PHOTO I – DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Class Description
This is an introductory studio course using digital cameras and image manipulation software. History of Photography will be discussed at length in order to better inform students of aesthetics and inspiration, as well as presentations of notable photographic works.

Learning Objectives
Student will learn basic photographic techniques using a digital (DSLR) camera.
Student will produce aesthetically pleasing images using electronic image manipulation.
Student will create well-composed images related to personal expression.
Student will have exposure to contemporary & historical photographs.
Student will participate in a total of 4 critiques.
Student will produce an edited Final Portfolio of 20 digital photographs.

The professor will supply a schedule for demonstrations, lectures, and critiques. Sometimes these dates will have to be modified for various reasons. It is the student’s responsibility to keep abreast of these possible changes, and the professor will do their best to update the student body with current information through emails and texts.

The class lectures and labs will meet in the Photography Building, otherwise known as the Blue Annex, MOD2, and will take place within the computer graphics digital lab, unless other arrangements are discussed during class. Use of the lecture room and other facilities in the photography building may also be required periodically throughout the semester. Pay attention in class when future site arrangements are made.

This is a Studio Art Class. Students are expected to work independently and with the professor during the entire class time.

Major Course Requirements
1. CRITIQUES - A Critique is the equivalent of an exam. Assignments for critiques will be handed out to the class, along with dates and instruction. Sometimes these dates have to be modified because of weather, equipment problems or conflicts with other activities. If you know in advance that you will miss a critique, you may receive partial credit if you hand in your work early. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP UPDATED ON CHANGES TO THE SCHEDULE BY CONTACTING THE PROFESSOR OR OTHER STUDENTS.
Critique guidelines and extra-credit project opportunities will be shared in class and via handouts at the start of each assignment cycle, and it is the student’s responsibility to meet these requirements, as well as addressing each with artistic intent, creativity, and merit.

2. ATTENDANCE & CLASS PARTICIPATION - Students are expected to punctually attend EVERY class and share knowledge and ideas with other students and the professor. THREE
unexcused absences will result in one grade drop for the semester. THREE late arrivals to class will count as one unexcused absence. If a class is missed for any reason, the professor will determine a make-up exercise. I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the class be the best course of action, you must initiate the drop process by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class.

3. EQUIPMENT – Safe, respectful and cooperative use of the equipment by students enrolled in the class is very important. No others (including family members, friends) may use the computers 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.

Printers are for use for assignments for Photo I class only! Using color printers in the photography lab for other classes is considered improper use. Please do not print your photos during another instructor’s class time. Please do not use school printers for excessive/personal use. They are to be used solely for class projects.

The Photography Darkroom lab is for the use of students enrolled in Art 3365, 4365, 5306 and 5316 and may only be used during your assigned class time and the posted lab hours. Your professor or Photography Department Head, Jennifer Garza-Cuen must clear any exceptions to this rule, such as students working on a BFA, MA or MFA exhibition.

No food or drinks are allowed in the digital lab area.

A Statement about lab/computer use, iPad use and phone use: There will be no use of Facebook, email, other social media websites and the Internet in general during class. If you will be working on something relevant to the class, you will notify the professor of this use. You may not leave class for a personal phone call, unless it is an emergency. Texting, phone calls, etc. is only allowed during break times, which will be available. Please use class time for class projects only, and please be constructive with your time in the lab. In accordance with lab etiquette, please be aware of your surroundings, and respect the personal space and property of your fellow students. Loud music, loud speech, and over-all “loud behavior” will not be tolerated. Please be considerate of others working around you.

The professor may ask you to leave the classroom (with a zero, absence for the day) if you do not follow these instructions!
CALCULATION OF GRADES

Each critique will count as 20% of your final grade average. There are 4 critiques, totaling 80% of your final grade average. Class participation constitutes 10% of your final grade average; this includes attendance, discussion, lab participation, and general work ethic. Your FINAL PORTFOLIO will constitute the remaining 10% of your final grade average. (20 of your best digital images presented within a professional and/or digital portfolio.)

Extra-credit assignments/opportunities will be discussed throughout the semester.

Excessive absence may subtract from your final grade, see attendance policy.

REQUIRED TEXT

YOUR DIGITAL CAMERA MANUAL! (This is a very important little book. It may very well hold ALL of the magical secrets to your camera’s success! Please read it, and safely experiment with your new equipment.) If you do not have a manual for your camera, you may be able to find one online.

RECOMMENDED TEXT

The History of Photography, Beaumont Newhall, 5th Edition $27 (amazon)

A Short Course in Digital Photography, Barbara London, Jim Stone $48 (amazon)

MATERIALS LIST

Students must provide the following materials needed for this course:

1) Their own or shared digital DSLR camera and accessories – DSLR camera MUST have a Manual Shooting Mode, not just Auto. DSLR camera MUST have RAW format shooting capabilities. (JPEG images will not be accepted as suitable classwork!)
2) Memory Card and Card Reader
3) Portable hard drives for storing images, 80GB or greater
4) Small ½” Binder for handouts and work prints
5) Epson Ultra Premium Professional Luster Paper
6) A professional photographer’s portfolio or portfolio box

Useful Addresses & Phone Numbers

www.cnet.com for equipment reviews
www.freestylephoto.biz Freestyle Photo, 800-292-6137 photo supplies
Your portfolio can be found through this link:
http://www.freestylephoto.biz/90717-Itoya-Art-Profolio-Evolution-Presentation-Portfolio-8.5x11-24-pages
Academic Integrity/Plagiarism
University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a failing grade on the assignment or in the class.

Disabilities Accommodations
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

ACADEMIC ADVISING
The College of Liberal Arts requires 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 must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

Grade Appeals
As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, 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. 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 Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught or the Office of the Provost.

Have fun, experiment, and make great photos!