Photography

Session A: July 10th through 21st

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Teaching Assistant:
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Course Objective:

This course is aimed at giving you a better understanding and knowledge of photography. We will discuss the nature of photographs, and their use as well as their inherent capacity as mode of communication. We will also look at digital workflows; in terms of working with digital photography, understanding image files and how those files work when they are displayed on a screen versus translated on to a photographic paper print. To achieve this we will discuss photographs by other artists, as well as making our own photographs and exhibit them in class for discussion. The main stage will be outside, where we will work with your camera in manual mode to better understand how the camera functions. Using the sun as our light source, we will try to better comprehend the complexities of manual camera controls, but we will also briefly look at studio lighting to give you an idea of different light conditions. We will focus on manual controls through working with a DSLR, to better understand how a camera operates and how light translates our world to the world of digital pixels.

Grading (Pass / Fail):

Attendance and participation 50% Assignments 30% Final Exhibition 20%

Required Materials:

Digital camera

Camera must be a digital camera that can shoot RAW files in manual mode. It must have manual control of ISO, aperture and shutter speed. A DSLR or a rangefinder is preferred, and if you have several lenses, a prime 35mm or 50mm will be a good start but zoom lenses are ok.

Memory card(s)

Any brand is fine (make sure it is the correct type for your camera; SD or CF) minimum capacity of 8GB, preferably 16GB or more.

Notebook, pencil/pen

Optional Materials:

Portable External storage

In order to store your files between classes, and for the future! Your choice; below are two recommendations to choose from. If you already have one, that's fine, just make sure there is ample storage space.

SanDisk 128GB Flash Drive

http://tinyurl.com/zyrrbfk

G-Technology G-DRIVE slim Ultra-slim USB External Hard Drive 500GB http://tinyurl.com/h7ptwub

If you have any questions regarding the materials list, don't hesitate to email the instructor.

Week 1

| Monday 7/10 | |
|---------------|--|
| 9:00 - 10:00 | Check-in, introduction to the program and short tour of campus |
| | Broad Art Center auditorium, Room 2160E |
| 10:00 - 11:00 | Tour of studio and building facilities, review rules |
| | Lab Supervisors give demonstrations |
| 11:00 - 12:00 | Instructors review syllabi and begin first assignments |
| 12:00 - 1:15 | Lunch (Students get BruinCards) |
| 1:15 - 3:30 | Studio Time |
| | Getting familiar with our cameras. Lecture on camera controls and reading of |
| | light. Understanding similarities and familiarities with different cameras in class. |
| 3:30 - 3:45 | Snack Break |
| | (Daily snack is offered compliments of the Summer Art Institute) |
| 3:45 - 5:30 | Studio Time |
| | Lecture on portraiture, helpful techniques and ideas for working with people. |
| | Group discussion. |
| | Review of daily studio clean-up procedure |
| 7:00- 10:00 | Homework Time at Residence Hall/Evening Activity |

<u>Homework assignment 1</u>

Assignment 1 will be based on our discussion of portraiture. If an image can depict someones personality, what means are best suited? During assignment 1 you should use the *golden hour* (usually about an hour or two before sunset, note that mornings are ok, too) to photograph one of your classmates. We will assign groups of two students, and discuss these images the following days. For this assignment you should bring in a triptych, three photographic images, preferably on a usb stick or similar.

Tuesday 7/11

| 9:00 - 11:00 | Studio Time |
|---------------|--|
| | Excursion to the Mildred E. Mathias Botanical Garden on UCLA campus. |
| | Explanation of the potential of the light conditions provided by the surrounding plants. |
| | Bring your camera! |
| 11:00 - 12:00 | Artist Talk – TBA |
| 12:00 - 1:15 | Lunch |
| 1:15 - 3:30 | Studio Time |
| | Review of the images from the Botanical garden. |
| | Lecture on Edward Weston. |
| 3:30 - 3:45 | Snack Break |
| 3:45 - 5:30 | Studio Time |
| | Review of homework assignment 1 |
| | Lecture on street photography. |
| 7:00- 10:00 | Homework Time at Residence Hall/Evening Activity |

Wednesday 7/12 (LATE STUDIO NIGHT)

| 9:00 - 12:00 | Studio Time |
|--------------|--|
| 12:00 - 1:15 | Lunch |
| 1:15 - 2:15 | Artist Talk - TBA |
| 2:00-4:45 | Studio Time |
| | Digital workflow. How and why you should store your digital files properly. |
| | Understanding filetypes, what the different options offer, and why some are |
| | better than others. |
| 4:45 - 5:15 | Dinner / Snack Break |
| 5:15 - 7:00 | Studio Time |
| | Printing demo. Lecture on basic photoshop techniques. Understanding of |
| | histograms and what they do. Explanation of the translation of an image from |
| | digital pixels to printed paper. |

