HU 2631 Fundamentals of Photography
Syllabus - Summer 2008
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HU 2631, 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. Note: if you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and make up any assignments.
2. Complete all tests and assignments. Please note that each assignment will have a very specific set of instructions. Your ability to follow these instructions is an important aspect of the assignment and will be considered in determining your grade for the assignment.

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 3:30 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)
- film design and theory (chapter 4)
- how to properly expose, document, and process film (chapters 6 and 7)
- how to make contact sheets and prints. (chapter 8)
- film log documentation

Section two: Visual Literacy

This section will familiarize you with the basics of photographic composition and the language of photographic critique.

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Section three: Final project - Photo Essay

The topic for your final project, a photo essay, will be determined no later than week 3.

Please note - very important: Determining the subject and intent of your Final Photo Essay is a very important part of the project. You will submit an initial proposal, and through a process of refinement (often three or four drafts), you will eventually receive a final copy which I will sign and date. You must include this signed/dated final proposal with your essay.

The due date for the Final Photo Essay is Thursday, June 26th, 3:30pm. I'll provide detailed instructions/requirements on the Photo Essay as we begin the section on Visual Literacy.

*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 the Student Affairs Office at 487-2212. For other concerns about discrimination, contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office at 487-2007.

*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.