

Course Title

Photography 1A

Prerequisites : None

Course Adoption: Required for district graduation, Submit for UC / CSU "a-g" inclusion

Lab Fee: Yes

Instructional Materials

- (Refer to the *Secondary Adopted Texts and Approved Supplementary Books Used in the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District*)

Purpose/Course Description

Course Length is one semester targeting students in grades 9-12. This is the first semester of a year-long, "hands-on", introductory course in photography. Students will study photographs from the entire range and history of the medium to use as starting points for their own creative work. A variety of photographic assignments will provide training and experience in the basic technical and artistic elements of black-and-white photography. Students will see how their own intuitive ideas are linked to the universal principals of art from different cultures and time periods; developing their ability to discuss, produce, and enjoy art. Total of 5 units of credit.

Standards of Expected Student Achievement / Course Goals and Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to successfully:

1. Demonstrate a knowledge of the elements of visual art and the principals of design.
2. Integrate the use of photographic equipment, materials, and methods with the elements of art and principals of design to create a portfolio of original works of art.
3. Illustrate the interrelationship between the visual arts and historical and cultural trends and developments.
4. Appreciate, analyze, and critique masterworks of photography, as well as original student work.
5. Relate the broader lessons of the visual arts to other subjects and fields of endeavor.

Course Outline/Activities

(Standard #s refer to the Calif. Dept. of Educ.VPA Standards for Visual Arts Grades 9 - 12 Proficient)

Photography 1A (continued)

<u>Units / Topic</u>	<u>Standards/Objectives</u>
<i>Introduction to Photography</i>	
• Functions of Photography	3.5
• History of Photography	3.4, 3.1, 3.2
• Recent Developments in Photography	3.2
• Types of Cameras	1.4
• Photography and "Imaging"	1.4, 1.5
<i>Single Lens Reflex and Its Use</i>	
• Parts and Their Functions	2.1 - 2.3
• Basic Camera Care	2.1 - 2.3
• Camera Handling	2.1 - 2.3
• Focusing Systems	2.1 - 2.3
• Exposure	
• Four Factors That Influence Exposure	2.1 - 2.3
• Using a Built-in Light Meter	2.1 - 2.3
<i>Film and Film Processing</i>	
• Film and Imaging Media	2.1 - 2.3
• 'Seeing' in Black-and-White	2.1 - 2.3
• How Does Film Work?	2.1 - 2.3
• Film Speed	2.1 - 2.3
• B & W Film Chemistry and Processing	2.1 - 2.3
• Evaluating Your Negatives	2.1 - 2.3
<i>Basic Printmaking</i>	
• The Enlarger - Parts and Functions	2.1 - 2.3
• Print Chemistry and Processing	2.1 - 2.3
• Contact Prints and Proof Sheets	2.1 - 2.3
• Enlargements	2.1 - 2.3
• Test Strips & Test Prints	2.1 - 2.3
• Cropping	2.1 - 2.3
• Print Processing Standards	2.1 - 2.3
<i>Working with Natural Light</i>	
• Outdoor Light Conditions	2.1 - 2.3
• Qualities of Light & Shadow	2.1 - 2.3
- intensity	
- direction	
- specular vs. diffused Light	
- color	
- spotlighting	
<i>Composition</i>	
• Perception	1.1 - 1.3, 2.1 - 2.3, 2.5, 2.6

- Snapshot vs. Art - Making Decisions 1.1 - 1.3, 2.1 - 2.3, 2.5, 2.6
- Horizontal & Vertical Framing 1.1 - 1.3, 2.1 - 2.3, 2.5, 2.6
 - dominant & subordinant elements
 - shape & form - 2 & 3-dimensional objects
 - line
- Simplicity 1.1 - 1.3, 2.1 - 2.3, 2.5, 2.6
 - space / “negative space”
 - dominant & subordinant elements
 - Visual Weight
 - Contrast
 - Unity
- The Rule of Thirds 1.1 - 1.3, 2.1 - 2.3, 2.5, 2.6
 - balance
 - symmetry
 - asymmetry
 - movement
- Lines & Designs 1.1 - 1.3, 2.1 - 2.3, 2.5, 2.6
 - abstraction
 - line & implied line
 - repetition
 - pattern
 - theme & variation
 - rhythm
 - regular
 - irregular
 - texture
- Unusual Viewpoint 1.1 - 1.3, 2.1 - 2.3, 2.5, 2.6
 - point of view / camera angle
 - emphasis

Equivalent Exposure

- Reciprocity Law 2.1 - 2.3
- Movement 1.1 - 1.3, 2.1 - 2.3, 2.5, 2.6
 - varying shutter speed to express movement in a still photograph
- Depth of Field 1.1 - 1.3, 2.1 - 2.3, 2.5, 2.6
 - varying aperture size to increase or decrease the zone of focus
 - perspective
 - directing the viewer’s eye
 - isolating elements vs. showing relationships between elements

Analysis & Critique

- What Makes a Photograph Good? 1.2, 1.3, 3.1, 4.1 - 4.4
- Content - “Telling a ‘Story’” 1.3, 4.1 - 4.3, 4.5

- Visual Language 1.1
 - A Glossary of the Elements of Art and Principals of Design
- Reading a Photograph 1.1 - 1.3, 3.1 - 3.5, 4.1 - 4.5, 5.1, 5.2
- 1A Self-Evaluation Assignment Sheet 1.1, 1.3, 4.5
- Group/Class Critiques
 - Master Photographers and Their Photographs 1.1 - 1.4, 3.1 - 3.5, 4.1 - 4.5, 5.1, 5.2
 - Student Photographs 1.1, 1.3, 4.1 - 4.5
- Classroom Display of Student Work 1.1, 1.3, 4.1 - 4.5
- Art Shows of Student Work 1.1, 1.3, 4.1 - 4.5

Instructional Strategies

The following instructional methods and strategies are used:

- Lecture with student note-taking, employing photographic or video examples
- Computer presentation software, such as Microsoft PowerPoint
- Teacher demonstration
- Student-led demonstration or presentation
- Lab work
- Class exercises / guided practice
- Class discussion
- Critiques
- Question-and-Answer
- Reading textbook passages or chapters, articles from periodicals
- Class begins with a written Daily Warm-Up activity, which can be used for review or to activate prior knowledge or to respond to photographs or quotations or ideas
- Expository writing
- Research in classroom resources, library, Internet
- Individual work
- Pair or small group work
- Test and quizzes

Methods and Criteria of Assessment

1. Photographic assignments are assessed first by the student, then by the teacher using an itemized rubric on artistry (35%), technical excellence (35%), presentation (15%), and written analysis (10%). Attributed and unattributed student work is regularly critiqued in class and small group sessions.
2. Notebook / Portfolio are assessed with a itemized rubric on content (50%), organization (25%), and presentation (25%).
3. Written assignments and oral presentations are assessed on quality and accuracy of ideas (50%), organizational clarity (25%), expression and grammar (15%), and presentation (10%).
4. Initial and intermediate assessments of student understanding are conducted through discussion and question-and-answer with individual students, small groups, and the entire class.
5. Tests and Quizzes are constructed with a variety of question types, including multiple-choice, true or false, short answer, fill-in-the-blank

