Instructor: Michael J. Shupe (but you can call me Mike)
Class Room: Walker 116 Photography Lab: Walker 111
Meeting Times: Class: 12:35 PM - 1:50 PM
Office Hours: Monday 12-1, Tuesday 11-12:30, Thursday 11-12:30
Office: 147
Office Phone:
E-mail address: mjshupe@mtu.edu

Course Description:
This course is designed to give you a solid foundation in photography from which to build a hobby or a career. During this course, you will become familiar with basic photographic equipment, with what to look for and what factors to consider when taking a picture, how to develop a negative and how to take that negative through a final print ready for exhibition or publishing. To participate in this course you must own or have available a camera with fully adjustable f-stops and shutter speeds, and have a manual mode for setting each of these. Point and shoot cameras are not acceptable for this course, nor are automatic cameras that do not allow fully manual operation.

Goals and Objectives:
1. To be able to visualize a scene in terms of an achievable final photograph before ever exposing a frame, and to consider composition and lighting to help you achieve your goals.
2. To be able to competently develop usable negatives, and to develop an understanding of the development process to allow you to determine which methods best suit your desired results.
3. To learn how to develop contact sheets, to allow you to select usable frames, and to be able to determine which frames are usable and which are not.
4. To learn how to make initial prints and make decisions on how to improve them until they become acceptable final prints.
5. To make final prints with full knowledge of their archival qualities.
6. To learn how to display a print in consideration of industry conventions and practices.
7. To gain the insight to know whether a photograph is good or bad.

Methods:
During this course, you will be attending lectures, viewing demonstrations, reading about photography and its practices and performing the processes of photography. These combined methods of learning will give you a strong foundation in photography from which you can branch out into more complex or specialized processes of photography with confidence.

Books:

Grading:
You must complete all assignments to receive a passing grade in this course. Students are allowed to miss two classes per
quarter; subsequent absences will affect your final grade.

15% Attendance and Class Participation
20% Written Responses to Photos in textbook or other photographs
25% Five Weekly Photo Projects
40% Final Photo Essay and Portfolio (including written essay)

MTU’s Policy on Discrimination and Harassment:
MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. If you have a disability and need reasonable accommodation for equal access to education and services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Associate Dean of Students (7-2212). For other concern about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office (7-3310).

MTU’s Policy on Academic Integrity
Plagiarism and cheating are serious academic offenses. MTU’s Academic Integrity Policy defines it as “knowingly copying another’s work or ideas and calling them one’s own or not giving proper credit or citation,” and it covers copying sections or entire papers from printed or electronic sources as well as handing in papers written by students for other classes or purchasing academic papers. Plagiarism and cheating not only are dishonest but cheat you out of learning, the primary reason you are here. If you ever have any questions about this issue, please talk with your instructor or consult a coach in the Writing Center (7-2007).

