

**City University of Hong Kong  
Course Syllabus**

**offered by School of Creative Media  
with effect from Semester A 2018 /19**

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**Part I Course Overview**

**Course Title:** Introduction to Photography

**Course Code:** SM1013

**Course Duration:** One semester

**Credit Units:** 3

**Level:** B1

**Proposed Area:**  
*(for GE courses only)*

Arts and Humanities  
 Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations  
 Science and Technology

**Medium of Instruction:** English

**Medium of Assessment:** English

**Prerequisites:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

**Precursors:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

**Equivalent Courses:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

**Exclusive Courses:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* GE1129 Creative Photography

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

(A 150-word description about the course)

The course has a lecture and tutorial component.

The lecture aims at enhancing students' knowledge on photographic art to photographic means as a vehicle of expressing oneself. A choice of theme is designed, with well representative world photographers in each lecture to illustrate the theme, the style, the means and the outcome.

Our tutorials aim at development of the technical competence of students, on using the photographic means. We aim at training the students' ability to use the camera and the darkroom to achieve an accomplished works as a self-expressive means. Emphasis is put on the manipulation of the camera, both traditional and digital, the knowledge on film type and the process in printing.

### 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs <sup>#</sup>	Weighting* (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Use camera correctly, efficiently creating photo image of good quality			✓	
2.	Explore the work of master photographers and able to judge good photography from bad photography		✓	✓	
3.	Use digital darkroom technique correct and efficient			✓	
4.	Compose image through creative means			✓	✓
5. <sup>^</sup>	Transform basic technical competence into a unique style or personal signature			✓	✓
6. <sup>^</sup>	General personal insight as a result of critical interpretation of the subject matter		✓	✓	
		100%			

\* If weighting is assigned to CILOs, they should add up to 100%.

<sup>#</sup> Please specify the alignment of CILOs to the Gateway Education Programme Intended Learning outcomes (PILOs) in Section A of Annex.

<sup>^</sup> Negotiated Learning Outcome (NLO) explicitly articulating the elements of Discovery oriented learning.

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: *Ability*

*Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.*

A3: *Accomplishments*

*Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.*

### 3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

*(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)*

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.						Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
Group presentation	Classroom discussion and presentation of collected photographs from media	✓						30mins/wk
Assignment presentation	Classroom discussion and critique of their own individual works		✓					1hr/wk
Lecture	Showcase of world photographers and their famous work			✓				2hrs/wk
Workshop	Photographic projects on themes e.g. portrait, still life, landscape and from decisive moment.				✓	✓	✓	1hr/wk
Workshop	Photo Shooting workshop	✓						5hrs
Workshop	Digital image control workshop			✓				3 hrs

### 4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

*(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)*

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.						Weighting*	Remarks
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
Continuous Assessment: 100%								
Assignment 1: Photograph Critique	✓	✓					5%	
Assignment 2: Portrait Photography		✓			✓	✓	20%	
Assignment 3: Still Life Photography			✓		✓	✓	20%	
Assignment 4: Moment Photography				✓	✓	✓	20%	
Assignment 5: Landscape Photography				✓	✓	✓	15%	
Assignment 6: Story Telling in Photography				✓	✓	✓	20%	
Examination: 0% (duration: _____, if applicable)								

\* The weightings should add up to 100%.

