

## **Course: Photography through Art Appreciation**

### **Class Description:**

This engaging and enriching class combines the principles of photography with the depth of art appreciation. By intertwining these two disciplines, students will gain a holistic understanding of both the technical and artistic aspects of photography, while also cultivating a deeper appreciation for the visual arts. To understand that creativity runs through each of us is truly a gift that God has given us. It is so important to be able to harness that gift and, in this case, harness it through the medium of photography. Within this class students will truly grasp what photography is; in its entirety, and how to use it in a way that expresses who they are and who God has created them to be. Within this class they will understand the aspects of photography, conceptualization when creating photography, how to present a photo, and have exposure to postproduction when editing photos. They will gain understanding in story telling through the medium of photography by conceptualizing appreciation, evaluation, authentication, and exhibition. This will be done through lectures, discussions, hands-on projects, and presentations, students will develop essential skills in photography, critical thinking, and visual literacy.

### **Course Objectives:**

1. To introduce students to the fundamentals of photography, including composition, lighting, exposure, and camera techniques.
2. To explore various genres of photography, such as portrait, landscape, documentary, and experimental, through the lens of art history and theory.
3. To encourage critical thinking and analysis by examining photographs as artistic expressions within cultural, social, and historical contexts.
4. To foster creativity and self-expression through hands-on photography projects and assignments.
5. To develop visual literacy skills and the ability to communicate ideas effectively through images.
6. To define the concepts of art and photography and their significance in contemporary society.
7. To identify and analyze the various aspects and techniques of photography.
8. To explore the practical applications of photography in different contexts.
9. To understand the principles of light and composition in still life photography.
10. To examine discipline-based concepts within the realm of art education.
11. To study and analyze the works of famous photographers.
12. To conduct research on a selected photographer and present findings.
13. To develop aesthetic sensibility and analyze photographic works.
14. To trace the history and evolution of photography as an art form.
15. To explore the genre of documentary photography and its role in storytelling.

16. To understand the presentation techniques of digital and print photography, including the importance of artist statements.
17. To gain proficiency in using Photoshop and Lightroom for photo editing and manipulation.
18. To apply Photoshop and Lightroom skills in a project inspired by Dorthea Lange's work.

**Prerequisites:** No prior knowledge needed. DSLR cameras are encouraged but are not required and phone cameras are acceptable.

**Homework:** There will be one assignment a week. Independent student time will be required: approximately 1 to 2 hours.

**Course Supplies:**

- Cameras - no specific digital cameras---all types are welcome (DSLR, phone, etc.).
- There will be some research done in class periodically so laptops would be helpful but not required.
- Post-production work will also require the use of a laptop in the final weeks.
- Adobe Creative Cloud specifically Lightroom
- Chatbooks Account (We will set this up in class)
- Notepad and pencils

**Conclusion:**

The proposed class offers students a unique opportunity to explore photography as both a technical skill and an expressive art form, while also deepening their understanding and appreciation of art history and theory. Through a combination of theory, practice, and critical analysis, students will emerge with a well-rounded perspective on photography and its place within the broader context of visual culture.

**Week to Week Layout:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Introduction to Art                     | 12. Concepts of Discipline Based on Art Education                               |
| 2. Principles and Elements of Art          | 13. Observing Famous Photographers  |
| 3. Timeline of Art                         | 14. Research A Photographer   |
| 4. Researching Movements of Art            | 15. Present Project on Photographers  |
| 5. Still Life Photography                  | 16. Understand Aesthetics and Analysis of Photographer                          |
| 6. Still Life Workshop                     | 17. Documentary Photography   |
| 7. Photography within Contemporary Society | 18. Understanding Presentation of Both Digital and Print Photography and Artist |
| 8. Composition                             |   |
| 9. Aspects of Photography                  |   |
| 10. Practicality of Photography            |   |
| 11. Understanding Dark Room                |   |

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Statements and Why it's Important   | 22. Use Photoshop and Lightroom         |
| 19. Present Dorthea Lange Project   | 23. Photobook Work                      |
| Start Use Photoshop and Lightroom   | 24. Photobook Work                      |
| 20. Use Photoshop and Lightroom   | 25. Project Completion and Presentation |
| 21. Use Photoshop and Lightroom   | 26. Pop Art Using Photos                |
| Studio Space Field Trip*** offer this another day besides the school day if need be |   |

## Syllabus

### \*\*1. Introduction to Art (1 class period)\*\*

- Define the concept of art and its various forms (visual, performing, literary).
- Discuss the purpose of art: expression, communication, reflection of culture and society, provocation, etc.
- Engage students in a brief discussion on what art means to them personally.

