

2020-21 Spring

HART1012 LA2 Introduction to Photography (1 credit)

Course Instructor: Mr. Leon Suen (Email: leonsuen@ust.hk)

Program Officer: Jeff Lai (Email: jefflai@ust.hk)

Time: Thu | 14:30pm – 16:20pm

Venue: Mixed mode [venue TBC]

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description

An introduction to the art and expression of photography through lectures and homework. In this course, students will learn about the history of photography, and the different genres of photography developed over time. **This is not a technical-oriented program**, but students will learn basic photographic techniques and concepts to prepare them to explore photography on some other occasions. Focus of this program is to facilitate students expressive themselves through photography. Upon the completion of this course, students will have basic photographic techniques and a deep understanding of how photography communicates with its audience, such that they will be in a better position to communicate visually with others.

Class schedule

All the classroom lessons in this course last for 2 hours. **There are assignments to be completed by the students in order to fulfill the course requirements.** And the critique sessions following the assignments are of utmost importance in term of learning. Please refer to the Course Topics below for details.

Camera Requirement

Students need to bring their OWN camera to class, which need not to be a professional one, but it should be equipped with “Aperture priority” in the shooting mode setting (e.g. A mode or Av mode).

Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

1. Appreciate the history and development of photography
2. Describe the characteristics of contemporary art photography and appreciate the master works
3. Understand basic concepts, theories and techniques of photography
4. Experience using photo as expressive tool to convey the photographer’s feelings and view point upon things happening around them.

Course Schedule & Outline

Lesson	Date	Topics	ILO(s)
1	4/2	<p>Introduction – Course Design and how it works out</p> <p>History of photography – A Technology-driven Art Form</p> <p>What is seeing? (Homework: Quiz - Give an adjective to describe your emotional response to each of the photographs.)</p>	All ILO(s)
2	11/2	<p>Meaning of seeing with an discussion of students' answers to the quiz</p> <p>Basics Photographic Techniques 1 : Understanding the camera [PowerPoint]</p> <p>Homework 1 : Beauty of Lines [Students submit their photos online 2 days ahead of the class and they can see all the submissions]</p>	
3	18/2	<p>Basics Photographic Techniques 2 : Understanding the lens [PowerPoint]</p> <p>Discussion of Homework 1</p> <p>Homework 2 : Beauty of Shapes/Spaces [Students submit their photos online 2 days ahead of the class and they can see all the submissions]</p>	
4	25/2	<p>Basics Photographic Techniques 3 : Understand the histogram and Exposure Compensation [PowerPoint]</p> <p>Discussion of Homework 2</p> <p>Homework 3 : Beauty of Lights/Negative Spaces [Students submit their photos online 2 days ahead of the class and they can see all the submissions]</p>	
5	4/3	<p>Colors and White Balance [PowerPoint]</p> <p>Discussion of Homework 3</p> <p>Homework 4 : Beauty of Colors [Students submit their photos online 2 days ahead of the class and they can see all the submissions]</p>	
6	11/3	<p>Different Genres of Photography [PowerPoint]</p> <p>Discussion of Homework 4</p> <p>Homework 5 : Beauty of Contrast [Students have to sent a PDF file along with their photos 2 days ahead of the class]</p>	
7	18/3	<p>Writing on a Photograph [PowerPoint]</p>	

		Discussion of Homework 5 photos and text Photo Contest [Each student submit one photo for the competition and they vote for the one they like best]	
8	25/3	Basic Techniques in Documentary Photography [PowerPoint] Announcement of Photo Contest Results and Critiques Assignment 1 : A Photo Diary (Photos with text)	
9	8/4	Critiques of Assignment 1 Assignment 2 : Life in A Day (Photos with text)	
10	15/4	An Introduction of Contemporary Photography Prt 1 [PowerPoint]	
11	22/4	An Introduction of Contemporary Photography Prt 2 [PowerPoint]	
12	29/4	Critiques of Assignment 2	
13	6/5	Revision and Conclusion and Suggestion [PowerPoint]	

Assessment

Assessment Tasks	Description	ILO(s)
Attendance (10%)	(applies to Zoom) Students arriving 10 minutes after the beginning of each session will be counted as late. Being late or leaving early for more than 10 minutes twice will be counted as one absence.	-
Assignment 1 (35%)	Each student has to take one to three photos on a topic chosen by them and verbally present the photos in class. Submission deadline: 6 Apr 2021	All ILO(s)
Assignment 2 (55%)	Each student has to take three to five photos which document a social or cultural issue of HK. Photo texts are required for complimentary purpose. Submission deadline: 27 Apr, 2021	All ILO(s)

Assignment Submission Policy

Late submissions will be penalized by 10% per day on the total mark the student has achieved in that assignment. Overdue more than one week will receive no mark.

Course Materials & Costing

Cost of photo printing & mounting for the individual projects will be borne by students. Further details will be announced in class/ via CANVAS.

Major Study Materials

Barbara London & John Upton, *Photography*, Prentice Hall, 10th Edition, 2010. (Ch. 1-4, 7, 9-11, 17 & 18)

Supplementary Reading Materials

Charlotte Cotton, *The Photograph as Contemporary Art*, Thames & Hudson, 2004. (Introduction and Ch. 1)

Academic Honor Code

- You must observe and uphold the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty in all the work you do throughout your program of study.
- As members of the University community, you have the responsibility to help maintain the academic reputation of HKUST in its academic endeavors.
- Sanctions will be imposed if you are found to have violated the regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.

Regulations for Student Conduct and Academic Integrity

<http://publish.ust.hk/acadreg/generalreg/index.html>