Class Assignments:
• Each Chapter we read has two or more full page Ansel Adams photos with an introduction from him for each. Choose one of these plates for each reading assignment and write 1-2 pages. If these plates bore you, you may choose a substitute photo, but you must include a copy of the photo with your assignment. In each of these writings, you should be considering attributes of the photo such as lighting, composition, effect on viewer, and thinking about what you can learn from the photo to apply to your own work.
• During the later weeks of the term, you will be doing weekly photo assignments in an established genre of photography. These photo styles include Photograms, Landscapes and Architecture, Action Photography, Portraits, and Product Photography. In addition you will also do a Photographer’s Choice assignment, in which you can do whatever you want, and I encourage you to shoot a variety of subjects and styles for this project. Most of these assignments will require 3-5 finished prints. The photographer’s choice assignment suggests 3-10 finished prints. Mounting is not necessary for these assignments. Simply turn in your shots in a folder.
• A Photo Essay will be due in the last week of class along with a portfolio of your previous work. The Photo Essay should consist of 12-16 ordered shots that are mounted (dry mounted or hinged—dry mounted is easier) on a single topic or theme or in a single style. The photo essay should be accompanied by 3-5 pages discussing your subject, your shooting techniques, and anything else of interest pertaining to the photographs. View this project as if you were writing and photographing an article, but don’t forget to include your shooting techniques and details, as well as any problems that you encountered.
• The Photo Essay should be turned in as a part of a Portfolio that includes one of your best shots from each of the previous weekly assignments. These shots from the previous weekly assignments should be mounted in the same way as your photo essay for this final portfolio. Package the portfolio nicely as presentation cannot be separated from content, and will obviously affect your grade. These final portfolios are due the last day of class, Thursday, Nov. 11.
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<td><strong>Week 1</strong>&lt;br&gt;9/7, 9/9</td>
<td>Opening Stuff: intros, camera requirements, fill out contact cards. Assignment: Read Chap 1, do plate critique for one featured image in Chap 1.</td>
<td>Discuss: Overview of film, paper, camera types. Assignment: Read Chap 2, do plate critique for one of the featured images in chap 2.</td>
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<td><strong>Week 2</strong>&lt;br&gt;9/14, 9/16</td>
<td>Discuss: Darkroom, photograms, test strips, contact sheets, contrast grades, dodge and burn, paper proc. Assignment: Read Chapter 8, do plate critique</td>
<td>Discuss: Darkroom cont. Paper processing continued, film processing. Darkroom Demo. Assignment: Read Chap. 7, do plate critique</td>
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<td><strong>Week 3</strong>&lt;br&gt;9/21, 9/23</td>
<td>Discuss: Camera Body and Lens construction, concept of exposure and aperture. Assign: Read Chap. 3, do plate critique Assignment: Photograms (3-5), due Tues. 9/28</td>
<td>Discuss: Finish aperture, Shutter Speed No reading or writing assignment</td>
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<td><strong>Week 4</strong>&lt;br&gt;9/28, 9/30</td>
<td>Discuss: Metering Assign: Read Chap. 6, pp. 153-161, do plate critique for first half of chap 6. Assign: Landscapes (3-5), due Tues. 10/5</td>
<td>Discuss: Finish Metering, Lenses Assign: Refresh yourself on lenses section of Chap. 3 No writing assignment</td>
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<td><strong>Week 5</strong>&lt;br&gt;10/5, 10/7</td>
<td>Discuss: Focusing Assign: Read Chap 4, do plate critique Assign: Action Shots (3-5) due Tues 10/12 (freeze, blur and pan)</td>
<td>Discuss: Film Assign: Read Chap. 6, pp. 161-189, do plate critique</td>
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<td><strong>Week 6</strong>&lt;br&gt;10/12, 10/14</td>
<td>Discuss: Filters Assign: Read Chap. 5, do plate critique Assign: Portraits (3-5), due Tues. 10/19</td>
<td>Discuss: Composition and Visualization Bring in magazine photos to class for composition discussion on Tues. good and bad. No reading or writing assignment</td>
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<td><strong>Week 7</strong>&lt;br&gt;10/19, 10/21</td>
<td>Discuss: Finish Composition Discuss students' photos in groups. What makes good composition? What can ruin it? Assign: Product shots (3-5), due Tues 10/26</td>
<td>Discuss: Finish discussing product shots, discuss lighting Bring in magazine/catalog photos to critique and diagram lighting.</td>
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<td><strong>Week 8</strong>&lt;br&gt;10/26, 10/28</td>
<td>Discuss: Group diagram and critique of lighting in magazine shots. Finish Lighting Assign: Photographer's choice (3-10) shots on whatever you like, due Tues. 11/2</td>
<td>Catch up. Discuss: Photographer's choice assignment</td>
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<td><strong>Week 9</strong>&lt;br&gt;11/2, 11/4</td>
<td>Catch up and Misc. Topics Assign: Photo Essay, 12-16 shots on a theme plus 3-5 written pages. Due Thurs. 11/11</td>
<td>Discuss Portfolios, mounted photos from previous assignments, plus mounted photos from Photo Essay, and text together. Due. Thurs. 11/11</td>
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<td><strong>Week 10</strong>&lt;br&gt;11/9, 11/11</td>
<td>Work on Photo Essay</td>
<td>Photo Essays due. Good-byes and discuss opportunity for Darkroom assistants next term.</td>
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