Photographic Vision

ART - 1320 001

Course Description

Photographic expression and visual composition are explored through image capture and printing assignments. Emphasis placed on creative exploration, personal expression, and visual arrangement of content.

Prerequisite: ART 1310 or ART 1050 w/C grade or better (either may be taken concurrently)

Semester: Summer

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Analyze and assess photographs by skillfully implementing critique techniques.
- Implement the elements and principles of traditional visual composition into their photographic images.
- Illustrate perspectives, contexts, and narratives as they pertain to the discipline of photography.
- Apply apertures and shutter speeds as controllers of photographic composition/vision.
- Apply techniques to overcome creative block and examine visual creativity.
- Explain their personal visual goals and performance-based practices.
- Identify creative contributions made by photographers and artists.
- Develop a personal style and philosophy to produce original photographs that creatively tell stories.

Engagement Plan

"Learn the rules like a pro, so you can break them like an artist." — Pablo Picasso

"We all know that Art is not truth. Art is a lie that makes us realize truth at least the truth that is given us to understand. The artist must know the manner whereby to convince others of the truthfulness of his lies." — Pablo Picasso

Keys for Success (how to succeed in the course)

Complete the work. Be honest and open-minded. Do your best.

"Enjoy the process, there is no crescendo." - Former Park City Mayor Jack Thomas

Required Text or Materials

Title: Tao of Photography: Seeing Beyond Seeing
Authors: Philippe L. Gross , S.I. Shapiro

For more information on textbook accessibility, contact Accessibility & Disability Services at ads@slcc.edu.

Brief Description of Assignments/Exams

Photographic expression and visual composition are explored through image capture. Emphasis placed on creative exploration, personal style, and visual storytelling.

Students will explore the art principles of composition and design, the creative process, brainstorming for ideas, problem-solving and creating solutions. Practical and creative applications of these elements will be emphasized and performed during assignments and exercises. Students will perform these exercises through making photographs, research, reflection and class discussions. Personal expression and techniques are explored through various text reading and projects. Students will gain a better understanding and appreciation of the art of photography and will learn to explore their creative potential.

Note: Assignments and due dates are subject to change.

Assignment Schedule

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
	[Cliches and More Photo Assignment](#)	Discussion	0
	[Roll Call Attendance](#)	Assignment	100
8/28/25	[Class Google Album Contract](#)	Assignment	5
8/28/25	[VAD Fieldtrip Waiver](#)	Assignment	5
8/28/25	[Syllabus Quiz](#)	Quiz	20
9/9/25	[In-Class Photos: Vision Board](#)	Assignment	15
9/16/25	[R1: Tao of Photography](#)	Assignment	15
12/9/25	[Final Project- Series](#)	Assignment	80
12/16/25	[Attend Outside Class Art Shows and Event/Lecture/Documentary Movie](#)	Assignment	15

Grading Scale

A = 100 − 93 A- = 93 − 90 B+ = 90 − 87 B = 87 − 83 B- = 83 − 80 C+ = 80 − 77

C = 77 − 73 C- = 73 − 70 D+ = 70 − 67 D = 67 − 63 D- = 63 − 60 E = 60 - 0

Final Project: 15%

Weekly Exercises: 30%

Photography Assignments: 35%

Textbook and Written Assignments: 10%

Class Attendance and Productive Participation: 10%

Additional Policies

Instructor's Policies:

- All late assignments will be marked down 10%. Assignments can be turned in up to 3 weeks late. Some assignments will not be accepted late. These will be explained in class. Photography assignments can be reworked for a better grade within a two week period.

- Extra credit may be possible, but only if all required work has been performed first.

- Please no cell phones, children, or any other distractions in class. (Special needs are accommodated through the DRC.).

- All missed information must be obtained from another student. The instructor will not repeat lectures or assignment requirements.

- Attendance is required. Lectures and demos will not be given twice. It is the student's responsibility to obtain any missed information from other students. Students receive 3 excused absences. Leaving class early applies to the attendance policy as a tardy or absence.

- All SLCC student/instructor codes/guidelines must be followed throughout the course.

- If the student is unable to complete the course, it is his/her responsibility to officially withdraw before deadline. Failure to do so will result in a failing grade.

- When class meets in the computer lab (3-203), assigned seating is required to save previous computer work.

- The Visual Art and Design Department Attendance Policy apply to this course.

Visual Art & Design Department Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend all classes in which they are enrolled on a regular and punctual basis. Failure to do so seems to indicate that the student is not serious about

his or her education. Students, who are absent for more than 20% of the class periods in a semester, may receive an "E" grade for the course. In addition to absences, tardiness should also be avoided. 3 Tardies = 1 Absence. If you are having attendance issues, please discuss your concerns with the instructor.

Photography Rules:

- Students must perform their own work throughout the course. Plagiarism is unacceptable and will result in an automatic failing grade for the assignment.
- Photographs turned in must be made by student and current. No old photos will be accepted and will result in an automatic fail for the assignment.
- No cell phone photos!
- Photos from the field trips can't be turned in for the larger photography assignments.
- No hate speech.

Classroom Rules

- Read Critically
- Write Consciously
- Speak Clearly
- Tell your Truth*

*From Clint Smith, Harvard UniversityLinks to an external site.

- Listen actively and respect others when they are talking. Remain mindful to their story, comments, or responses. Do not begin formulating your response while they are talking.
- Do not be afraid to respectfully challenge one another by asking questions, but refrain from personal attacks -- focus on ideas and respect.
- Participate to the fullest of your ability -- community growth depends on the inclusion of every individual voice. But please do not dominate the conversation.
- The goal is not necessarily to agree -- but it is to gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of those with differing viewpoints/beliefs.

- Be conscious of body language and nonverbal responses. They can be as disrespectful as words.

- Show compassion, mindfulness and respect.

- There will not be personal judgment of anyone's feelings about a particular issue.

- Privacy: what is shared during class is private and confidential. Students and instructor should respect the privacy of the shared personal information of the class participants.

How to Navigate to Canvas

Institutional Policies

As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, and grading policies, Title IX and other important acknowledgements. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

For more information, navigate to the Institutional Policies tab on the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page.

Learning Support and Tutoring Services

We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, visit the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

Advising and Counseling Support Services

At our institution, we are committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advising and counseling services to help you navigate the challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, visit the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page under the Advising and Counseling Support Services tab. Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to support you in achieving your goals and overcoming any obstacles you may face.

Student Academic Calendar

As students you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar below:

[SLCC Student Academic Calendar](#)

Course Objectives

- Develop personal style and philosophy as a photographer and artist.
- Identify and seek creative contributions made by photographers/artists.
- Understand perspective, context and narratives in relation to photography.
- Apply knowledge to make original photographs using personal style, storytelling and creative exploration.