

# RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

## ARTS-220 ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY

### I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: ARTS-220 ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY

B. New or Modified Course: NEW

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Spring Year: 2013

D. Sponsoring Department: Visual & Performing Arts

E. Semester Credit Hours: 3

F. Weekly Contact Hours: 4                      Lecture: 2  
   Laboratory: 2

G. Prerequisites/Corequisites: ARTS-112 Introduction to Digital Photography and ARTS-212 Still Photography I

H. Laboratory Fees: Yes

I. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair:  
Ann Tsubota, [atsubota@raritanval.edu](mailto:atsubota@raritanval.edu)

### II. Catalog Description

*Prerequisites: ARTS-112 Introduction to Digital Photography and ARTS-212 Still Photography I*

Advanced Photography will explore advanced digital camera as well as traditional film and darkroom techniques. In-depth technical and software information will be covered relating to Zone System and Camera RAW exposure and image manipulation. This course will also explore critical issues in photography and focus on developing a personal body of work. Students must have their own SLR style digital camera capable of exposing in RAW format. Students must purchase some art supplies.

### III. Statement of Course Need

A. The use of digital photography has become prevalent in most graphic design and picture publishing fields and converting photographic images to digital formats is necessary for use on the Internet. This course would augment the multi-media

courses particularly in the area of web page development and would be an important course for the commercial arts curriculum which relies heavily on computer production. Digital photography has also become increasingly popular in the fine arts field and would attract many studio arts students. The infiltration of digital imaging in all areas of visual production makes digital photography a desired component in any visual arts curriculum.

- B. This course has a lab component because it is a studio art course and requires students to use special facilities such as a computer lab and other studio areas to produce photographic prints.
- C. This course generally transfers as a specific program elective.

#### **IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum**

- A. Free Elective
- B. This course meets a program requirement for the Associate of Fine Arts Graphic Design and Associate of Fine Arts Visual Art degrees.
- C. To see course transferability: for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, [www.njtransfer.org](http://www.njtransfer.org); for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

#### **V. Outline of Course Content**

- A. Advanced metering and exposure for film and digital cameras.
  - 1. Zone System concepts for film.
    - a. Previsualization.
    - b. Controlling contrast through film development.
    - c. Making a full tonal range print.
  - 2. Zone System concepts for digital cameras.
    - a. Color management and setting up a profile.
    - b. Understanding histograms and exposure.
    - c. Creating high dynamic range images.
    - d. Understanding Camera Raw controls.
- B. Advanced image making techniques
  - 1. Masking and adding text in the darkroom and on the computer.
  - 2. Integrating digital negatives in the darkroom.
  - 3. Making traditional and digital fine art prints.
- C. Critical issues.
  - 1. Readings and class discussions on one or more of the following areas:
    - a. Writings by photographers.
    - b. Exhibition reviews.
    - c. Essays on photographic theory and interpretation.
  - 2. Research project and/or oral or written report.
- D. Portfolio and presentation.

## **VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes**

### **A. General Education Learning Outcomes:**

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Apply advanced techniques in the manipulation of images digitally and in the darkroom to produce a portfolio of photographic images. (GE-NJ 4)
2. Analyze, identify and critique the formal elements and their bearing on meaning in various types of photographs orally and in writing. (GE-NJ 1, \*)

### **B. Course Learning Outcomes:**

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Perform advanced controls of traditional film cameras and digital cameras.
2. Analyze critical issues in photography. \*

\*Embedded critical thinking

## **VII. Modes of Teaching and Learning**

- A. lecture/discussion
- B. small-group work
- C. laboratory
- D. student oral presentations
- E. critiques

## **VIII. Papers, Examinations, and other Assessment Instruments**

- A. art work
- B. research papers
- C. demonstrations
- D. essays
- E. journals
- F. portfolios

## **IX. Grade Determinants**

- A. written exams
- B. quizzes
- C. portfolio of prints
- D. written report
- E. oral report
- F. research project
- G. exhibition review

## X. Texts and Materials

- A. Suggested textbook: The required text(s) should cover intermediate to advanced operation SLR style digital cameras and cover the operation and control of the current software (Adobe Photoshop) from an intermediate to advanced level.
- B. Other reference text:
  - Kratrin Eismann and Sean Duggan, Creative Digital Darkroom, O'Reilly Media, 2008.
  - Terry Barrett, Criticizing Photographs, An Introduction to Understanding images, latest ed., Mayfield Publishing Co., 2006.
  - London, Barbara and John Upton, Photography, Scott, Foresman and Company, Boston, (latest edition)
  - Mitchell, William J., The Reconfigured Eye, Visual Truth in the Post-Photographic Era, The MIT Press, 1994
  - Ritchen, Fred, In Our Own Image: The Coming Revolution in Photography, New York, Aperture, 1990.
- C. reviews
- D. student writing
- E. film and video
- F. web sources
- G. other computer-based sources

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

## XI. Resources

- A. computer lab with Photoshop software
- B. darkroom facilities
- C. wall space to pin up photos for critique
- D. color laser and high quality inkjet printers
- E. film and flatbed scanners
- F. students must purchase film, photographic paper and printing services