Instructor: Barbra Riley
Course name and number: ARTS 5316.001, Summer II 2014
MFA Studio in Art: Photography
CA226, MTWR 12-3:45 pm
Credit Hours: 3
Contact Information: Center for the Arts 226A
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Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description:
This is a MFA Art studio class in which the student, in collaboration with the professor, determines exactly the direction of their work for the semester. A detailed proposal of the semester’s work is required as is participation in class critiques, discussions, presentations, and any scheduled field trips and outside lectures. In-class discussions will allow students to exchange historical and contemporary ideas in theory and criticism. Class time will provide the opportunity to discuss technical problems and to explore conceptual directions.

This course requires a large measure of self-motivation and focus on the part of the student. Students will have some work time during class but should expect to spend an equal or greater amount of time outside of class completing projects. This course is designed for graduate students with an advanced knowledge of camera functions and darkroom techniques.

Course Objectives:
To research styles of photographs by historical and contemporary photographers.
To study groups of photographs by historical and contemporary photographers.
To apply this research and study towards the production of a portfolio of the student’s photographs.
To learn photographic techniques to produce professional level works of art.
To present a classroom demonstration and lecture on one or more Photographic Techniques or Historical Perspectives that shows the ability to integrate knowledge and skills in their field and other areas of inquiry and research.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Demonstrate professional competence in one or more aspects of Photographic Techniques or Historical Perspectives in the creation and presentation of works of art with a professional level portfolio of photographs of 8-12 prints. (The portfolio may have a TITLE & STATEMENT and possibly additional text to accompany photos.)
A presentation of the student’s research related to their studio work with printed or electronic handouts.

Increased knowledge of history of photography in area related to your portfolio as evidenced by written essays.

Positive interaction with other graduate students.

The following will be determined by the student and professor

Portfolio Specifications *:
Size :
Number of Prints :
Subject of Research Presentation:

Course Requirements and Grading:
1. ASSIGNMENTS - Satisfactory completion of scheduled assignments and presentations on time.

2. ATTENDANCE & CLASS PARTICIPATION - Students are expected to punctually attend every Tuesday class for Critiques. Attendance during class times on Thursday will be negotiated with the professor in order to accommodate the specific project that will be produced by the student. Students who intend to drop this class are advised to do so as soon as possible. I do not have the ability to drop a student from the rolls, only to grade according to my policies. All project and research proposals will be submitted digitally (MS Word docs) to the professor.

3. EQUIPMENT - Safe and Cooperative use of the darkroom and graduate lab equipment by students enrolled in the class. No others may use the darkroom, cameras or printers. Because art studios use materials and tools that could be dangerous, safe and cooperative behavior by students is absolutely necessary. The studio course instructor will be the ultimate judge of cooperative as well as safe and unsafe behavior. Individuals engaging in uncooperative and/or unsafe behavior will be cautioned and instructed once by the instructor. If a second occasion of uncooperative and/or unsafe behavior occurs, that student will be un-enrolled from the course and given a “wd” with no refund of tuition and fees.

4. RESEARCH PROJECT – A research paper or project will be proposed by the student and approved by the professor.

5. FINAL EVALUATION
   20% - Research Paper or Presentation
   20% - Meeting deadlines for assignments
20% - Class participation  
40% - Final Portfolio  
100- 90 = A  89-80=B  79-70=C  69-60=D  60 and Below = F  

Materials:  
Students will supply materials appropriate for their individual portfolio.  

Suggested Texts:  
*Photography*, by London & Upton  
*Light and Lens, Photography in the Digital Age*, by Robert Hirsch  
*A Short Course in DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY*, Barbara London, Jim Stone  
*Coming Into Focus*, Barnier  

* Portfolio Specifications will be negotiated by the professor and student. In special cases, an MA student may negotiate an independent study project that may require different parameters for presentation and evaluation.  

**Academic Advising**  
It is a College of Liberal Arts recommendation that students meet with an academic advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which then must be signed by the student and a faculty member.  

**Special Notice to Students with Disabilities**  
The College of Liberal Arts complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible. Please have your accommodations letter from TAMU-CC Services for Students with Disabilities Office with you when we meet. If you suspect you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.) please contact the Services with Disabilities Office (located in Driftwood 101- 825-5816.)  

**Grade Appeal Process**  
As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal.  

A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. If the problem cannot be resolved at this level, the student may take the steps below.
1. Presentation of grievance to instructor. (This step must be taken within fourteen calendar days after the beginning of the next term.)
2. Appeal to department chair or area coordinator.
3. Written appeal to the University Academic Standards Grievance Committee.
4. Preliminary review and advising by an ombudsman appointed by the Provost.
5. Submission of file by department chair to the chair of the University Academic Standards Grievance Committee.
6. Review of file by committee chair and submission of case to committee.
7. Proceedings of the University Academic Standards Grievance Committee. (Committee holds hearing, reviews data, presents findings to all parties, and makes recommendation to Provost.)
8. Decision by Provost.
9. Final appeal in writing to the Provost if student or instructor thinks appropriate procedures have not been followed.

For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Website at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.htm. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.