



Syllabus: **ART 204 Advanced Digital Photography**

Course Information	
Course Prefix/Number: ART 204 Semester: Fall 2017 Class Days/Times: Tuesday + Thursday 12- 2:45	Credit Hours: 3 Course Title: Advanced Digital Photography Room: ART # 401

Instructor Information: Name: Serge J-F. Levy	Phone/Voice Mail: 520-383-0038 E-mail: slevy@tocc.edu Office location: ART # 401 Central Campus Office hours: By appointment
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this class is to provide you with advanced techniques in digital photography. By the end of this class you will be proficient in the use of your digital camera and Adobe Photoshop for advanced image processing. You will have developed a skill set for creative camera techniques that can be used in the field and on professional assignment to achieve your desired aesthetic goals. You will have the skills to create high-quality photographs of your 2D and 3D artwork. We will discuss how to edit and sequence a portfolio for contest submissions and other applications. And we will study advanced software techniques (Photoshop) to alter photographs and to achieve your desired aesthetic outcome. Students will have a completed body of photographic work (20 photos in print form).

In order to write with light we will develop an understanding of how a lens and camera mediates the world we experience and see before us. Depth of field, shutter, focus, choreography, and composition are all part of what will make the most effective and

powerful picture for you. Through a series of small assignments, we will explore the technical aspects of using a camera and also explore the conceptual nuances of working with the medium of photography.

In the beginning of the semester we will also develop a workflow for acquiring, downloading and processing our photographs through digital means. We will become proficient in the workflow of saving our files for web usage, professional application, and print output. Additionally, we will discuss and develop proficiency with printing technologies to address aesthetic and technical concerns relative to the photographic print as distinguished from computer monitor or PDA/smarthpone viewing.

Each student is required to have their own digital camera with manual function capabilities and a 2TB external hard drive to store and transport your photographic files. You will be expected to bring your files with you to every class. Contact me for current camera and portable drive recommendations.

The course will combine readings, writing, lectures, Powerpoint presentations, visits to the CCP print collection, movies, critique, research and of course intensive involvement in your photographic practice.

We will be learning and using Adobe Bridge and Adobe Photoshop to preview and process our images.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Expand our understanding of the history of photography and contemporary practice.
2. Learn how a camera works and develop advanced techniques.
3. Hone an understanding of the manual functions of a camera.
4. Develop an advanced understanding of image processing software.
4. Further develop a personal vision and find your artistic voice.
5. Learn the unique qualities of working with photography as a medium: versus painting, drawing, 3D, printmaking, etc.
6. Learn how to create a body of photographic work.
7. Learn advanced techniques in image Photoshop image editing.
8. The art of sequencing and editing a body of work.
9. Develop professional work and marketable skills
10. An introduction to studio lighting and the creative possibilities of working with artificial light sources.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) :

Outcome 1: Students will comprehend camera technique that is translatable to digital and analogue processes:

By learning the fully manual functions of their cameras, students will know how a camera works and how to have complete creative control over the aesthetics of their photographs.

Outcome 2: Students will master advanced digital techniques using image processing software.

Through the use of Adobe Photoshop and the implementation of image file layers students will learn how to process their photographs and develop art of the highest aesthetic. They will also learn how to use Photoshop to alter their images for new meaning beyond their initial intent.

Outcome 3: Students will develop a portfolio of images that represent a distinct concept.

Each student will finish the class with a portfolio of up to printed images around a central theme. The portfolio will be sequenced to develop an idea of each student's choosing.

Outcome 4: Students will learn about the history of photography and also be conversant with contemporary practitioners in the field.

Students will have an understanding of the key figures that have contributed to the development of the field of photography in addition to voices practicing outside of the established canon.

Outcome 5: Ability to translate an idea into photographic language.

Beyond student's education they may be asked by clients to translate an idea into visual language. Through the process of assignment work students will ascertain the skills necessary to visualize concepts.

Outcome 6: Ability to use artificial light sources for creative effect.

Through in class exercises students will learn how to use studio lighting to shape new meaning in their photographs.

