

## ART 317K: Introduction to Black and White Photography

Mark Goodman, Professor  
Course Meetings: m–f 1:00 – 5:00  
Course Location: Art 2.204 Photography Lab  
Office Hours, ART 3.344: TTH, noon – 1:00pm (by appointment)  
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### Course Description and Objectives:

#### *Introduction*

THIS CLASS WILL INTRODUCE YOU TO A BASIC OVERVIEW OF USING YOUR CAMERA, MAKING EXPOSURES, DEVELOPING FILM, AND PRINTING BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS – A WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF MATERIALS AND METHODS. THIS IS, HOWEVER, NOT ONLY A TECHNICAL COURSE. YOU WILL ALSO BEGIN TO ATTEMPT TO UNDERSTAND PHOTOGRAPHY AS A MEANS OF DOCUMENTATION, CULTURAL INVESTIGATION, AND A WAY OF PERSONAL EXPRESSION.

STUDENTS WILL BE EXPECTED TO TAKE PICTURES OUTSIDE OF CLASS TIME AND MAY ALSO NEED MORE THAN CLASS TIME TO COMPLETE DARKROOM PROJECTS. THIS CLASS INVOLVES BOTH PRODUCING AND DISCUSSING PICTURES. LEARNING TO TALK ABOUT PICTURES IN LANGUAGE BEYOND “I LIKE IT” OR “I DON’T LIKE IT.” ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN ALL CLASS ACTIVITIES IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT SINCE YOU ARE LEARNING AS A GROUP, FROM EACH OTHER, IN ADDITION TO ON YOUR OWN.

WITH HARD WORK, PRACTICE, TRIAL AND ERROR, THOUGHT – NOT TO MENTION FUN – YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO START TO MAKE PICTURES WHICH SHOW THE VIEWER WHAT YOU BELIEVE IS WORTH POINTING OUT, IMPORTANT FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO PAY ATTENTION TO, AND WHICH MAY ALSO POSSESS VISUAL DELIGHT AND SURPRISE. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU PHOTOGRAPH WHAT INTERESTS YOU, RATHER THAN ME TELLING YOU WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH. I WILL GIVE YOU SUGGESTIONS TO START, BUT LOOKING FOR CLUES IN YOUR OWN PICTURES IS THE BEST WAY TO DISCOVER YOUR SUBJECT.

#### *Structure*

Technical issues such as the operation of your camera and basic darkroom techniques will start the semester. Class will also consist of brief discussions on significant photographers, open lab time, one-on-one conversations, and critiques.

All shooting must be completed outside of class time. Attendance will be taken at all class sessions.

Email – Departures from the schedule laid out in the syllabus will be posted on the notice board or sent out via e-mail or both. Make sure I have a current email address for you and pay attention to these emails.

### Basic Policies: Attendance, Participation

Class attendance is a requirement and use of the full class period is expected. You will be allowed **three unexcused absences without grading consequences**. Leaving class before being dismissed by your professor will constitute an early departure. **A 4th absence will result in the lowering of your final grade by one letter grade**. If a serious medical or personal situation occurs affecting attendance, please discuss it with me.

Exceptions to this policy: A student who misses classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day should inform the instructor as far in advance of the absence as possible, so that arrangements can be made to complete an assignment within a reasonable time after the absence.

Active participation is also essential. Among other things, participation means being present mentally as well as physically; contributing positively to the class environment; asking questions; and being cooperative and courteous with your fellow students and in your use of the lab.

**Students with disabilities:** If you have a documented disability and require any specific accommodations, please inform me as soon as possible so that I can work with you to ensure that your

learning needs are properly addressed. Students with disabilities may also request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259 or via <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>.

## Assignments

There are three assignments due for the course. Detailed instructions for assignments, including quantity requirements, will be provided in class.

### *Assignment #1*

**Due date: June 16**

### *Assignment #2*

**Due date: June 28**

### *Assignment #3:*

**Due Date: July 8**

Turn in all assignments at the end of the critique session. You must also submit all contact sheets and all proof prints.

## Grading

Grades will be weighted as follows:

Assignment #1	25%
Assignment #2	35%
Assignment #3	40%

Grades for this course will utilize the +/- system, making the possible range of grades: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F.

