

Art Photography A/B

Immaculate Heart High School

Ms. Mart

2011-2012

Syllabus

I. Course Description

Art Photography A/B is a digital photography course integrating both the practice and the historical context of photography as a fine art medium. In this class, students will explore composition, technique, and the possibilities for self-expression by observing and recording the world around them through the camera's lens. Students will also learn technical skills pertaining to digital photography and computer photo editing software such as Photoshop.

The course will fulfill the California Board of Education Standards for Proficiency in the Visual Arts for each of the following criteria:

1.0 Artistic Perception: Processing, Analyzing, and Responding to Sensory Information Through the Language and Skills Unique to the Visual Arts

Students perceive and respond to works of art, objects in nature, events, and the environment. They also use the vocabulary of the visual arts to express their observations.

Develop Perceptual Skills and Visual Arts Vocabulary

1.1 Identify and use the principles of design to discuss, analyze, and write about visual aspects in the environment and in works of art, including their own.

1.2 Describe the principles of design as used in works of art, focusing on dominance and subordination.

2.0 Creative Expression: Skills, Processes, Materials, and Tools

2.1 Solve a visual arts problem that involves the effective use of the elements of art and the principles of design.

2.2 Prepare a portfolio of original two- and three-dimensional works of art that reflects refined craftsmanship and technical skills.

2.3 Develop and refine skill in the manipulation of digital imagery (either still or video).

Communication and Expression through Original Works of Art

2.5 Create an expressive composition, focusing on dominance and subordination.

2.6 Create a two or three-dimensional work of art that addresses a social issue.

3.0 Historical and Cultural Context

Understanding the Historical Contributions and Cultural Dimensions of the Visual Arts

Students analyze the role and development of the visual arts in past and present cultures throughout the world, noting human diversity as it relates to the visual arts and artists.

Role and Development of the Visual Arts

3.2 Identify and describe the role and influence of new technologies on contemporary works of art.

Diversity of the Visual Arts

3.3 Identify and describe trends in the visual arts and discuss how the issues of time, place, and cultural influence are reflected in selected works of art.

3.4 Discuss the purposes of art in selected contemporary cultures.

4.0 Aesthetic Valuing

Responding to, Analyzing, and Making Judgments About Works in the Visual Arts

Students analyze, assess, and derive meaning from works of art, including their own, according to the elements of art, the principles of design, and aesthetic qualities.

Derive Meaning

4.1 Articulate how personal beliefs, cultural traditions, and current social, economic, and political contexts influence the interpretation of the meaning or message in a work of art.

4.2 Compare the ways in which the meaning of a specific work of art has been affected over time because of changes in interpretation and context.

Make Informed Judgments

4.3 Formulate and support a position regarding the aesthetic value of a specific work of art and change or defend that position after considering the views of others.

4.4 Articulate the process and rationale for refining and reworking one of their own works of art.

4.5 Employ the conventions of art criticism in writing and speaking about works of art.

5.0 Connections, Relationships, Applications

Connecting and Applying What Is Learned in the Visual Arts to Other Art Forms and Subject Areas and to Careers

Students apply what they learn in the visual arts across subject areas. They develop competencies and creative skills in problem solving, communication, and management of time and resources that contribute to lifelong learning and career skills. They also learn about careers in and related to the visual arts.

Connections and Applications

5.2 Create a work of art that communicates a cross-cultural or universal theme taken from literature or history.

Source: *Nine through Twelve – Proficient: Visual Arts Content Standards* (CA Department of Education).

II. Classroom Expectations

Preparedness: It is absolutely necessary that you bring your camera, connector cable, and your USB drive to class each and every day; unpreparedness negatively affects participation grades.

Required Materials: The lab fee covers most materials used during the class, including printing and mounting materials for the art show. Students will also be required to supply their own camera with Av/A (Aperture Priority) and Tv/S (Shutter Priority) modes, and basic school supplies including a USB drive and notebook dedicated to photography.

Assignments: All projects and homework are expected to be turned in, completed, on the due date. Any assignment turned in late will not receive full credit.

Web Page: The class page will list assignment details and due dates, as well as links to helpful online technical resources and photographic inspiration.

Participation: Every student is expected to participate respectfully in class discussions and in critiques of peer work. Documenting campus life is an integral part of this class. Students will contribute photos to the yearbook, helping to achieve a widely representative view of life at Immaculate Heart.

Academic Integrity: All images must be original work **produced for and during the duration of the class.** Your work must be your own. Plagiarism consists of using someone else's images or words without giving that person due credit. Any assignment turned in that shows reasonable cause to suspect plagiarism will earn a zero.

Classroom Policies: Students are expected to be in their seats at the beginning of the period when the bell rings. Food and drink of any kind are prohibited in the computer lab as they can cause

serious damage to the computers, as well as for sanitary reasons. Students are expected to follow all guidelines set forth in the Immaculate Heart High School handbook, as well as to act respectfully and maturely at all times. Internet use is allowed only as relevant for the class; please refer to the school's internet use agreement for details on allowed or prohibited sites.

Absences: If you are absent on a critique day, expect to present your work the day you return to class. Excessive absences lower participation grades.

III. Grading Policy:

Quarter and semester grades are based on a combination of project and assignment grades, and participation grades. Projects and assignments include both photographic and written assignments, as well as one presentation given in the Fall semester. Grading rubrics will be provided when an assignment for a major project is given. Good participation grades are earned by contributing to class discussions and critiques on a regular basis, and by coming prepared to class.

Grades will be calculated on a point system based on the accumulation of points earned out of the total possible, with major assignments (such as presentations and portfolios) being worth 100 points each, smaller assignments (such as projects) worth 50, and individual homework assignments worth 10-20.

Weekly grades will be assigned based on participation, out of 10 points for the week. This grade will be worth 20% of the final grade. Participation grades are determined based on how well a student follows classroom rules, her attendance, her behavior and focus during class, and her participation in classroom activities.

Grading Scale:

98-100 A+	87-89 B+	77-79 C+	67-69 D+	0-59 F
93-97 A	83-86 B	73-76 C	63-66 D	
90-92 A-	80-82 B-	70-72 C-	60-62 D-	

IV. Course Timeline:

First quarter: Getting Started

- Principles of Art and Design
- Digital Basics
- Composition
- Manual settings
- Introduction to the digital darkroom

Second quarter: Exploring Through the Lens

- Investigating surfaces
- Landscapes and light conditions
- Photographer presentations
- Focus and investigation

Third quarter: Context

- Creating mood and atmosphere
- Portraiture: capturing the soul
- Digital darkroom intensive
- Lighting

Fourth Quarter: Building Narrative

- Pictures that tell stories
- Professional practices: assembling a portfolio
- Final Project: Photo Essay