

Western University
Department of Visual Arts
SA2652Y - Introduction to Digital Photography

Term/Session: Fall/Winter 2022
 Time: Asynchronous via Teams
 Recorded lectures and demonstrations
 Professor: Colin Carney ccarney@uwo.ca
 Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00 - 3:00pm via Teams

Course Description

This is an introductory course examining a variety of technical and artistic approaches to digital photography in the context of contemporary artistic practice. It will be **asynchronous** in delivery with new content posted on Teams every 2 weeks. This is a 0.5 credit course, spaced out over two terms. Students will be making thoughtful work which responds to the recorded lectures and demonstrations in 4 major projects over the Fall and Winter terms.

This course will offer students a technical foundation for using DSLR cameras as well as for using editing software such as Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop. Students will learn about output preparation, print production and archival maintenance. A combination of demonstrations, exercises, thematic lectures and slideshows will introduce students to the relationship between technical skill and critical thinking in contemporary photography. This class will be an opportunity for students to experiment and discover ways to express themselves in digital photography. It will also be a class concerned with various theoretical discourses which inform artistic practices in digital photography.

Note: Through this course, students will be exposed to a very broad range of photographic art. Some of the most canonical or universally esteemed works depict what is commonly called 'mature subject matter.' Be forewarned that a small percentage of the visual material students will be expected to view is of an explicit nature, containing for example, scenes or depictions of sexual and/or violent acts. Students must accept that by taking this course they have consented to viewing such material. If this poses a problem for a student, for whatever reason, it must be BROUGHT TO THE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION OF THE INSTRUCTOR (DURING THE FIRST CLASS).

Learning Outcomes

Depth and Breadth of Knowledge

Students will acquire the range of skills required to engage in the material practice being studied, and will have a thorough understanding of the genesis of those skills historically

Knowledge of Methodologies

Students will gain an understanding of the critical potential of the medium, be able to identify various ways works in that medium operate critically, and will apply their understanding, in creative ways, to the realization of their projects

Application of Knowledge

Students will use their capacities with the medium as a critical, discursive and expressive tool to develop creative works; understand the potential viability of their works, and will utilize their reflections on their works to explore and develop further projects

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Course Requirements:**Attendance**

Students will interface with the course content on Microsoft Teams. Every two weeks, a new set of video lectures/demonstrations, readings and supplemental links will be made available. All exercises will be uploaded to the course dropbox as they are completed. There are four key projects in this course which have due dates. The design of the course is that students will be able to manage their time accordingly to meet the four deadlines in the fall and winter terms.

Assignments/Late Assignments

Students are expected to complete all assignments on time. Failure to complete assignments without prior arrangements with the instructor will result in a failing grade. With prior discussion, students may

students. Instructors must indicate on the course outline how they will be dealing with work worth less than 10% of the total course grade.

In particular, instructors must indicate whether medical documentation will be required for absences, late assignments or essays, missed tests, laboratory experiments or tutorials, etc. Where medical documentation is required, such documentation must be submitted by the student directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean's office, and it will be the Dean's office that will make the determination whether accommodation is warranted. Given the University's Official Student Record Information Privacy Policy, instructors may not collect medical documentation.

In all cases where accommodation is being sought for work totalling 10% or more of the final grade in a course, students will be directed to the appropriate Faculty Dean's office.

Students who have been denied accommodation by an instructor may appeal this decision to the appropriate Faculty Dean's office but will be required to present appropriate documentation.

Attendance:

Under university regulations, if someone misses more than 15% of their classes (15% is equivalent to missing 8 hours of Lecture and/or Studio Lab, due to absence or lateness, or a combination of both, per semester) without written corroboration for health or bereavement, students can be debarred from participation in final evaluations and/or assignments.

Note that if a student is consistently absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and be debarred; assignments may stop being accepted and such assignments will receive a mark of 0 (zero)

Religious Accommodation:

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar.

Electronic Devices:

