

Minnesota State University Moorhead

PHO 375: The History and Aesthetics of Photography

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 4

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 2

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

This course examines the history and aesthetics of photography and the important role this medium of expression has held since its discovery in 1839. A chronological/genre approach to the exploration of this medium will be used to demonstrate the important contributions that this art form has made to the history of art. The use of photography as an expression of humanistic, religious, and social values will also be considered. Students will also explore the mixing of process with the history of the medium, developing a photographic project that is informed through their understanding of photographic history.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/21/2017 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Alfred Stieglitz
2. Art photography and Modernism
3. Blending photographic history with studio practice
4. Daugerre and Talbot
5. Early Portraiture
6. Landscape and architecture
7. New Technology, New Vision
8. Objects and Events
9. Photography and Art
10. Photography since 1950
11. The Beginnings of photography
12. The digital era
13. The wet plate process
14. Words and Pictures

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Recognize the various uses that have been considered appropriate for photography.
2. Evaluate the technical, aesthetic and conceptual qualities of the photographs of individuals who have set new trends in the art of photography.
3. Describe the relationship between photography and other contemporary events that have shaped the nation and the world.
4. Describe the significant people and events in the development of photography.
5. Analyze and compare the work of significant photographic practitioners through writing.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted