

STILL PHOTO I

Spring 2003

Rochester Institute of Technology

Lecture: Tuesday 8AM-10AM

Lab: Thursday 8AM-12PM

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Office hours by appointment

Course Description:

This class is a basic introduction to black and white photography. The course will cover camera usage, film exposure, film and paper processing, and critique. It will include aesthetic discussion, focusing on a common language of formal concerns and conceptual ideas. Students will be expected to read and discuss assigned articles and produce a coherent final photographic project.

WEEK ONE

3/11 TUESDAY

In Class:

- Materials List and handouts
- Camera and film demo
- Exposure, F-stops/shutter speeds, light meters

Assignments:

- Expose 1-2 rolls of Kodak TRI-X 400 ISO 36 black and white film, bring to next class

3/13 THURSDAY

In Class:

- Developing film demo
- Process 1-2 rolls of film

WEEK TWO

3/18 TUESDAY

In Class:

- Review exposure and f-stops
- Printing explanation and handouts

3/20 THURSDAY

In Class:

- Contact sheets – printing demo

Assignments:

- Bring contact sheets to next class

WEEK THREE

3/24 TUESDAY

In Class:

- Look at contact sheets
- Review questions – exposure and development

Assignments:

- Shooting assignment #1 & #2, handout in class (cont.)
- 3 readings: John Berger, "The Ambiguity of the Photograph"
Victor Burgin, "Looking at Photographs"
John Tagg, "The Democracy of the Image"

3/26 THURSDAY

In Class:

- Printing demo

WEEK FOUR

4/1 TUESDAY

In Class:

- Discuss readings
- Slide show

4/3 THURSDAY

In Class:

- Open lab – film and paper processing

WEEK FIVE

4/8 TUESDAY

In Class:

- Work in progress critique – bring in contact sheets and work prints (minimum 2)

4/10 THURSDAY

In Class:

- Open lab

WEEK SIX

4/15 TUESDAY

In Class:

- Critique assignment #1 – part I

Assignments:

- Assign reading (TBA)

4/17 THURSDAY

In Class:

- Open lab

WEEK SEVEN

4/22 TUESDAY

In Class:

- Critique assignment #1 – part II

4/24 THURSDAY

In Class:

- Open lab

WEEK EIGHT

4/29 TUESDAY

In Class:

- Discuss reading
- Slide show

5/1 THURSDAY

In Class:

- Open lab

WEEK NINE

5/6 TUESDAY

In Class:

- Individual meetings – bring in work prints for final project

5/8 THURSDAY

In Class:

- Open lab – final printing

WEEK TEN

5/13 TUESDAY

In Class:

- Final critique – assignment #2 – part I

5/15 THURSDAY

In Class:

- Final critique – assignment #2 – part II

MATERIALS LIST

STILL PHOTO I

To Buy:

- Metal or plastic film developing tank (with 2 reels)
- Black and white film: Kodak TRI-X 400 ISO (36 exposures)
- Ilford multi-grade double weight glossy silver gelatin fiber paper
- Ilford multi-grade filter set, 6" x 6"
- Grain focuser
- Thermometer
- Can opener
- Clothespins
- Negative sleeves – 35 x 7, pack of 25
- Paper blotter
- Kodak Photo-flo, 4oz
- Canned air or anti-static cloth (to clean negatives)

Printing Supplies (to use in the darkroom)

- Scissors
- Masking tape
- Towel
- Apron
- Nitrate gloves
- Tongs
- Goggles

PROCESSING GUIDES

Process: TRI-X 400 ISO Film

1. Water – fill up tank and drain
2. Developer solution (1 part water, 1 part D-76). 10 minutes, agitate for 5 seconds every thirty seconds.
3. Stop bath – constant agitation, for 30 seconds.
4. Fixer – 5 minutes, agitate 5 seconds every thirty seconds.
5. Water – fill tank and drain.
6. Hypo-clear – 2 minutes, constant agitation.
7. Wash – 5 minutes.
8. Photo-flo – soak for 30 seconds.

Process: Fiber Paper (multi-grade)

1. Developer(1 part water, 2 part D-72) – 3 minutes, constant agitation.
2. Stop Bath – 15-30 seconds, constant agitation.
3. Fixer (tray 1) – 2 minutes, constant agitation.
4. Fixer (tray 2) – 2 minutes, constant agitation.
5. Water Bath – holding tub with running water.
6. Perma-wash – 3 minutes.
7. Wash – 15 minutes (archival washers).