

Media Photography II

Journalism 339

Fall 2007 MW 12:40am-2:50pm

Dr. Tim Gleason

126A Clow Classroom

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Office hours: MW 10:30am-11:30am; TR 9:00am-10:00am, 1:30pm-2:30pm

Online at desire2learn (www.uwosh.edu/d2l) and <http://uwomediaphoto2.blogspot.com/>

Description:

This is an advanced media photography class. You must have received a C or better in Media Photography I to take Media Photography II, as well as meeting all other requirements listed in the university bulletin.

You will practice working in color, using artificial lighting, shooting with a digital SLR and improving your use of the SLR. Our goal is to help you find which area of photography interests you most and to help you improve in that area.

We will experiment with the use of blogs this semester.

Grades:

Earth Charter	15
Studio	15
Open Topic	20
Essay	10
Final Project	30
Attendance and Participation	10
 Total	 100

Texts: the required skills text is the *National Geographic Photography Field Guide 2nd ed.* Another text is required, *Criticizing Photographs: An Introduction to Understanding Images*, 4th edition, which is on reserve at the library. The last text is *Seizing the Light: A History of Photography*, which is for self-guided reading and is only recommended.

Criticizing Photographs will help us to critically analyze photography and understand how photography is used to represent diversity in many forms. It will help to prepare you in writing your essay.

Things costing money: Negative sleeves, compressed air, china pencil, loupe, and color film. The 4x5 optional assignment will require you to spend at least \$5 for each sheet of film and processing for each image. You might need flash drives or CDs/DVDs.

Academic Honesty: All your work must be of your own original creation.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken and participation is expected. Part of participation is to enter the Photographer's Forum College Photography Contest. Forms will be provided. Give me a copy of completed form and photos.

Submitting photos: Unless otherwise noted please submit your sleeved negatives, index prints, prints, and critique sheet for each image. You will submit these in a clean, large envelope or expandable folder. Photos submitted for a grade are to be put in the D2L dropbox. If you shoot with a digital SLR, turn in unused images on a CD or DVD. Photos should be 300 resolution. Do not give me the low-resolution (72) jpgs unless stated under the assignment requirements.

Any PowerPoints should have your name in file with "ppt" extension (e.g. tingleason.ppt). For PowerPoints give me the ppt file and high-resolution jpgs (300) in D2L. PowerPoints and blogs should have 72 resolution copies in them.

Late assignments are deducted 10 pts for each class day missed. This starts with the day it is due, whether it is during class or before it. All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the day they are due--unless otherwise stated!

Instructions might vary for special projects.

Assignments and Grading:

All assignments are to be done in color. Black and whites can be used for portfolios.

Earth Charter

The first assignment is to prepare you in working in color. Three-to-five photographs will be submitted. The theme reflects the principles of Earth Charter (<http://www.uwosh.edu/earthcharter>). We will be participating in an Earth Charter promotional project as a public service endeavor. You will retain the copyright to all photos, but photos will be used to promote this university event. The orientation must be journalistic or public relations unless otherwise approved by instructor.

Photograph and write a brief statement (about 300-700 words including captions) about an issue of concern to Earth Charter. Photos and stories will be posted to a class blog (<http://uwomediaphoto2.blogspot.com/>) that will be accessible to the public. The page will hopefully be linked from the UWO Earth Charter site and Professor Maguire's OCNN site.

Make digital contact sheets with images 3 x 4 (File>Automate>Contact Sheet II). Only basic Photoshop techniques (sharpening, toning, color balance, etc) may be used on this assignment. The point is for you to learn how to make adjustments while shooting. No layering or dropping out of elements.

Upload hi res pics to D2L. We will go over adding photos to blogs in class.

Studio

Before you do this assignment, you will practice in small groups to learn the equipment. We will take portraits of each other as practice. You will use the studio during your free time.

For your actual graded assignment, you will produce two still lives shot with the department digital SLR and one of a person as a subject. Still Life #1 is of a food and/or beverage shot. Please clean up your area when done. Still Life #2 is of any still life subject. Picture #3 is of a person in the studio. You determine what to show—it is a lighting exercise. You must bring your own backdrop (sheet, blanket, etc).

Please remember to remove the battery from the camera when you are done shooting or it will die forever!

For insurance and legal reasons, no animals or open bottles of alcohol are allowed in the studio. For inspiration you can go to Corbis.com or Getty.com to get ideas for studio shots, as long as you include a print of the photo(s) that inspired you.

Make digital contact sheets with images 3x4. Only basic Photoshop techniques (sharpening, toning, color balance, etc) may be used on this assignment. The point is for you to learn how to make adjustments while shooting. No layering or dropping out of elements.

Upload low res photos to class blog page and high res pics to D2L. Please note special deadline in schedule

Open Assignment

You will also shoot an open assignment of 12 photos (6 if you are using our 4x5 view camera)—one of your own choosing. The project may be a photo essay, photo story or collection of thematic photographs. You will choose the subject and whether it is an essay, story, series of advertisements or collection. The project must be reproducible in the mass media. Students will show me the type of publication they would like to see their project reproduced in. Make digital contact sheets with images 3x4.

