

# PHOTOGRAPHY I

## I. Course Description:

An introductory course that covers the basic principles of black and white photography including equipment selection and use, image processing (wet and/or digital darkrooms), and the aesthetic concerns as a Fine Art medium. Framing, composition and exposure control for both traditional and/or digital equipment will be covered as well as an overview of the history of photography and its content as both a commercial medium and form of artistic expression. Basic manipulation skills and output will be linked to the technology utilized.

## II. Prerequisite:

Coursework: 2-D Design

Equipment: Please check with the instructor before signing up for the class to make sure you have, or get, the proper equipment.  
A camera with manual focus and controls, either traditional or digital. A single lens reflex (SLR) is preferred but other types are acceptable.

Accessories: A quality tripod is strongly suggested and its use is encouraged.

## III. Credit Hours:

Three (3) A studio class meeting six (6) clock hours per week

## IV. Media:

This course may explore both traditional and digital photographic formats including both wet and digital darkrooms to generate images.

## V. Concepts and skills should include but not be limited to:

- Photography as a medium of artistic expression where critical thought occurs through the lens
- Learn to use technical and compositional means to make photographs more effective when dealing with a variety of subject matter.
- Develop familiarity with the characteristics of light sensitive materials, exploring the camera and its functions as a tool for producing effective photographs.
- To identify and discuss the history of photography; the people ideas and trends relevant to photography.
- Develop a working knowledge of basic traditional and/or digital black and white materials and processes.
- Develop skills and attitudes consistent with becoming a professional photographer.
- Develop and maintain a quality photographic portfolio.

## VI. Critical Analysis:

Appropriate evaluation of the integration of design and technique, form, content and artistic intent.  
Discussion of the basic characteristics of the tools and materials of the medium of expressive black and white photography as well as critical issues common to most workers in the profession.  
Class and individual critiques.

## VII. Historical Reference:

Overview of significant inventions and innovations in photography  
Overview of historic photography

## VIII. Suggested References:

*A Short Course in Photography*, London and Stone    *Seizing the Light*, Hirsch  
*Photography*, Stone    *Criticizing Photography*, Barrett  
*Introduction to Digital Photography*, Ciaglia    *Creative Digital Printmaking*, Airey

There is an expectation that all studio-based courses include appropriate instruction in the health and safety issues relative to the methods of the course and the materials being used.

Adopted by IHEAA, 10/10/03

Endorsed by IAI Art Major Panel, \_\_\_\_\_

The Illinois Higher Education (IHEAA) and the IAI Art Major Panel both recognize that each discipline within the an art program has specific objectives that are routinely formulated by each faculty member during the course of teaching a class. It is not the intention of these skills and content outlines to impose specific course objectives or approach or to prescribe projects which is the domain of each individual instructor. These skills and content outlines, however, are intended to suggest a set of minimum expectations or standards from which specific individual objectives and approaches can be developed. Instructors may provide additional experiences, content and skills, but they should cover what is outlined to assure continuity among courses with similar titles.