

FA206 Intermediate B/W Photography: Cut with a Kitchen Knife

Seminar Leader: April Gertler

Course Times: Thursdays 1.30 - 4.45

Email: a.gertler@bard.berlin.edu

Office Hours: By appointment -Thursdays 11 - 12

Course Description

Intermediate Photography: Cut with a Kitchen Knife will be an exploration of what it means to dive deeper into specific themes in photography. The class will be broken up into 3 sections. Each section will focus on one theme. The themes for this semester will include: Self- Reflection, Portraiture and Landscape. The students will focus on each theme for 4 weeks. Each 4 week segment will break down the theme by way of slide presentations given by the instructor showcasing German and European photographers who specifically work with the presented theme. In addition each student will give a short presentation on a photographer. Each theme will have between 1 - 3 articles/texts connected to it which will be discussed at the beginning of each new Section. There will be darkroom time during class to print. Finally each section will result in a critique of the work for that theme. By the end of the semester each student should have between 9 - 15 well-printed images.

Requirements

Students are expected to have a working knowledge of a group darkroom and how it functions. They are expected to know how to mix chemistry and should know how to dispose of it as well. Students are expected to participate in discussions about reading assignments, homework assignments which include printing assignments, demonstrations and studio work outside of the classroom. A series of 3 projects must be presented throughout the semester. Each student should expect an average of 6-8 hours outside of class meeting times to finish homework assignments.

Attendance

Attendance at ALL classes is expected. More than two absences in a semester will significantly affect the participation grade for the course.

It is advisable that students consult the Student Handbook for regulations governing periods of illness or leaves of absence.

If the student has to miss a class, it is required that the student send an email letting April Gertler know in advance.

Assignments

All assignments are due at the beginning of the class session. Detailed information about assignments and projects will both be explained in class and the instructions will be given out as a handout. The assignments, projects, and dates described in this syllabus are subject to

change by the instructor. Students will be notified of any changes to the syllabus in class and via email.

Policy on Late Submission of Papers

The following policy from the Student Handbook on the submission of essays will be honored: *essays that are up to 24 hours late will be downgraded one full grade (from B+ to C+, for example). Instructors are not obliged to accept essays that are more than 24 hours late. Where an instructor agrees to accept a late essay, it must be submitted within four weeks of the deadline and cannot receive a grade of higher than C.*

Thereafter, the student will receive a failing grade for the assignment.

Grade Breakdown

Attendance: 25%

Class participation (includes both darkroom maintenance / cleaning): 25%

Presentations: 25%

Project completion: 25%

BCB SPRING SEMESTER 2016

Intermediate Black and White Photography: Cut with a Kitchen Knife

Weekly Schedule*

*There may be adjustments to the timing of assignments as well as adjustments of content as course progresses. All students will be informed of any new expectations and / or deadlines.

If students would like to process film near the Bard campus - please use this lab:

Das Foto (<http://www.dasgrossfoto.de>)

Dietzgenstraße 39 - about 5 blocks from campus

Hours are: M-F: 9.30 - 6.30pm, Sat: 9.30 - 12.30

February 2: Week 1

Introduction to the class

Every student who has signed up for this class is required to bring 3-5 black and white prints to class for an initial introduction and class review.

Tour of the facilities and distribution of materials (film, plastic black bags, photographic paper etc)

Texts will be handed out for the first theme of the class.

February 9: Week 2

Meeting off campus for field trip about the history of Berlin photography (film will be handed out here as well)

Location to be determined

SECTION 1

February 16: Week 3

Introduction of first theme: Self-Reflection - 3-5 final prints due on March 9 including a short text describing the approach that the student took to do the assignment.

Slide show of various European photographers who focus on photographing themselves.

3 students will present a short presentation of photographers who photograph themselves

explaining why they like this work and what about it is interesting to them and the historical relevance to the topic.

Discussion of the texts that were handed out Feb 2.

February 23: Week 4

Darkroom day - students print what they have shot for this assignment.

March 2: Week 5

Darkroom day - students print what they have shot for this assignment.

March 9: Week 6

3-5 Final prints due for first assignment on Self-Reflection. There will be a critique of each person's prints in class for the entirety of the class period. Texts will be handed out for the next theme to be discussed at our next meeting.

SECTION 2

March 16: Week 7

Introduction of second theme: Portraiture - 3-5 final prints due on April 6 including a short text describing the approach that the student took to do the assignment.

Slide show of various European photographers who focus on photographing others.

3 students will present a short presentation of photographers who photograph others explaining why they like this work and what about it is interesting to them.

Discussion of the texts that were handed out March 9.

March 23: Week 8

Darkroom day - students print what they have shot for this assignment.

March 30: Week 9

Darkroom day - students print what they have shot for this assignment.

April 6: Week 10

3-5 Final prints due for second assignment on Portraiture. There will be a critique of each person's prints in class for the entirety of the class period. Texts will be handed out for the next theme to be discussed at our next meeting. A brief introduction on the last theme (Landscape) will be included during class so that the students can start shooting over the Spring Break.

SPRING BREAK - April 10 - 14

SECTION 3

April 20: Week 11

Introduction of third theme: Landscape - 3-5 final prints due on April 6 including a short text describing the approach that the student took to do the assignment.

Slide show of various European photographers who focus on landscape.

3 students will present a short presentation of photographers who landscape explaining why they like this work and what about it is interesting to them.

Discussion of the texts that were handed out. Discussion of text which was handed out on April 6.

April 27: Week 12

Darkroom day - students print what they have shot for this assignment.

May 5: Week 13

3-5 Final prints due for third assignment on Landscape. There will be a critique of each person's prints in class for the entirety of the class period. We will discuss the final show for the end of the semester.

May 11: Last day of class

It is required that all students attend the last day of class during Completion Week