

Art Graduate Photography Syllabus 5304-003 Sul Ross State University, Spring 2020

Instructor:

Cindy Sims
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Class Meets: IND. Rooms 105 & 109

Tuesday 6 – 8:50 pm & additional hours, TBA
January 13 – May 6, Final Exam: Monday, May 4, 6 – 8 pm

Office Hours:

Tuesdays before and after class and other times, TBA

Course Overview:

This is a graduate photography class, second level. Photographic images, concepts and techniques will emphasize exploration of thematic concept, contemporary theory and personalized techniques. Students will meet with the instructor weekly to develop new artwork, show work in progress, and work towards both technical and artistic excellence as they develop their capstone project. Ideally several rolls of film with contact sheets and work prints or the equivalent numbers of digital images will be reviewed each week.

Emphasis will be on creative original ideas that are technically excellent. The end goal is to have 20 finished photographs with at least 10 of them ready to be exhibited (whether that means matted and framed or whatever means of professional presentation and finishing the student wants to explore for the final finished project).

Students will also continue developing professional resources both for their “working Bibliography” and to support their Artist’s Statement. 10 - 20 new entries should be added to the student’s working Bibliography.

A new draft of an Artist’s Statement should be ready to review at the first of the semester and then discussed and revised as the work progresses during the semester. Look for a few new artists/photographers/writers or other relevant sources that are doing similar work or whose ideas speak to your work this semester. Consider this relevant work when you re-write your artist’s statement this semester.

Attendance:

This class is required to cover 96 studio class hours. You should be prepared to put in at least 15 hours per week on your work. This includes research and papers.

Weekly critiques are mandatory. Missing one will count as an absence.

Critiques:

Personal critique times will be held during class hours or scheduled individually. I will also schedule additional critiques during the semester with other artists, professors, etc. These are important so if you can't be there, call me or text in advance.

Documentation:

30 of the semester's best images (even if they do not appear in your final portfolio) should be put on a flash drive in a jpg format along with a copy of your Artist's Statement. This is due the week of finals.

Students with Special Needs:

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the Student's responsibility to initiate a request. Please contact me, Ms. Rebecca Greathouse Wren, M.Ed., LPC-S, Director/Counselor, Accessibility Services Coordinator, Ferguson Hall (Suite 112) at 432.837.8203; mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Students should then contact the instructor as soon as possible to initiate the recommended accommodations.

Student Learning Objectives

#1 Students will be able to visually communicate an original idea or concept through an original artwork.

Dissemination Strategy:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to create a cohesive capstone with a defined technique or personal style.
- Ability to produce a professional portfolio that meets current industry standards.
- Faculty will integrate the information into lectures, workshops, etc.

Marketable Skill: Creating ideas with independence of thought.

#2 Students will demonstrate proficiency in writing within the art discipline.

- Demonstrate proficiency in discipline specific writing.
- An ability to follow the correct writing style manual and to utilize art historical terminology.
- Write a good thesis statement and follow it with a defined argument and closing statement.

Dissemination Strategy:

- Students will demonstrate proficiency in writing about art, both on a personal and professional level.
- Demonstrate an ability to apply the correct writing style and utilize art historical terminology.
- Faculty will integrate the information into lectures, workshops, etc.

#3 Students will demonstrate knowledge of the professional practices pertaining to their Master's degree track:

- Demonstrate the ability to create a cohesive body of work (capstone) with a defined technique or personal style and understand health and safety practices in the studio.

Dissemination Strategy:

- Students will learn to produce work in a timely manner.
- Use of original concepts and non-clichéd ideas.
- Demonstrate the ability to create and curate a cohesive professional exhibition of well-crafted and thematic work with a defined technique or personal style.
- Ability to produce professional documentation including advertising (posters & postcards), artist statement, press release, resume, digital records.
- Faculty will integrate the information into lectures, workshops, etc.

Marketable Skill: Solving problems through critical thinking.