



Art of Photography

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Overview

The Art of Photography program is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the technical, creative/artistic, historical and contemporary aspects of photography. This program is designed so, students of varying skill levels will become proficient in using a 35mm SLR camera, develop competency in darkroom techniques, understand current trends brought about by new technologies and have an understanding of photography as a visual language and creative outlet. Students are encouraged and supported through a series of weekly program classes, monthly critiques, independent and group assignments, special topic workshops and guest lecturers, to expand their understanding and use of photography.

During the spring semester, program members will apply their photographic skills they have developed through the year in an end of the year photo program group exhibit in the Living/Learning Center's Gallery. Students are encouraged to visit local libraries, galleries and museums to facilitate their visual knowledge.

Students are required to attend a weekly non-credit class, monthly critiques and participate in program events. An optional text will be announced at the beginning of the Fall semester. Monthly critiques' meeting day/time will be determined at the beginning of each semester based on the class schedules of members. Weekly class schedule is tentatively set as Wednesday evenings from 6 – 7:30pm. Independent work outside of class sessions will be required to complete assignments. Students with more experience are expected to mentor novice students.

Members will utilize the facilities of the Living/Learning Center's Photo Co-op. A Photo Co-op membership fee is required (currently \$90 per semester). Each member will be provided chemistry, a limited amount of supplies (film & printing paper) to be used for program related assignments and mat board (for the end of the year Gallery exhibit). Members should expect to purchase additional supplies for personal use as needed. Students are required to have a 35mm SLR camera.

The Art of Photography program is part of the L/L Arts Initiative RLC and therefore, students are expected to participate in events that AI and the student members organize. As a member of the Arts Initiative, you are required to take a one credit self-paced class. You are encouraged to take this class during your first semester, or by the second semester. You may participate in this class more than once if you choose.

Learning Objectives

Students will learn and apply techniques of making strong photographs, through:

Action Steps

- Understanding, observing and metering light and correctly exposing film.
- Proper identification of camera parts and their technical functions.
- The importance of strong composition.
- Understanding the technical aspects to enhance your creative vision.
- Exercises and assignments will support a student to explore their creative vision.
- Students will explore their creative process through group discussions, critiques, demonstrations and studio visits.

Students will learn and apply techniques of printing a strong image, through:

Action Steps

- Developing black and white film, making contact prints, evaluating negatives and choosing an image to enlarge.
- Making a final print from negatives. Exercises and assignments will support a student to move from novice to intermediate level printing.
- Understanding printing filters and using both RC and Fiber based papers.
- Students will explore their technical process through group discussions, critiques, demonstrations and visiting photographers.

Students will learn and apply an understanding of the elements of producing a portfolio and exhibit, through:

Action Steps

- The exploration of the elements of continuity, style and genre in photography.
- Develop an understanding between conventional and digital photography through discussions and hands on experience.
- Students will edit their images for a photographic exhibition.
- Proper techniques for matting and framing work for presentation.
- Students will exhibit their work in showcases, AI Hallway Gallery and in the Living/Learning Gallery. Students are encouraged and supported to exhibit their work in other local venues.

Students will participate in community service, through:

Action Steps

- Helping with the organizing and implementation of the GOG fundraising event by producing photographs, installation and participating in the event.
- Help to organize one L/L community event such as the Identity Photo Project.

Students will develop an understanding of social justice, through:

Action Steps

- Attending discussions/lectures/events that are geared towards the development and understanding of social justice issues/concerns.
- Attending/participating in L/L community events that are directed towards this topical area.
- Develop and organize one AI cross-program L/L community event that is directly related to social justice.

Students will participate in the Arts Initiative, through:

Action Steps

- Participate in the AI Open Suite event in order to share their work and meet other members of the AI community.
- Organize and participate developing a cross-program event with another AI and GV RLC program that addresses artistic and cultural issues/themes.
- Registering for the AI Foundation class, as well as one of the RLC Leadership classes, either the AI/GV: Exploring Art & Culture through the Fleming Museum or the AI Leadership course.