Thursday 7/13

| 9:00 - 12:00 | Studio Time |
|--------------|---|
| | Group critique of images from Homework assignment 1. |
| 12:00 - 1:15 | Lunch |
| 1:15 – | Meet at Broad Lawn to prepare for Museum Trip |
| 1:15-4:30 | Museum Trip to Getty Center (all students attend) |
| 4:30 - 5:30 | Return from Getty, complete Museum Assignment in studio |
| 7:00- 10:00 | Homework Time at Residence Hall/Evening Activity |

Homework assignment 2:

<u>Self-portrait.</u> Think about what self-portraiture was before the selfie. Look to the Hockney exhibition at the Getty for inspiration, and reflect upon how you can make one photographic self-portrait which communicates to the class who you are, or make up a persona. Include props if needed, or ask fellow students in the class for help. (For this assignment it is ok if you set up the camera and have a classmate push the shutter for you.) You are to choose one image for this assignment, in addition to a sheet of refused images. (Don't worry, only the instructor will see the refused images, but they will be used to discuss your progress.) The chosen image should be printed for group critique.

Friday 7/14

| 9:00 - 12:00 | Studio Time |
|--------------|---|
| | Lecture on performative photography. Discussion on the use of the self in image making. |
| 12:00 - 1:15 | Lunch |
| 1:15-4:15 | Studio Time and Studio Clean-up |
| 4:15 - 4:30 | Snack Break |
| 4:30 - 5:30 | Art Movie Screening in Auditorium |
| 7:00- 10:00 | Homework Time at Residence Hall/Evening Activity |

Saturday and Sunday

Weekend Activities and Outings for Residential Students are lead by Summer Art Institute Resident Counsellors for Residential Students - see "Weekend Schedule" for details.

Week 2

Monday 7/17

| 9:00 - 11:00 | Studio Time |
|---------------|---|
| | Critique of homework assignment 1. Bring prints! We will review the images on the wall. |
| 11:00 - 12:00 | Artist Talk – TBA |
| 12:00 - 1:15 | Lunch |
| 1:15 - 3:30 | Studio Time |
| | Studio lignting demo |
| | Lecture on studio photography and its many possibilities |
| 3:30 - 3:45 | Snack Break |
| 3:45 - 5:30 | Studio Time |
| | Portrait session in the photo studio! |
| 7:00- 10:00 | Homework Time at Residence Hall/Evening Activity |
| | |

Homework assignment 3:

<u>Understanding of space</u>. Why is the camera frame square when the lens is round? How can you best utilise the restraint of a square to best create a photograph of a body, or an object. Think about how perspective changes when you look through a camera lens, compared to how our eyes perceive a space. Utilise various possibilities, a frame within a frame (doorway) etc. The possibilities are endless. Use a person or an object of choice. For this assignment you should deliver a series of 3-5 images.

Tuesday 7/18

| 9:00 - 12:00 | Studio Time |
|--------------|---|
| 12:00 - 1:15 | Lunch |
| 1:30 - 3:00 | Museum Trip – Hammer Museum (all students attend) |
| 3:00 - 5:30 | Return from Hammer Museum, complete Museum Assignment in studio |
| 7:00- 10:00 | Homework Time at Residence Hall/Evening Activity |

Wednesday 7/19 (LATE STUDIO NIGHT)

| Studio Time |
|--|
| Further lecture on Photoshop and printing techniques. |
| Artist Talk by Summer Art Institute Instructors |
| Lunch |
| Caron's info session about undergraduate admission at UCLA (optional)) |
| Ben and Valerie give demos about installing and documenting artwork |
| Studio Time |
| Print time. Prepare questions you might have. |
| Dinner / Snack Break |
| Studio Time |
| Movie time! We will watch a documentary on a contemporary photographer |
| and end with a discussion. |
| |

Thursday 7/20

| 9:00 - 12:00 | Studio Time |
|--------------|---|
| | Preparation for final critique. Choose images from either assignments. |
| 12:00 - 1:15 | Lunch |
| 1:15 - 3:30 | Studio Time and Final Critique with Instructor and Guest Faculty/ Guest Artists |
| 3:30 - 3:45 | Snack Break |
| 3:45 - 5:30 | Final Critique with Instructor and Guest Faculty TBA |
| 7:00- 10:00 | Homework Time at Residence Hall/Evening Activity |

No homework. Use evening time to prepare final work for our exhibition!

Friday 7/21

| | Residential Students check out from housing halls and stow luggage before class |
|--------------|---|
| 9:00 - 12:00 | Bring artwork to gallery, install exhibition |
| 12:00 - 1:15 | Lunch |
| 1:15 - 2:00 | Pack artwork to be shipped home, final studio clean-up |
| 2:00 - 3:30 | Final Reception held at New Wight Gallery - all students, parents / guardians, |
| | faculty, staff and friends are welcome to attend! |
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