HU 2631 Fundamentals of Photography
Syllabus - Summer A Track 2007
Instructor: Brian Parmeter
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Office: 331 Walker
Office hours: Monday and Wednesday, 1:00 to 2:00pm, by appointment

HU2631, Fundamentals of Photography, will introduce you to the basics of black and white film photography.

Course Requirements:

1. Attend and participate in class discussion and lab demonstrations.
2. Complete all tests and assignments.

Grading:

The course is comprised of three main sections: 1-Technique, 2-Visual Literacy, and 3-Photo Essay. Your final grade will be the average of the three section grades (30% each) - the remaining 10% will be based on attendance and participation in class discussion.

In addition to practical photographic projects, there will also be several writing assignments. Written assignments are to be typed with your name and the assignment title at the top of the page. All photo assignments should be delivered in an 8.5 x 11 envelope with your name and assignment title clearly indicated. Assignments turned in after 5:00 pm on the due date will be docked one letter grade. No assignments will be accepted more than three working days after the due date (except with medical documentation in the case of legitimate illness).

There will be one quiz in section 1, and a final section exam for sections 1 and 2.

Section one: Technique

This section will be hands on. You will learn:
the basic operation of your camera and lens(es) (Schaefer text chapters 2 and 3)
silver-halide film design (chapter 4)
how to properly expose and process film (chapters 6 and 7)
how to make contact sheets and prints. (chapter 8)

Section two: Visual Literacy

This section will familiarize you with the basics of photographic composition and the language of photographic critique.
Section three: Final project - Photo Essay

The topic for your final project, a photo essay, will be determined no later than June 1st. The due date for the final project is Thursday, June 28th at 3:30pm. I'll provide detailed instructions/requirements on the Photo Essay as we begin the section on Visual Literacy.

Calendar:
Weeks 1 and 2, theory and design of 35mm cameras, lenses, and film. Introduction to photo essays.
Week 3, intro to the darkroom including film processing and storage, contact sheets and black and white printing.
Weeks 4, 5, and 6, photographic composition and visual literacy

I reserve the right to alter the calendar in order to accommodate the needs of the class.

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*Presenting others' work as your own or failing to appropriately credit resources is plagiarism, which can lead to academic probation or dismissal from the university. If you have any questions about this issue, please talk to me or consult with a coach in the Writing Center at 487-2007.