Instructor: Michael J. Shupe (but you can call me Mike)
Class Room: Walker 116 Photography Lab: Walker 111
Meeting Times: Tues., Thurs.: 12:35PM - 1:55PM
Office Hours: Before Christmas: Tues., Thurs. 9AM-11AM; After Christmas: Mon., Weds. 3:30PM-5:30PM
Office: Walker 147
Office Phone: 487-3276
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, with a whole lot more study, a career. During this course, you will become familiar basic photographic equipment, with what to look for in a composition, what factors to consider when taking a picture, how to develop negatives and how to take a negative through a final print ready for exhibition. 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 gain an understanding of the development process to allow you to determine which methods best suit your desired results.
3. To learn how to create contact sheets to allow you to select usable frames and how 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 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 standard conventions and practices.

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
25% Written Responses to Photos in textbook or other photographs
25% Weekly Photo Projects
35% 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 (or an alternate photo from the chapter, if you prefer) each week (due on Thursdays) and write 1-2 pages. Be sure to include the page number of your photo. 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. The first will be Photograms, which are intended to familiarize you with darkroom work. You will then choose 4 of these five categories in an established genre of photography, and complete a group of photos in each, weekly. These photo styles include Landscapes, Architecture, Action Photography, Portraits, 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. These assignments will require 3-5 finished prints—if they are perfect, you can get away with 3, with less than perfect work, you better try to make up for it with quantity!). The photographer’s choice assignment should be 5-7 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 8-12 ordered shots that are mounted (dry mounted or hinged—dry mounted is much easier) on a single topic or theme or in a single style. These should all be mounted on the same size boards, to make your presentation more consistent. 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.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Opening Stuff: intros, camera requirements, fill out contact cards. Assignment: Read Chap 1</td>
<td>Discuss: Overview of film, paper, camera types. Assignment: Read Chap 2, plate critique due</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Discuss: Darkroom, photograms, test strips, contact sheets, contrast grades, dodge and burn, paper proc. Assignment: Read Chapter 8</td>
<td>Discuss: Darkroom cont. Paper processing continued, film processing. Darkroom Demo. Assignment: Read Chap. 7, plate critique due</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Discuss: Camera Body and Lens construction, concept of exposure and aperture. Assign: Read Chap. 3 Assign: Photograms (3-5)</td>
<td>Discuss: Finish aperture, Shutter Speed Assignment: Plate critique due</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Discuss: Metering Assign: Read Chap. 6, pp. 153-161, do plate critique for first half of chap 6. Assign: Discuss Landscapes Assignment</td>
<td>Discuss: Finish Metering, Lenses Assign: Refresh yourself on lenses section of Chap. 3 Photograms Due</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Discuss: Focusing Assign: Read Chap 4, do plate critique Assign: Discuss Action Shots Assignment (freeze, blur and pan)</td>
<td>Discuss: Film Assign: Read Chap. 6, pp. 161-189, plate critique due, Weekly Photo Assignment Due</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Discuss: Filters Assign: Read Chap. 5, do plate critique Assign: Discuss Portraits Assignment</td>
<td>Discuss: Composition and Visualization Bring magazine photos to class for composition discussion on Tues. Weekly Photo Assignment Due</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Discuss: Finish Composition Discuss students' photos in groups. What makes good composition? What can ruin it? Assign: Discuss Product Shots Assignment</td>
<td>Discuss: Finish discussing product shots, discuss lighting; Bring in magazine/catalog photos to critique and diagram lighting. Weekly Photo Assignment due</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Discuss: Group diagram and critique of lighting in magazine shots. Finish Lighting Assign: Discuss Photographers choice Assignment</td>
<td>Catch up. Weekly Photo Assignment due</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Catch up and Misc. Topics Assign: Photo Essay, 8-12 shots on a theme plus 3-5 written pages.</td>
<td>Photographers Choice Assignment due</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Work on Photo Essay/Catch up</td>
<td>Photo Essays due. Good-byes and discuss opportunity for Darkroom assistants next Fall.</td>
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