

Art 205: Beginning Digital Photography

Summer 2015

Time: 8:00am - 11:35am :: M/T/W/TH

Instructor: Bekkah Walker

email: bekkahwalker@yahoo.com, rwalker@swccd.edu

website: <http://www.bekkahwalker.net/205/>

Course Content Summary: Art 205 emphasizes aesthetics, content, technical aspects, ways of seeing, and creativity in photography. This is an introductory photography course that explores camera operation, color and grayscale optimization, digital capture, and Camera RAW. Appropriate for students without prior photographic experience. Requires a digital camera with adjustable shutter speeds, adjustable apertures, manual exposure mode, and Camera RAW file format. [D; CSU]

Course Materials Fee: \$15

Recommended Text: Photography: A Custom Edition, Volume 1: 10th Edition by Barbara London, John Upton, Ken Kobre, and Betsy Brill
Available in the Bookstore: New \$59.60, Used \$44.75, Rental 25% off "new" price.

Storage Materials: USB drive. 10 Gigabytes or larger is recommended.

Prices vary. Plan to spend between \$10 - \$20 for a small USB (thumb drive or jump drive)

For a larger USB external hard drive, prices may run around \$60+

Cameras & Photo Equipment:

Equipment necessary for this class is available for check-out through the SWC Photo Dept, though there are a limited number of cameras. Plan ahead, make sure you reserve what you need. All reservations are not guarantees of availability: http://dept.swccd.edu/photography/Checkout_Policy_Requests.html

Students are responsible for all equipment checked out, and must pay for broken or lost equipment.

List of available equipment: <http://dept.swccd.edu/photography/Equipment.html>

If you are interested in purchasing your own camera, plan to spend around \$400 (DSLR).

For more information on discounted camera purchasing:

http://dept.swccd.edu/photography/Camera_dscounts.html

Software: The SWC Photography Department uses Adobe CC.

You may use this software during class time. You will need to enroll in a separate Lab Class in order to use the Photo Dept computer labs outside of class time.

Link for Adobe CC: <https://creative.adobe.com/plans>

Recommended Concurrent Enrollment: ART 205L (Lab section. Must be enrolled in ART 205)

Students must be enrolled in one of the lab sections in order to use the 570 facilities during scheduled lab times. Lab Class is credit/no credit and worth 1 credit. \$5 fee.

For complete list of Lab Class Policies, please go to: <http://dept.swccd.edu/photography/Lab.html>

Calendar:

A list and description of exercises, assignments, due dates, holidays, and important linked resources are all available from the course website: <http://www.bekkahwalker.net/205/>

Additional instructional materials will be made available on the Course Server (which is accessible on-campus and off-campus). Specific Log-on information will be assigned during class.

All digital technical exercises and creative assignments need to be turned into the Dropbox on the Server.

DO NOT email the instructor any materials to be turned in.

When to email your instructor:

- If you experience issues with attending class regularly.
- Useful links and information that you think the class could benefit from.
- Questions about the class and assignments.

205 Course Objectives & Student Learning Outcomes (curricunet)

Following completion of this course with a grade of “C” or higher, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to communicate and describe one’s own creative expression by stating personal intent, choice of subject matter, symbolic meaning, and personal vision including photographic composition, use of light, and formal description.
2. Demonstrate the application of proper camera handling, image exposure, and image optimization for making photographic prints of optimum technical quality and craft according to professional standards.

205 Course Objectives & Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, a student should be able to:

1. Communicate and describe one’s own creative expression and conceptual considerations by stating personal intent, choice of subject matter, and significance or meaning from the subject matter.
2. Communicate and describe one’s own creative expression with formal considerations including composition, use of light, use of tone and contrast, and considerations for creating a visual emphasis.
3. Demonstrate the ability to analyze, evaluate, and describe photographs using terms of formal elements and composition, and name specific techniques used in the image-making process.
4. Apply criticism to one’s own artwork by determining the successful parts of a project, and determining the areas that can be improved.
5. Analyze photographic images according to theory associated with John Szarkowski’s *The Photographer’s Eye*.
6. Demonstrate and understand composition and design concepts for creating visual emphasis.
7. Demonstrate the application of proper camera handling, including the ability to set ISO, aperture, and shutter-speed to produce a specific desired effect.
8. Demonstrate the relationship between Depth-Of-Field, and aperture, focal length, and distance between recording plane and subject.
9. Demonstrate the relationship between Shutter-speeds and their effect on both motion-blur and stop-action imagery.
10. Demonstrate an understanding of tonal values, their relationship to the histogram, their relationship to exposure, their relationship to contrast, and their relationship to shadow and highlight details.
11. Demonstrate the proper use of white-balance during shooting and in Camera RAW editing software.
12. Demonstrate basic color correction in Camera RAW.
13. Demonstrate digital capture, image exposure, digital image optimization, and ink-jet printing for making photographic prints of optimum technical quality and craft according to professional standards.
14. Demonstrate the ability to make a print presentation-ready by mounting.

Projects:	Break-Down:
Exercises:	30 %
Assignments:	50 %
Final Written Test:	10 %
Participation:	10 %
Extra Credit:	+5 %

Final Grade Scale: 100-90 = A, 89-80 = B, 79-70 = C, 69-60 = D, 59-0 = F

Grading: Scores are awarded based on the ability to meet project criteria. This includes the utilization of specific skills, consideration to craftsmanship, and completeness of project. Critique participation is required. All projects must be turned in on-time. Late assignments / exercises will not be accepted.