You will post your project online at your own website or blog. Then post a message in the class blog with a link to your site. A link to our site looks like this:
 UWO Media Photo 2

Inside the quotes is the URL. Put your URL between “ ”. Then replace UWO Media Photo 2 with your name for the link to your page.

Any studio, ad shots or expressionistic images may be manipulated in Photoshop using any tool or filter available.

You will give a status report with examples before the assignment is due to encourage you to treat this as a long-term project. See the schedule.

Besides placing finished project on your blog, give me the usual material and put hi-res images in D2L.

Essay

Write a three-page, interpretive essay on one photographer’s work. The source for this work is a book in a library, one you might own, or a website gallery. Your subject must be pre-approved by me during a class discussion. Show me the book or the website.

You will use one of the techniques discussed by Barrett. Subject’s photography must also be put in historical perspective by referencing *Seizing the Light* and other resources, if needed.

Provide copies of any pages you cite, unless the source is one of our textbooks. Include these pages in a folder with your essay. Please provide a paper copy of the essay and a digital PDF version in D2L. Essay must have separate title page.

Final Project

You have three options. Option A is to make a portfolio of 12-20 photographs. Option B is 7-11 photographs as a body of work and write a 5-page self-analysis.

Portfolio

Your portfolio must consist of 12-20 color and/or black and white images and can include images from Photo I and II classes and any other photos you have made. Smaller portfolios might require more content focus. I recommend that you try to find other things to shoot during the semester to include in the portfolio. This portfolio can be paper-based or digital-based (PowerPoint or web). You will look at various examples.

Photographs and Analysis

Choose 7-11 photographs that represent the direction you would like to take your photography in the future. Write a paper that places your photographs in context of the history of photography, the movement(s) that inspire you, and the strengths and weaknesses of your work.

4x5 Assignment for Bonus Credit

Your optional assignment is to use the department's 4x5 view camera. Students will shoot with 4-inch by 5-inch color transparency sheet film. The images will be previewed before shooting with a digital SLR. Turn in one 4x5 and a digital image scanned from our special flatbed scanner. Your score out of 10 is added to your attendance/participation grade as bonus credit.

Tentative Schedule

NG=*National Geographic* and page reference

STL=*Seizing the Light* and chapter reference

Barrett=*Criticizing Photographs* and chapter reference

Week 1 (9/5)

Introduction, review basics and color film, professional genres of photography and given first assignment; set-up moonlights for second half of class

Week 2

(9/10) **Bring your flash and camera, and manuals for both; Read NG 8-75, NG 92-149;** set-up moonlights for second half of class

(9/12) Coffee and photography; goals for photography and the semester; out-of-classroom if weather permits

Week 3

(9/17) Color and Cameras; Color in Photoshop, scanning & Photoshop filters; **bring a strip of film to practice**

(9/19) Digital imaging time for Earth Charter

Week 4

(9/24) **Critique Earth Charter at start of class**

(9/26) 20th century genres of photography; **STL C 5-10**

Week 5

(10/1) Street photography lecture; **STL C13, 15, 16**

(10/3) Fashion photo examples; digital imaging time **STL C14**

Week 6

(10/5) Photos need to be on class blog by 11:59pm or they will be late! Online critique by photographer to be determined.

- (10/8) **Critique Studio Projects at beginning of class**
- (10/10) Theories of photography; lecture **Barrett chapters 1-2, writing exercise**
- Week 7
- (10/15) Lecture on **Barrett 3-4, writing exercise**
- (10/17) Lecture on **Barrett 5 and 6, writing exercise**
- Week 8
- (10/22) Lecture on **Barrett 7 and 8; discuss your anticipated essay topic**
- (10/24) Digital imaging time
- Week 9
- (10/29) **Status Report on Open Assignment at beginning of class; assign shoot-out groups**
- (10/31) **Shoot-out; please bring a digital camera; submit up to three pics per person; shoot only during class and submit pics by end of class to class blog**
- Week 10
- (11/5) Critique Shoot-out for bonus credit then Photoshop time if time remains
- (11/7) Digital imaging time
- Week 11
- (11/12) **Essays due at beginning of class; students discuss their papers, show examples**
- (11/14) Inspiring Photographers lecture
- Week 12
- (11/19) Portfolio requirements, England pics and potluck lunch; **all optional 4x5 projects due by now**
- (11/21) Thanksgiving Vacation
- Week 13
- (11/26) **Open Assignment Due**
- (11/28) Portfolio demonstrations or video

Week 14

(12/3) Portfolio development time

(12/5) Portfolio development time

Week 15

(12/10) **Final Project due at END of class**

(12/12) Critique of portfolios

Critique Sheet

Name:

Assignment:

Grade:

Place your camera settings for each frame in the proper box (such as 125th@f5.6).

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36

Instructor's Comments

Excellent

Weak

Film Exposure

Film Sharpness

Print Lightness/Darkness

Print Color

Print Sharpness

Interest

Aesthetics

Met Requirements

Dust, Scratches

Presentation Design