HU 2631 Fundamentals of Photography
Syllabus - Spring 2009
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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-a project: 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 numerous writing assignments. Written assignments should 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, and the time and date of submittal. 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). You have the option to re-do shooting assignments to improve your score. Re-do’s are due three business days after they are returned to you. The highest score possible on a re-do is a B (8pts). The re-do option does not apply to the final Photo Essay.

There will be one quiz in section 1, and a final 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 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 week 8. The due date for the final project is Friday, April 24th, 4:00pm.
Calendar:

Week 1 General class info and an intro to 35mm slr cameras

Week 2 Lenses, Depth of Field, Shutter speeds

Week 3 Professional Presentation: Jeff Harrington, President, Popular Front, Minneapolis
   www.popularfront.com

Week 4 Intro to Film, (Group 1, film development demo/Group 2, Bill Allard video)

Week 5 Exposure Calculation (Group 2, film development demo/Group 1, Bill Allard video)

Week 6 Technique Quiz (Group 2, Printing demo/Group 1, Mary Ellen Mark video)

Week 7 Discussion of Final Projects (Group 1, Printing demo/Group 2, Mary Ellen Mark video)

Week 8 Technique Final, begin Composition section - Rule of Thirds/Center of Interest

Week 9 Line

Week 10 Perspective

Week 11 Texture & Contrast

Week 12 Balance & Proportion,

Week 13 Critical Moment, Form

Week 14 Composition Final. Final Photo Essay due Friday, April 24th, 4:00 pm

* 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.