Assignments and Final Portfolio will be issued alphabetical or numerical grades.

A (90-100)	Excellent work. Demonstrates clear personal vision and a consistently high level of technical accomplishment, and conceptual sophistication throughout the course. Attends class consistently and contributes positively to class, lab, and critique environments. Steadily working throughout the semester.
B (80-89)	Above average work. Completes all assignments in a way that demonstrates strong technical capabilities and some conceptual sophistication. Attends class and contributes to class discussion.
C (70-79)	Average work. Completes assignments in a timely manner and satisfies all basic requirements. Work is deficient: technically lacking, uninspired, not cohesive. Attends class consistently.
D (60-69)	Poor work, inconsistent attendance, little participation. Barely meets minimum requirements. Work demonstrates no regard for craft and little to no investment of oneself in the objectives of the course.
F (below 60)	Failing grade. Poor and/or incomplete work and erratic attendance. If you are on track to fail the course, please take responsibility for your situation and attempt to drop if it is still permissible to do so according to the academic calendar.

All work must be completed during the current semester. Late work will not be accepted or considered.

## Texts

There are no specific required texts for the course. Henry Horenstein's *Black & White Photography, A Basic Manual* may prove helpful. Available from AMAZON for \$18.47.

## Equipment and Supplies

ANTICIPATED COSTS: STUDENTS MAY SPEND ABOUT \$250 OR MORE PER SEMESTER ON PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS (EXCLUDING CAMERAS) NOT SUPPLIED BY THE UNIVERSITY.

35 mm SLR camera with manual controls (avoid electronic ones, if possible) and/or a 35mm "Toy/Plastic" camera available from either B&H or Freestyle (see out-of-state photo suppliers below)

35mm film: a minimum of 20 rolls of Kodak Tri-X 36-exposures

Negative sleeves for 35mm film (PrintFile brand - 35-7B, if available)

Red, yellow, green, or blue China marker

Latex gloves (optional)

Printfile 3-Ring Notebook (snaps shut to keep out dust) for storing negatives

Lens cleaning tissue/lens cleaning fluid (optional)

Container and/or envelop with clasp for turning in 8x10" and other prints.

BW photo paper: 8x10" Ilford Multigrade RC (Resin Coated), 100-250 sheets (Glossy or Semi-Matte) - **DO NOT OPEN THIS BOX IN THE LIGHT, ANY PLACE OUTSIDE OF THE PRINT DARKROOM WITH ONLY SAFELIGHTS ON!!!**

**IMPORTANT: Under NO circumstances should you ever open a box of photographic paper outside of a darkroom. The paper is light sensitive and will be instantly ruined. Also, do not leave cameras or light sensitive materials such as film and paper in environments where they may be damaged by exposure to heat or moisture.**

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## Photographic Supply Stores, Labs, Repair Shops, and Online Vendors

### IN AUSTIN:

**UT COOP** on the Drag sells some photographic supplies.

**Precision Camera** sells new and used equipment, supplies, and has a repair department. Ask for a student discount on any purchases.

Precision Camera  
3810 N. Lamar  
Austin, TX 78756  
(512) 467-7754  
[www.precision-camera.com](http://www.precision-camera.com)

**Holland Photo Imaging** is a full-service lab. They sell photographic film and small packs of paper and some other items. They should offer a student discount on many items.

Holland Photo  
1700 S. Lamar #327  
Austin, TX 78704  
(512) 442-4274  
[www.hollandphoto.com](http://www.hollandphoto.com)

**Eurotech** specializes in repairing used equipment. They also sell some used cameras and lenses.

Eurotech  
3115 South First Street, Suite 104  
Austin, TX 78704  
(512) 479-5090

## **OUT OF STATE:**

**B&H Photo**  
420 Ninth Avenue  
New York, NY 10001  
(800) 972-5999  
[www.bhphotovideo.com](http://www.bhphotovideo.com)

**Adorama**  
42 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10011  
(800) 223-2500  
[www.adorama.com](http://www.adorama.com)

**Calumet**  
1111 N. Cherry St.  
Chicago, IL 60622  
(800) 225-8638  
[www.calumetphoto.com](http://www.calumetphoto.com)

**FREESTYLE**  
5124 Sunset Blvd.  
Hollywood, CA 90027  
(800) 292-6137  
[www.freestylephoto.biz](http://www.freestylephoto.biz)

# Course Schedule

## ***Week 1***

### **1) *Thursday, June 3***

Review Syllabus.