100%

## 5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Photographic Projects	Students should demonstrate ability to utilize primary and secondary sources, execute creative ideas and projects. The threshold of 'discovery' lies in a student's proactively turning theory into praxis, to transform course material into self-owned authorship.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work has strong affective quality and the articulation of personal styles and signature</li> <li>- Excellent appreciation, exploration and/or application of the aesthetic and expressive qualities of the medium</li> <li>- Work raises questions and instill insights about the process of conception, creative strategization</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strong appreciation, exploration and/or application of the aesthetic and expressive qualities of the medium</li> <li>- Ability to create project/ work that demonstrate the processes of thinking and creative exploration</li> <li>- Proper adjustment of plans and strategies in response to resources (time, space,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Basic appreciation and/or application of the aesthetic and expressive qualities of the medium</li> <li>- Limited ability to create project/ work that demonstrate the processes of thinking and creative exploration</li> <li>- Adjustment of plans and strategies in response to resources (time, space, equipment, etc) available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Marginal appreciation of the aesthetic and expressive qualities of the medium</li> <li>- Marginal ability to create project/ work that demonstrate the processes of thinking and creative exploration</li> <li>- Limited adjustment of plans and strategies in response to resources (time, space, equipment, etc) available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No appreciation of the aesthetics and expressive qualities of the medium</li> <li>- Fail to create project/ work that demonstrate the processes of thinking and creative exploration</li> <li>- Minimal adjustment of plans and strategies in response to resources (time, space, equipment, etc) available</li> </ul>

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
		<p>and production</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Innovative exploration by combining knowledge from different disciplines (e.g. mathematics, psychology, physics, anthropology, etc.) to create an inter-disciplinary project</li> <li>- Efficient adjustment of plans and strategies in response to resources (time, space, equipment, etc) available with constructive adjustment</li> </ul>	<p>equipment, etc)</p> <p>available and constructive feedback/ suggestions</p>			

**Note: All A+/A/A- grade assignment should comply with the highest performance of Discovery-oriented learning.**

**Part III Other Information** (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

**1. Keyword Syllabus**

*(An indication of the key topics of the course.)*

**Photographers to be studied:**

Cindy Sherman, Dieter Appelt, Mario Testino, Ellen Von Unwerth, Duane Michals, Robert Frank, Pierre and Gilles, Jan Saudek , Pierre Molinier, Ansel Adams, Andrea Gurksy, Frantisek Drtikol, Boyd Webb, Annie Lebovitz Bruce Weber, Robert Mapplethorpe, Joel Pete Witkins, Herb Ritts

**Camera and Printing Techniques:**

Camera and Lens, Setting the Exposure, The Shutter and Motion, The Aperture and Depth of Field, Lens and Focal Length, Zoom Lenses, Perspective, Macro and Close Up Photography, Film Speed and Grain, Filters, Exposure Meter, Darkroom Process, Developing the negative, Contrast Control, Push Processing, Print making, Dodging and Burning, The Zone System

**2. Reading List**

**2.1 Compulsory Readings**

*(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)*

1.	The Ansel Adams Guide: Basic Techniques of photography Book1
2.	The Ansel Adams Guide: Basic Techniques of photography Book2
3.	Yosemite and the range of light by Ansel Adams
4.	The ballad of sexual dependency by Nan Goldin
5.	I'll be your mirror by Nan Goldin
6.	Black white and things by Robert Frank
7.	Flamingo by Robert Frank
8.	Robert Frank, thank you by Robert Frank
9.	Hold Still- Keep Going by Robert Frank
10.	The Americans by Robert Frank
11.	The lines of my hand by Robert Frank
12.	The Essential Duane Michals by Duane Michals
13.	Question Without Answer by Duane Michals
14.	Eros & Thanatos by Duane Michals
15.	Salute, Walt Whitman by Duane Michals
16.	Couples by Ellen Von Unwerth
17.	Jan Saudek: jublations and obsessions by Jan Saudek
18.	Jan Saudek : photographs 1987-1997 by Jan Saudek
19.	Mario Testino:Portraits by Mario Testino

20.	Front Row Back Stage by Mario Testino
21.	Any Objection? by Mario Testino
22.	Pierre and Gilles by Dan Cameron
23.	Joel Pete Witkins by Joel Pete Witkins
24.	Cindy Sherman : retrospective by Cindy Sherman
25.	Altars/Mapplethorpe by Robert Mapplethorpe
26.	Picture by Robert Mapplethorpe
27.	Pistils/Mapplethorpe by Robert Mapplethorpe
28.	Mapplethorpe by Robert Mapplethorpe
29.	Alexander Rodchenko : photography 1924-1954

## 2.2 Additional Readings

*(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)*

1.	Nil
2.	