are *formal papers* and to be written in third person (no "I," "you," "us," "we," etc.). Papers should be *double spaced* and **at least** *five pages* in length without bibliography.

For Biography Papers

What to include in paper's body:

→ Biography of photographer's life

→ Birth, death

→ Place of birth

→ Location lived growing up, where lived most of life

→ Influences

→ Parents, siblings

→ Other artists

→ Society and cultural

→ Historical events

→ Technological developments

→ Comparison to other artists

→ Same historical period as artist

→ Contemporary

Critiqués of photographer's work:

Copies of **three photos** are to be included and discussed. Discussion must include technical and aesthetic analysis, historical perspective and your personal emotional response to each photograph and the photographer's work in general.

For Technology and Historical Papers

What to include in paper's body:

→ Development

→ The process itself

→ Historical significance

→ Influences

→ Artists involved

Notes on Plagiarism & Copyright Law

Plagiarism is the coping of any work is breaking copyright laws.

Coping of photographs is breaking copyright laws. Copying any work published (i.e.: posted on Internet, printed in book, magazine, etc.) and using it as your own is infringement on copyright laws. Materials can be used for educational uses provided the information and/or work is properly attributed via citations or quotations. The mere taking of ideas without citation is plagiarism. Ideas, not just the words written taken and used without attribution, is plagiarism. Any form of plagiarism will result in a zero grade.

The American Heritage Dictionary definition

1. To steal and use (the ideas or writings of another) as one's own.

2. To appropriate passages of ideas from (another) and use them as one's own.