**Review handouts on material covered in class. Bring 35mm camera, gray card, and 1 roll of film for next class.**

### **2) *Friday, June 4***

Bring your cameras and camera manual (if you have it).

Introduction to 35mm manual cameras.

Understanding camera settings. Film speed, shutter speed, aperture.

Depth of field.

Practice loading film onto reels.

For next class, bring your camera and a roll of film.

## ***Week 2***

### **3) *Monday, June 7***

More instruction on 35mm cameras.

More on light readings, light meters and gray cards.

Explanation of bracketing.

Team photography project.

**For next class, shoot a minimum of 2 rolls of film.**

### **4) *Tuesday, June 8***

Introduction to processing 35mm film.

Introduction to enlargers and proof prints, and contact sheets.

Lab safety tour.

**Process two rolls of film.**

**Continue shooting each week throughout the semester.**

### **5) *Wednesday, June 9***

Open lab. **Finish contact sheets.**

### **6) *Thursday, June 10***

Introduction to work prints.

Open lab for processing, contact sheets, and work prints.

### **7) *Friday, June 11***

Open lab.

## ***Week 3***

### **8) *Monday, June 14***

Quick group review of contact sheets.

Identify and resolve any apparent technical issues.

Instruction on work prints.

Hands-on lab time for making work prints.

**9) Tuesday, June 15**

Open lab.

**10) Wednesday, June 16 -- CRITIQUE #1**

Turn in Assignment #1: 30 Proof Prints -- MINIMUM and 4 - 5 Contact Sheets. (Fewer will result in a "B," half or less will result in a "C," none = "F")

Put your initials on the back of each print and contact sheet.

Introduction of Assignment #2.

**11) Thursday, June 17**

Instruction: Final prints.

Filters and contrast. Dodging and burning. Making enlargements.

**12) Friday, June 18**

Open lab.

#### **Week 4**

**13) Monday, June 21**

Open lab.

**14) Tuesday, June 22**

Open lab.

**15) Wednesday, June 23**

Open lab.

**16) Thursday, June 24**

Open Lab.

**17) Friday, June 25**

Open lab.

#### **Week 5**

**18) Monday, June 28 -- CRITIQUE #2**

Turn in Assignment #2: 6 – 8 Finished prints, 30 Proof Prints and 4 - 5 Contact Sheets.

**19) Tuesday, June 29**

Open lab.

**20) Wednesday, June 30**

Open lab.

21) **Thursday, July 1**  
Open lab.

22) **Friday, July 2**  
Open lab.

### **Week 6**

23) **Monday, July 5**  
Open lab.  
**Work on final prints.**

24) **Tuesday, July 6**  
Open lab.  
**Work on final prints.**

25) **Wednesday, July 7**  
Open lab.  
**Work on final prints.**

26) **Thursday, July 8 (LAST CLASS DAY) – Assignment #3 Critique: FINALE  
& One-hour Photo Lab Clean-up**

**Turn in 10 Finished Prints, all contact sheets, and all work prints.**

REMEMBER TO RETURN ALL CHECKED-OUT U.T. EQUIPMENT

CLEAN OUT YOUR HALL LOCKER BEFORE THE LOCKS ARE CUT

### **Lab Schedule**

Photo Lab Hours: Announced and posted.

### **Academic Integrity**

According to the General Information catalog: “the value of a university degree depends on the absolute integrity of the work done by each student for that degree, a student should maintain a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work” (page 98). Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.

### **Changes to the Syllabus**

THIS SYLLABUS IS A GUIDE, NOT A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE INSTRUCTOR, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN, AND ANY STUDENT. THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES IN THE COURSE CONTENT, INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES, AND DUE DATES. CHANGES TO SYLLABUS WILL EITHER BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS OR POSTED TO THE LEFT OF THE 2.204L DOOR OR BOTH.