

ART 206 – AN INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOGRAPHY

Stan Tomita

Office: Art Building, Room 326.

Email: stomita@hawaii.edu.

Phone: 956-5256 during office hours or 956-7603 for message.

Office Hours:

Course Objectives

My goal in this course is to offer a well-rounded scope of the technical and conceptual fundamentals of photography. We will explore light and optical theory; camera and light meter operations and controls; basic black and white chemical processes for negatives and prints; photo finishing (spotting, mounting and matting, and framing); and presentation options. Of equal or more importance, each assignment will be concerned with the visionary opportunities available to each working artist involved with aesthetic, conceptual and ethical problem solving.

Chinese Proverb: "It is pointless to study without thinking and dangerous to think without studying."

- Students are required to have a 35mm camera with a manual exposure option and a light meter, built-into the camera or hand-held. If the camera format is larger than 35mm, let me know so special arrangements can be made.
- Supplies Reimbursement, with no exceptions, is \$70.00, cash or check (written to U.H. @ Manoa), payable within the second week of the semester. This allows you to use basic photographic chemistry for negatives and prints; basic darkroom equipment; and limited facilities access.
- Suggested reference text is *Photography* by Barbara London and John Upton, 9th edition. Other reference texts such as *Photography* by Charles Swedlund and *Photography* by Phil Davis may be useful though not as organized, thorough and easy to understand, as is the London/Upton text. Theories of seeing, vision and aesthetics can be referred to in *Ways of Seeing* by John Berger. *Color Photography* by Robert Hirsh is an excellent reference for color photography. And of course, the Ansel Adams' photography series *The Camera*, *The Negative*, and *The Print* are the standard reference texts for in-depth and advanced information.
- Photography books are located in the **TR** and the **f TR** section of Hamilton Library. The **f** indicates **folio** and is larger than "normal size" and is shelved in a separate section. Also, search through the computer catalogue, with the photographer's name or book title, as some books may not be housed in the photography section. I strongly recommend that you familiarize yourself on what constitutes photography as fine art by examining books in our libraries and attend any (photographic) exhibitions at galleries or museums in Honolulu or at the University.
- Grading and evaluations will be based upon your performance in lecture and lab; quality of projects submitted and unique personal insight; thoughtful inventiveness in problem solving for each assignment; high standards of excellence in craftsmanship; active incorporation of technical, aesthetic and critical concepts presented; and active participation in critiques and discussions, attendance, and facility awareness.
- Turn off all cell phones and beepers when class is in session as they are totally disruptive to the flow and rhythm of the class lectures, discussions, critiques, and overall experience.
- Attendance is mandatory. If you cannot be in class on time for every class meeting, please drop the course. After three absences your grade will lowered one letter grade and more with further absences. Tardies are especially disruptive and three tardies will equal one absence. There will be no distinction between "excused" and "unexcused" absences or tardies. Research and/or reaction papers will be required to erase each absence. Understand that this is contingent on the paper as a serious inquiry into the concerns of the project at hand or photographic in nature (not any paper will be accepted as written). Students who are signed up for lab sections that fall on holidays are required to attend another lab section during that week. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class, and it is your responsibility to notify me of your presence. If you are more than fifteen minutes late for class it will be marked as an absence. All material presented in class is your responsibility to retrieve when absent or tardy.
- My presence here is for your convenience and dialogue is encouraged for our progress towards creative excellence and ethical involvement.

Upon successful completion of Art 206 students should be able to:

- Understand and apply basic photographic techniques such as single lens reflex camera operation, black and white film processing, and darkroom print enlargement and manipulation.
- Understand fundamental skills and concepts relative to the practice of photography as a means of visual communication and self expression.
- Develop an understanding and appreciation of the tradition and history of photography which inform present approaches to the visual arts.
- Learn basic theoretical skills to analyze photographic imagery and visual art in general.

SUPPLIES LIST

Suggested Vendors: Image Works.
B & H Photo & Adorama (mail order for equipment or supplies).
Light Impressions (mail order for post-development supplies).
Camera Repair: "WWW" via Yahoo, Google or other internet search engines.

