

## **Art 207 Introduction to the Techniques and Esthetics of Photography**

Credits: 03

CRN **60033** TTh 9:45 – 12:15

*“First: competence, which was expected. Second: excellence, which only some seek. Third: mastery, which very few ever tried for. It was a level of proficiency and skill so high it allowed you to do something better than anyone else.”* Barak Obama

*“Life is short, art long, opportunity fleeting, experience perilous, judgment difficult.”*  
Hippocrates (460 – 400 B. C.)

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mark Hamasaki  
**OFFICE:** Pālanakila 142  
**OFFICE HOURS:** TBA (If I am not in my office I am in the darkroom, or photo lab.)  
**TELEPHONE:** 236-9142 [mhamasak@hawaii.edu](mailto:mhamasak@hawaii.edu) (you must include “Art 207 Photography” in the subject heading.)  
  
Photo lab tel: 236-9141.  
  
**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Spring 2009

### **WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT**

*Windward Community College is committed to excellence in the liberal arts and career development; we support and challenge individuals to develop skills, fulfill their potential, enrich their lives, and become contributing, culturally aware members of our community.*

### **CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

Basic techniques and esthetics of black and white photography; camera as a tool for communication and self-expression. Student must have a camera with adjustable shutter speeds and aperture settings. Repeatable up to 6 credits, 6 credits applicable toward A.A. degree. (2 hrs. lect.; 4 hrs. studio.) WCC: DA  
Prerequisites: Art 107, or consent of instructor.

### **Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other Than Class Times**

Field trips may be arranged and must be attended. Plan on spending 6 - 9 hours per week outside of class time photographing, researching and/or in open lab.

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student learning outcomes for the course are:

1. Conceptualize an idea and translate it photographically into a visual form.
2. Use different black and white films and development procedures to convey and express different photographic aesthetics.
3. Express through refined photographic techniques your ideas, feelings and/or concepts.
4. Produce photographic prints that require proficient skill in darkroom techniques.

## COURSE CONTENT

### *Concepts/ Topics*

- **The Camera**
- **The Darkroom**
- **The Photographic Print**
- **The Intended Image**
- **Creativity**

### *Skills or Competencies*

- 1. Use your camera creatively as a tool for self-expression.*
- 2. Apply advanced techniques of the silver gelatin chemical processes in creating photographic images.*
- 3. Create photographs that express understanding craftsmanship within the syntax of photography.*
- 4. Demonstrate the ability to create an intended image.*
- 5. Demonstrate understanding the creative process*

## COURSE TASKS

Working with the photographic process you will learn the potentials and limitations of a visual medium that has become an intrinsic part of our social, political, economic and cultural identity. Through specific assignments and projects you will learn and become proficient in the mechanics of exposure/development of the negative, enlarging and presentation of the final print and challenge your creativity. These assignments will also require you to think visually and to translate verbal and emotional ideas photographically. You will understand and experience the process of creativity and the time required to produce a finished photographic print. Through lectures and critiques you will also be introduced to the history of photography and its positive and negative contributions to society. You will discover the visual vocabulary and language associated with a two-dimensional process and thereby become aware of the many meanings and messages of photographs. Finally, by understanding visual language, i.e., its vocabulary, structure, composition and poetry, you should be able to analyze and more fully appreciate any photograph.

## ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING

Four to six assignments will be given and must be completed. Class attendance is mandatory at each of the class critiques (both “work in progress” and final critiques). Since this is a sequential class to ART 107 and basic knowledge of the photographic process is assumed, you will work somewhat independently with a minimum of supervision. The critiques, discussions, and lectures become the main pedagogic experience. Your time spent making photographs and in the darkroom practicing, experimenting and building your skills become the main learning experience.

Evaluations will be based on: How well you approach and complete the assignments, your individual progress and art work, regular attendance, class participation, effort and creativity. Your artwork should have a disciplined and professional sense of presentation, design, vitality and craftsmanship. Later assignments carry greater weight in determining final grade. Class attendance is compulsory at each of the class critiques. This is when we share our solutions to the assignments with the class as a group. (This is a very important part of the class and the learning experience). Individual appointments will be scheduled. Three tardies equal one absence. After three absences your grade will be lowered one letter.

- A — credit for all assignments, regular attendance, class participation, excellent achievement in craftsmanship and creativity and a high degree in individual progress.
  - B — credit for all assignments, regular attendance, class participation, above average achievement in craftsmanship and creativity.
  - C — credit for all assignments, regular attendance.
  - D — credit for less than 5 assignments, regular attendance.
  - F — credit for less than 4 assignments, non-attendance during a critique.
  - W — official withdrawal from the course.
  - N — Used at the option of the instructor.
  - I — **NO INCOMPLETES** will be given in this course.
  - Cr — achievements of objectives of the course at 'C' level or higher.
  - NC — achievement of objectives of the course with less than minimal passing achievement.
- Cr/NC option, must be in writing and declared by the end of the 10th week of classes.

## LEARNING RESOURCES

Textbook: Black and White Photography: A Basic Manual, Third Edition, revised  
by Henry Horenstein (available at the book store)

Reference Materials at WCC Library:  
Creative Photography: Camera Series (kit)  
Creative Photography: Darkroom Series (kit)

A 35mm or 120 film camera that focuses and has adjustable shutter speeds and aperture settings. Instamatics, APS, point-and-shoot and digital cameras are inadequate.

Light meter (built in the camera or hand-held)

Film -- Kodak Plus-X, Tri-X, T-Max 100, T-Max 400, 3200: 20 or 36-exposure rolls.

Plastic negative sleeves.

Recommended photographic paper: **Ultrafine Varigrade IV RC (inexpensive), Ilford Multigrade IV RC**, glossy or pearl, I do not recommend satin. You may buy other brands of photographic paper, but make sure it is **RC** and **Variable Contrast**. 8" x 10", 25 or 100 sheets. **DO NOT OPEN!!!**

Towel — you must have a towel to work in the lab.

Marshall's Basic Black and spotting brush #0

Seal drymount tissue, 8" x 10", 11" x 14" as needed

Acid-free or Rag mat-board, as needed

#### SOURCES:

Windward Book Store

Imageworks, 3408 Waiialae Ave. (mauka/Kahala corner of 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.). Mostly darkroom supplies and used equipment; friendly and will give student discounts. 735-0755

Kaimuki Camera, 3622 Waiialae Ave., 735-5955. New cameras and supplies, caters to professionals.

Online: <http://www.freestylephoto.biz> and <http://www.bhphotovideo.com>

#### **Additional Information**

The instructor may request the right to retain the work of any student. This work will be used in demonstrations of achievement and for reference purposes.

Any work and/or materials left in the lab will be placed in the "lost prints" box; after one semester any unclaimed items will be considered abandoned and disposed of. Lockers must be emptied by the end of the semester. Any materials left in the lockers will be considered abandoned and discarded by the last day of exam week.

Safety Procedures and Rules (detailed written copies will be handed out at a later date).

Students should check: <https://myuhportal.hawaii.edu/cp/home/displaylogin> for announcements. Class announcements will not be sent to your email account.