Grades will be posted to the SWC Blackboard system.

Grading Criteria: (these are examples of what you need to do to get the grade you want from this class)

- A: Student attended class regularly. Student completed all assignments on time. Student went beyond expectations for each assignment. Student completed extra credit work. Student was involved in classroom activities and discussions and proved themselves to be a positive force in the classroom dynamic.
- B: Student attended class regularly. Student completed most assignments on time. Student completed each assignment. Student was involved in classroom activities and discussions.
- C: Student did not attend class regularly. Student was late completing assignments. Student did not meet all of the goals of a few of the assignments. Student was involved in some of the classroom activities and discussions.
- D: Student did not attend class regularly. Student was late completing assignments. Student did not complete the goals of most of the assignments. Student did not participate in classroom activities or discussions.
- F: Student did not attend class regularly. Student failed to turn assignments in on time or at all. Student did not complete the goals of most or all of the assignments. Student did not participate in classroom activities or discussions.

Participation: You will start with 10 points (%) and if you fail to attend class regularly, are consistently late to class or returning from breaks, engage in the inappropriate use of internet and cell phones, and or do not participate in class activities such as critique and in-class work, your points in this area will decrease. The instructor will keep a record of students' participation activity.

Printing: It is highly recommended that you use the printing facilities in the SWC Photo Department. Each 8.5" x 11" print is \$1. The quality is professional and inexpensive.

Mounting materials: can be purchased at the SWC Bookstore. The price will vary on the size. Please DO NOT purchase Mounting Materials until we discuss this in class.

Plan on producing 15 prints in this class.

Print Storage:

You will need to invest in a method of protecting your prints. Either a plastic sleeve or folder. Three-ringed binder - is useful for keeping notes from the class and prints in one place.

Lockers:

Are available upon request. Priority is given to students who have completed ART 205 & 192. For more information: <http://dept.swccd.edu/photography/Lockers.html>

Holidays & Important Dates:

Independence Day Holiday: Thursday July 2nd
 Final Written Test: July 20 @ 8am - 9am
 Final Critique: July 23rd @ 8am

Attendance: Regular attendance is required and very important if you are to achieve your goals. Attendance will be taken each class period. You are allowed two absences. If you miss more than two classes, your participation grade will be lowered 2pts. for each subsequent absence. If you miss three consecutive days of class you may be dropped from the course. If you are late to arrive or leave (and if you are late returning from official break-times), you are considered tardy. 3 tardies will be counted as an unexcused absence.

As a courtesy, please email your instructor if you are experiencing issues with attending class regularly.

*Students are responsible for officially withdrawing from classes they are no longer attending.

Disability Support Services (DSS) Accommodation: Southwestern College recommends that students with disabilities or specific learning needs contact their professors during the first two weeks of class to discuss academic accommodations. If a student believes they may have a disability and would like more information, they are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services (DSS) at (619) 482-6512 (voice), (619) 207-4480 (video phone), or email at DSS@swccd.edu<mailto:DSS@swccd.edu>. Alternate forms of this syllabus and other course materials are available upon request

Academic Success Center Referral: To further your success, reinforce concepts, and achieve the stated learning objectives for this course, I refer you to the Academic Success Center learning assistance services. Upon request for tutorial services, you will be automatically enrolled in NC3: Supervised Tutoring, a free noncredit that does not appear on your transcripts. Services are located in the ASC (420), the Writing Center (420 D), the Reading Center (420), Math Center (426), the library LRC Interdisciplinary Tutoring lab, MESA specialized on-campus School, Tutoring Labs, the Higher Education Center, and the San Ysidro Education Center.

Online learning materials and Online Writing Lab (OWL) are available at: <http://www.swccd.edu/~asc/>

Academic Cheating and Plagiarism: Plagiarism and cheating, perpetrated actively or passively, constitute violations of academic honest. Disregard for written or verbal instructions regarding coursework may, at the discretion of the professor, represent academic cheating. All violations and suspected violations of academic honesty will result in action against the party or parties involved, and will be documented in writing with the Dean of Student Activities and the Dean of the School of Arts and Communication. Sanctions may include no-credit on the assignment in question, course failure or formal charges of student misconduct. Formal charges can result in academic probation, suspension or expulsion.

Classroom Etiquette: Students are expected to behave respectfully towards the professor and other students in the class. Please avoid disruptive behavior. Disruptive behavior constitutes any activity that disrupts classroom instruction or learning. Examples of disruptive behavior include talking during instruction, constant interruptions that are irrelevant to the course or current topic, tardiness to class, and early departures. There is to be no food in the lab. Phones are to be turned OFF during class (this means no texting or taking calls during class time). Chatting online or engaging in other online activities which are not part of class instruction are considered disruptive behaviors. The professor retains the right to excuse anyone from class who is being disruptive. In extreme cases, a student may be dropped from the course at the discretion of the professor. For more information, please see the SWC Catalogue and/or SWC Student Handbook.

Agreement to follow policies and understanding of material listed on syllabus:

You will be required to sign a document stating that you understand the information presented on this syllabus and will abide by the policies on this document and the policies on the the program website in regard to lockers, printing, checkout equipment, and studio use. You must sign this form prior to working in the lab, checking-out equipment, or using the studio. Additional documents will have to be signed before using the studio and checking-out equipment.