HU2631 Fundamentals of Darkroom Photography
MTWR 11:05-12:25 Walker 134
Instructor: Brian Parmeter
Email: bdparm@mtu.edu
Office: Walker 313
Syllabus draft - Summer 2011

HU2631, Fundamentals of Photography, will introduce you to the basics of photographic composition, black and white film technique, and the language of photographic critique.

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.
3. Read all relevant chapters in textbook: Photography (London, Stone, Upton)

Grading:
The course is comprised of three main sections:
1- Technique
2- Visual Literacy
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. Writing will be graded on content and mechanics (grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc)
All photo assignments should be delivered in an 8.5 x 11 envelope with your name and assignment title clearly indicated. Late assignments 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) (Chapters 1 and 3)
film design and theory (Chapter 4)
how to properly expose, document, and process film (Chapters 4 and 5)
how to make contact sheets and prints. (Chapter 6)
storage and film log (in class, and page 210)
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 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 finished essay.

The due date for the Final Photo Essay is Thursday, June 23rd, in class. I'll provide detailed instructions/requirements on the Photo Essay as we begin the section on Visual Literacy.

Note: This Syllabus may change throughout the semester to accommodate the needs of the class.

University Policies

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http://www.studentaffairs.mtu.edu/dean/judicial/policies/academic_integrity.html

Affirmative Programs Office:  
http://www.admin.mtu.edu/aap/

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