Course Structure:

Students will create 5 separate projects in which they will explore the vast possibilities of working with photographic materials:

1. Defining Home

Due: **Critique is on August 29th.**

2. Street Photography

Due: **Critique is on September 14th.**

3. Objects of Personal Significance-Lighting

Due: **Critique is on September 28th.**

4. Landscape

Due: **Critique is on October 17th.**

5. The Grande Finale (for now)

Due: From now on, every week you will have new work. Additionally, you will make a **research presentation to the class on October 26th**

Due: **Critique is on November 28th or November 30th.**

For the final project students will engage in professional presentation and finishing of work for exhibition and job applications: high quality prints, sequencing, artist statements, and portfolio presentation will all be considered when grading your work.

All 5 projects engage students in:

1. Considering the history of photography relative to their own goals as photographers.
2. Developing new technical and creative skills.
3. The unique qualities of creating photographic work.
4. Familiarizing students with contemporary digital hardware and photo editing software.
5. Develop a concept for their work as a visual artist.
6. Discovering and realizing personal voice.
7. Developing a critical voice.
8. Developing professional artistic practices.
9. Demonstrate self-reflection, formative evaluation and critical thinking.

MATERIALS:

Most art & design materials are supplied.

Cameras will be available on loan. Please treat this loaner with care and return it in the new condition that you received it. If you decide to use your own digital camera it must have the capability to make RAW files. If you have questions about this, please don't hesitate to ask.

Supplemental items as needed to be supplied by students when announced. Failure to come to class appropriately prepared will lead to lowered marks on the project.

EVALUATION AND GRADING & ASSIGNMENTS:

100-90	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
69-60	D
59 + below	F

Assignments	600
Attendance & class participation	400

TOTAL POINTS: 1000

Students are expected to take notes during lectures, videos and films and are responsible for the content presented.

Students are expected to come to class, prepared, with all necessary research, materials and prior requirements.

Students are encouraged to bring any concerns they may have about the course and course content to the attention of the instructor well BEFORE assignments are due. ATTENDANCE IS ESSENTIAL. Instructor reserves the right to drop students after 4 (FOUR) absences.

HIMDAG CULTURAL COMPONENT:

Tohono O’odham traditions and cultural beliefs will be discussed as relevant to course topics, and only as appropriate to the Tohono O’odham Nation’s traditional standards for sharing information.

The predominant pedagogical practice in this course is that of group demonstration and other forms of demonstrative non-verbal communication.

POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS:

ART 204 Advanced Digital Photography, POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS:

1. Except in the case of an excused emergency, students are expected to attend each class.
2. Late arrivals will count against attendance record. Two late arrivals or early departures constitute one (1) absence.
3. Class participation and preparation are essential to student success.
4. Students are responsible for clean-up of their particular and general work areas.
5. Failure to clean up will result in a loss of grade points.
6. Students must read textual material, prepare for projects, and complete required research prior to the class in which assignments are due.

7. Students are expected to come to class prepared for class and having done any preliminary work required as per the chronology.
8. Students are expected to stay in class and work diligently throughout the whole time. Frequent/ continued exiting from the class during the class period will constitute one (1) absence.
9. No cell phone use is allowed during class. Use of cell phones during class, unless permitted by instructor, is a violation of the T-So:son. Unsanctioned use of cell phone during class constitutes one (1) absence.
10. Four (4) absences will lead to being dropped from the class.
11. Plagiarism (that is using another's work) is a serious offense.
12. Late work is marked down for each day of tardiness.
13. Failure to submit a project results in a grade of zero (0). An F is a better grade!
14. No work accepted after the last class.
15. Students are responsible for the safe utilization and return all tools and materials. Failure to do so will result in a fee charge for replacement of tools or withholding of grades until tools are replaced. The tools belong to the TOCC!
16. Students are required to obey all state and federal regulations. Breach of any established law that constitutes either a felony or misdemeanor will result in immediate exclusion from the class.

DISCLAIMER: This syllabus is designed to evolve and change throughout the semester based on class progress and interests. You will be notified of any changes as they occur.

Title IX

Tohono O'odham Community College faculty and all staff are dedicated to creating a safe and supportive campus. Title IX and our school policy prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex- this includes sexual misconduct; harassment, stalking, domestic and dating violence and sexual assault.

Sexual discrimination and sexual violence can undermine students' academic success and quality of life on campus and beyond. We encourage students who have experienced any form of sexual misconduct to talk about their experience and seek the support they need.

Confidential support and academic advocacy can be found with:
Christie Kelly, M.A.
Counselor/Title IX Coordinator
ckelly@tocc.edu