

CAPITAL COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGE
PROPOSED COURSE OUTLINE
Media Services Department/Social & Behavioral Sciences Department

SUBJECT AREA AND COURSE NUMBER

Visual Communication: VCOM 106

COURSE TITLE

Intermediate Photography

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION

An extension of Basic Photography where students will expand into more advanced, experimental, and individual work in 35mm black-and-white photography. Students will explore various-speed B&W films, infrared and high contrast films, push-processing, and toning. Course will conclude with an introduction to digital photography.

INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS PER WEEK: 3

PREREQUISITE

VCOM 105 (*Basic Photography*)

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Improve on techniques learned in *Basic Photography* as related to:

1. Different types of films, such as high speed, infrared, and fine grain.
2. Advantages of using different chemical processes to develop film and paper.
3. The art of producing consistent photographic enlargements in a darkroom setting.
4. Creating large-size photographic prints.
5. Digital scanning and retouching using desktop computers.

COURSE CONTENT AND SCOPE

I. OUTLINE OF TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE COURSE

The following topics will be included in the framework of the course but are not intended as limits on content. The order of presentation and relative emphasis will vary with each instructor.

- A. Types of black-and-white film
- B. Types of film and paper chemistry
- C. Types of black-and-white printing paper
- D. Improving on basic darkroom techniques
 - 1) Push processing
 - 2) Printing controls: dodging, burning, contrast filters
 - 3) Consistency in printing
 - 4) Drying and mounting

II. READING ASSIGNMENTS

Reading assignments focus on acquiring technical vocabulary and reinforcing classroom discussions and hands-on projects. Reading is based from the textbook and current articles from trade journals and newspapers/magazines as provided by the instructor.

III. WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments encourage students to critique their work and that of other students, the instructor, and examples given in class, and to demonstrate acquisition of knowledge in basic photographic techniques.

IV. SKILL-RELATED ASSIGNMENTS

Students photograph, process, and print their own work within guidelines as given by the instructor.

V. OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS

Students may be given significant outside assignments, including photography, darkroom, and computer laboratory periods outside the scheduled class time.

VI. ASSIGNMENTS THAT DEMONSTRATE CRITICAL THINKING

Critical thinking is required of students in both written and hands-on assignments. They learn how to differentiate between “family snapshots” and well-thought, technically correct negatives and prints. In addition, students learn how to critique their work and the work of others.

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Evaluation is based on performance of a variety of activities and assignments, such as in-class and out-of-class writing assignments, projects, quizzes, essay examinations, discussion, and class participation. Attendance is extremely important. Students may be offered a chance to submit work to the Annual Student Art Exhibit.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Methods of instruction must include weekly laboratory time whereby students will be given hands-on instruction and practice with cameras and darkroom equipment. This is balanced with non-laboratory periods, the method of which is determined by each instructor and may include lecture, lecture/discussion, discussion seminar, computer-assisted instruction, audiovisual, required field trips, and any other unique instructional strategies.

REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY

Black-and-white darkroom equipment, chemistry, and fresh water supply. If available, desktop computer with flatbed and film scanners, appropriate imaging software, printer. Instructors may wish to use audiovisual; presentation equipment such as a slide projector, VCR, and a computer with internet connection and projector.

REQUIRED TEXT & SUPPLIES

College level photography texts and workbooks, including technical descriptions of equipment and creative and aesthetic uses of that equipment, are appropriate. Students are expected to use their own manually-operated 35mm camera and purchase all consumable supplies.