Supplies and Materials List:

- Black and White Film:
 - Kodak Tri-X or T-Max 400 or Ilford **HP5+** or **HP5 Delta** (or equivalent).
 - Lens Cleaning Tissue & Lens Cleaning Fluid or Optical Glass Cleaning Cloth.
 - Adult Enema Bulb with a Child's Size Syringe, (or Adult Size Ear and Nose Syringe).
 - Or, Giotto's Rocket Air Blaster Lens Cleaning System
 - Or, Giotto's Rocket Air Blaster Large Size
 - 2 – 35mm Stainless Steel Developing Reels (minimum quantity), (optional).
 - 16 oz. (for two 35mm Reels) Stainless Steel Daylight Developing Tank (minimum size), (optional).
 - Jobo 1520 2 Reel Developing Tank (optional)
 - 2 – Jobo 1501 35mm Developing Reels (optional)
 - **Weston** Dial Type Thermometer.
 - Negative Storage Sleeves (**Printfile 35-6-HB** – 1 for each roll of film processed). Not the CP version.
 - Binder Box to store the Negative Storage Sleeves
 - **100 Sheets Ilford Multigrade, RC, Glossy Surface, 8x10**, or equivalent.
 - Darkroom or Photographic Grade Chamois, Photo Wipes, or **Rowi** or **Patterson Film Squeegee**.
 - Darkroom Survival Kit – Permanent Felt Tip Marking Pen, Scissors; Bottle Opener; Masking Tape; Soft Lead Pencil; White Eraser or Artist's Kneadable type; Ruler, 12" – 18"; Q-Tips; Kodak Film Cleaner or Edwals No-Scratch (optional); opaque flexible cardboards 8x10 inch minimum; and ulua leader wire (piano wire or clothes hanger wire will suffice).
 - Roll of Paper Towel
- Kodak Gray Card (optional).
Ilford Multigrade Variable Contrast Filter Kit, 3" or 6" (optional).
Spotone #3 (Spotone #1, #2, #S, #0, #B are also useful)
Fine Quality Sable Brush or Virgin Chinese Pighair Brush, size #0000 or #00000.
White Porcelain, Lotus Flower-like, Watercoloring Dish.
Crescent, Bainbridge or Light Impressions White Museum Board, 2 ply and 4 ply, 32" x 40".
Linen Tape or Filmoplast Hinging Tape (optional).
Mylar Photo Corners or Acid-Free Paper Photo Corners (optional).
Seal ColorMount or **Seal MT5**, size depending on printing paper (optional).
Logan Deluxe Mat Cutter with Logan Blades (optional).
Razor Blade Box Cutter or Xacto Heavy Duty Utility Knife (optional).
Burnishing Bone or Marriott's Burnishing Spoon (optional).
36" Heavy Metal Ruler or **Carpenter's Square** for Mat Cutting (optional).
2 – Stanley medium size Spring Squeeze Clamps (optional).

Lenshood or **Lensshade** (one for each of the lenses to be used, preferably **metal** and made by the same manufacturer as your camera's lens. **For a zoom lens, the lenshood should be for the widest angle of the lens, or the shortest focal length**). Generic rubber lenshoods are cheaper and serve the same purpose. Bring your camera to a photographic supplier so the lenshood will fit the front diameter of your lens.

Black and white filters are optional. The most often used filters for B&W photography are Skylight or UV, Medium Yellow, Medium Orange, Medium Green, Medium Red, and a thin mount Polarizing Filter. These filters are optional and a lecture will detail their use.

**CLEAN TOWEL REQUIRED FOR EACH DARKROOM SESSION !!!
OR NO CAN WORK!!! NO EXCUSES WILL BE ACCEPTABLE !!!**

- Minimum number to be used is 30 rolls of 36 exposures for the semester.
- **Hewes**, Nikkor or **Kinderman** is the best, though \$.
- Minimum Number to be used. (or Agfa, Arista, Forte, Mitsubishi, PAL, Seagull or the equivalent.)