Homework: Color Assignment

### \*\*2. Principles and Elements of Art (1 class period)\*\*

- Introduce the principles of art (e.g., balance, emphasis, contrast, rhythm) and elements of art (e.g., line, shape, color, texture).
- Provide examples and discuss how these principles and elements are utilized in different art forms.
- Conduct hands-on activities or exercises to allow students to apply the principles and elements in their own artwork.

Homework: Molly Bang Assignment

### \*\*3 and 4. Timeline of Art (2 class period)\*\*

- Present a timeline of art history from AD 300 to AD 2000, highlighting key periods and movements.
- Discuss major developments and characteristics of each period, including the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and art movements from the 17th to 20th century.
- Use visual aids and examples to illustrate significant artworks and artists from each period.

Assignment Find a work that inspires you and recreate it or show how it influenced you.

**\*\*5. Research Assignment and Documentary Assignment (1 class period)\*\***

- Explain the research assignment, where students will choose a specific topic or artist from art history and conduct in-depth research.
- Provided guidelines for the documentary assignment, where students will create a short documentary film exploring a particular art movement or period.
- Discussion of criteria for both assignments, including research depth, presentation quality, and creative interpretation.

**\*\*6. Present Your Projects\*\***

**\*\*7. Still Life Photography and Light\*\***

- Techniques for lighting in still life
- Light in art and photography

**\*\*Week 8: Practical session: Still life photography workshop\*\***

**\*\* 9. Intro to Photography with Contemporary Society? \*\***

- Historical overview of photography
- Discussion: The role of photography in contemporary society.
- Types of Photography

Assignment: Find photos generated by AI.

**\*\*10. Composition\*\***

Present Findings

- Elements of composition
  - Perspectives

-Rules of Thirds

-Leading Line Photography

-Assignment: Create Perspectives, Leading Line Photography

#### **\*\*11. Aspects of Photography\*\***

- Understanding exposure: aperture, shutter speed, ISO

- Hands-on practice: basic camera operation

Assignment: Depth of Field Assignment

#### **\*\*12. Practicality of Photography\*\***

- Applications of photography in different fields (e.g., journalism, advertising, fine art)

- Guest lecture: Professional photographer sharing practical insights

-Look Through Photography Books

Assignment: Find photographer you love!

#### **\*\*13. Understanding Dark Room\*\***

-Present Your Findings

-Take a Tour of Dark Room

-Differences Between Dark Room Prints and Digital Prints

-Handling Prints

#### **\*\*14: Discipline-Based Concepts in Art Education\*\***

- Discipline and creativity in art

- Role of discipline in mastering photography techniques

**\*\*15. Observing Famous Photographers\*\*** What do you think about AI Photography?  
Does it count as art.

- Study and analysis of works by influential photographers
- Presentation: Students present their findings on a selected photographer

Assignment: Find a AI photography that you like.

#### **\*\* 16. Research a Photographer\*\***

- Research methods and resources for studying photographers
- Assignment: Conduct research on a photographer of choice

#### **\*\*17. Understanding Aesthetics and Analysis\*\***

- Principles of aesthetics in photography
- How to critically analysis of photographic works.
- What qualifies a public work?

Assignment: Find a public work(preferably a photograph) that you like and correctly critic it.

#### **\*\*18. Documentary Photography\*\***

- Characteristics and objectives of documentary photography
- Analysis of iconic documentary photographs
- Introduction to Dorthea Lange's work and Assign Project

Assignment: Watch a documentary on documentary photographer and what you think about it.

#### **\*\*19. Presentation and Artist Statements\*\***

- Techniques for presenting digital and print photography
- Importance of artist statements and their components

Assignment: Write your artist statement

#### **\*\*20-23. Photoshop/Lightroom\*\***

- Introduction to Basic Photoshop and Lightroom skills

- Advanced techniques in Photoshop and Lightroom
- Project work: Applying Photoshop and Lightroom skills to Dorthea Lange-inspired project

**\*\*24-25.\*\*** Chatbooks

- Introduction on how to present works in book format.
- Create book using Dorthea Lange Photos

**\*\*26.Project Completion and Presentation\*\***

- Finalization of Dorthea Lange project
- Presentation of projects with artist statements

**\*\*27-30\*\*** Pop Art and Photos

- Create a work of art that records, for future generations, something important about you, your world today, your life, and your beliefs. Accompany it with an artist statement.
- Art Portraits with Pop Art