

ART 62- R. BRETH SYLLABUS Spring 2017

DESCRIPTION

Exploration and use of various historical, contemporary, and non-traditional applications of silver- and non-silver-based photographic processes, including mixed media. Students produce photo-based imagery using a variety of materials in non-traditional presentations.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this class you will be able to:

1. Assemble a book containing examples and procedures of various alternative photographic processes.
2. Conceive and execute a nontraditional presentation of pieces that use alternative photographic processes.
3. Demonstrate critical aesthetic judgments regarding composition, visual literacy, and the creative process to produce artworks that use alternative photographic processes.

CONTENT

You will:

1. Assemble a book containing examples and procedures of various alternative photographic processes.
2. Conceive and execute a nontraditional presentation of pieces that use alternative photographic processes.

Objectives:

1. Explore alternative photographic processes to create nontraditional photographic imagery.
2. Combine alternative photographic processes and methods to create images in nontraditional media.
3. Experiment with materials such as fabric, wood and specialized papers to create photographic images.
4. Investigate use of unusual, outdated or self-made cameras to produce photographic images.
5. Produce large-format negatives with darkroom and/or digital methodology.
6. Create a range of photographic colors through hand coloring and various toning techniques.
7. Identify concepts and trends in contemporary photography.

Topics and Scope

1. Study of materials and techniques in alternative photography
 - a. Hand-applied emulsions such as Cyanotype (week 5, 6, 7) & Liquid Light
 - b. Pinhole and other nontraditional cameras (week 3, 4)
 - c. Photograms (week 1, 2, 3)
 - d. Magazine print-through and transfers (week 2, 3)
 - e. Lith-film, photocopier and digital negatives (6, 7)
 - f. Toning solutions (week 8)
 - g. Traditional and non-traditional papers (all semester)
 - h. Sabattier effect (week 9, 10)

- i. Historical Overview (all semester)
- j. Bookbinding (week 11, 12)
- 2. Portfolios, presentations and critiques (all semester)
- 3. Photo chemicals (all semester)

BASIC GUIDELINES:

- * considerate and courteous behavior in the photo facilities and during lectures and critiques
- * no cell phone usage in photo lab or class room, please use the hall to make your calls

ATTENDANCE / PARTICIPATION / PUNCTUALITY:

- * absences beyond two excused absences will lower your grade
- * habitual tardiness or leaving early will affect your grade
- * taking notes is a form of participation as well

READING & TAKING NOTES

- * you will be expected to have read some on-line text BEFORE class with the expectation that you work on a presentation or intro.
- * you are expected to take notes and read relevant chapters in your 'web handouts' or actual handouts.

CLASS FORMAT:

We start with a brief critique of work done in last class, then I will go over the next topic/ experiment followed by a demonstration. After that lab will continue until 4:15, lab closes at that time, pls be ready to leave the darkroom after you have helped clean up darkroom and classroom. Please help the custodian by putting chairs on the table before you leave.

As the semester progresses many processes will be worked on by different people. Dates are somewhat flexible, because we also depend on sunshine and good weather.

NOTEBOOK

- * you are keeping a detailed notebook with examples of all the processes and tests, this will be your future textbook. it is your responsibility to read about respective topics in your text handout/and or on-line reading assignment, as well as printing out info from the Art 62 homepage, relevant info you researched and collecting these pages in your notebook.

TAKING NOTES:

This will be a major part of your grade and since taking notes is a form of participation here are some tips:

Try to capture the main ideas of each story in your notes, and train yourself to filter out unnecessary detail.

An excellent technique for taking better notes is to develop a personalized shorthand notation system. This strategy allows you to quickly record words and ideas without taking the time to write them out in their entirety.

You can also abbreviate long words after their first use (e.g., abbr.) and omit simple articles or prepositional phrases to further decrease the amount of writing in your notes. Remember, there are no hard and fast rules for developing a shorthand system, except that it must make sense to you.

Comparing your notes with those of a classmate, referencing the lecture to the relevant

chapters in your textbook, or talking with the professor directly are all good ways to supplement your notes. Ideally, this review should be done within a few hours of class, but never more than 24 hours after the lecture.

TESTS AND EXAMS

The final for this class consists of an alternative presentation of work that was done for this class. Only rarely will the "Matted Fine Print" approach apply to the final presentation. This will be explained in class.

GRADING

- * on-time attendance, participation 25 points
- * final notebook with examples40 points
- * final presentation 35 points

Total: 100 points 100-90 = A, 89-80 = B, 79-70 = C, 69-60 =D

TEXTBOOK

You will "write" your "textbook" by taking excellent notes, collecting info from various sources, keeping swatches of tests etc., gather material from experiments you did, even if something "failed". Your notebook is part of your class outcome and will be assessed as part of your grade. The idea is that you will, now or in the future, be able to go to your notebook, re-trace your steps and be able to perform these processes successfully, using notes, references and swatches.

MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES

I will provide a lot of the materials for demonstration and initial experimentation, such as good watercolor paper, emulsions, outdated and some new fiber paper.

You will supply materials for your final project yourself.