

# Beginning Black & White Photography- Art 135

## Required Text

Photography, by London and Upton 7th- 11th Edition, (Inexpensive online)

## Recommended Reading

A World History of Photography 4th Edition, by N. Rosenblum

Beginning Photography is a 3 credit introductory course in the study of photography; an emphasis is placed on the development of a personal photographic vision. This course will: 1) provide you with the basic technical skills needed to use a manual 35mm camera, develop film and print black and white photographs, 2) explore the aesthetic potential of photography as an expressive art form.

## Class Structure

We will meet for lectures, critiques, discussions, and supervised darkroom time.

Critiques will take place as scheduled on the course calendar. You are expected to have work completed on time for critique (late work will negatively affect your grade). This forum serves to develop critical thinking and verbalization of both formal and conceptual photographic concerns. There will be a Mid-Term on the reading and technical information covered in class and a Final in the form of a submitted digital portfolio.

## Assignments

You will be required to shoot four rolls of film (36 exposures each) for each of the four critiques. You must present a minimum of 4 prints per critique. There will be additional assignments, which will include readings. The assignments given are designed to expose you to the many different avenues in photography, challenge your curiosity, imagination and to promote self-discovery and learning. Each assignment is prefaced with a class discussion on the potential and possibilities open for exploration within the assignment. You are invited to define each assignment in your own terms, and are encouraged to approach it from any direction, limited only by your own imagination.

## Outcomes

By the end of this course the student will be able to demonstrate functional levels of using a 35mm camera, developing film and printing black and white photographs. The student will be able to recognize and interpret photography as an art form. The student will be able to understand the function of proper display and presentation of photography in a gallery/exhibition environment.

## Grading

Your final grade is an average of the following: each critique is 20%, the Mid-Term and a Final combined are 10% and library assignments combined are 10%. A = work of exceptional quality, B = strong work, C = good work, D = poor work, F = work incomplete or of exceptionally poor quality. Quality will encompass the technical skills demonstrated as well as the conceptual or creative effort put into the assignment. Late work will affect your grade. All students must shoot, develop, print, & scan their own work. Use of a professional lab or having another do the work for you is considered academic misconduct.

## Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. If more than three classes are missed the final grade will be lowered 1 letter grade. 3 instances of partial attendance (late arrivals or early departures) equal 1 absence. If further absences or partial attendance occur, grades will continue to be lowered accordingly. It is absolutely essential to attend class.

## Darkroom Labs

These facilities are for you to use and enjoy. Only currently enrolled students may use the darkrooms. While using these facilities you will come in contact with expensive/delicate equipment and photographic chemicals. Therefore, there are certain guidelines that must be adhered to. Do not consume food or beverages in Labs. There is absolutely no smoking. Avoid skin contact with chemistry and direct inhalation of chemical fumes. In case of skin contact, wash hands with soap and water immediately. Make sure exhaust ventilation system is turned on. When you are finished working, make sure Labs are left in a clean condition. If you observe someone abusing the Labs, either through poor or hazardous work habits, bring it to their attention and notify me. This is your darkroom. Protect it and keep it clean. Darkrooms are only open during the posted times and will be locked after these hours for security reasons; at no time should the doors be propped open to allow for access after hours. Classroom/Darkroom Policies: NO cell phones during lectures or in the darkroom. NO loud music, or music that is disturbing others, or distracting you from safe practices. Absolutely NO device may be used in the darkroom with a screen that illuminates. NO recording lectures without my consent. Children and guests are NOT allowed in the classroom or darkroom areas without my permission.

## Public Health Directives

Face coverings are mandatory for all faculty and students in the classroom. Students must follow all active UNLV public health directives while enrolled in this class. UNLV public health directives are found at <https://www.unlv.edu/coronavirus/health-requirements>. Students who do not comply with these directives may be asked to leave the classroom. Refusal to follow the guidelines may result in further disciplinary action according to the UNLV Code of Student Conduct, (link here: [https://www.unlv.edu/sites/default/files/page\\_files/27/StudentConduct-Code.pdf](https://www.unlv.edu/sites/default/files/page_files/27/StudentConduct-Code.pdf)), including being administratively withdrawn from the course.

## Academic Misconduct

Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the University community. We all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility, and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, and are encouraged to always take the ethical path whenever faced with choices. Students enrolling at UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV's educational mission. An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another person, from the Internet or any other source without proper citation of the source(s). See the Student Conduct Code, <https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct>.

## Auditing Classes

Auditing a course allows a student to continue attending the lectures and/or laboratories and discussion sessions associated with the course, but the student will not earn a grade for any component of the course. Students who audit a course receive the same educational experience as students taking the course for a

grade, but will be excused from exams, assessments, and other evaluative measures that serve the primary purpose of assigning a grade.

## Classroom Conduct

Students have a responsibility to conduct themselves in class and in the libraries in ways that do not interfere with the rights of other students to learn, or of instructors to teach. Use of electronic devices such as pagers, cellular phones, or recording devices, or potentially disruptive devices or activities are only permitted with the prior explicit consent of the instructor. The instructor may rescind permission at any time during the class. If a student does not comply with established requirements or obstructs the functioning of the class, the instructor may initiate an administrative withdrawal of the student from the course.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic forced some instruction to be delivered remotely starting in Spring 2020, numerous students have asked instructors to record their synchronous classes, so that they can access them at their convenience. Instructors who agree to record their classes (audio only, or video and audio) should inform students in advance. Recorded lectures may not be broadly released to anyone, but made available exclusively to those students enrolled in the class during the particular academic term. Recorded lectures must be stored securely, and are subject to the Nevada System of Higher Education's Records Retention Policy, meaning that the recordings can only be deleted 120 days after the end of class (i.e., after grades are posted). Once this requirement is met, the recordings should be deleted. Class recordings are protected from disclosure, as they are deemed part of an educational record under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

## Copyright

The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with, and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The University will neither protect nor defend you, nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies.

Additional copyright policy information is available here (link here:

<https://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright.>)

## Disability Resource Center (DRC)

The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A, Room 143, Link here - <https://www.unlv.edu/drc>, telephone 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. Students who believe that they may need academic accommodations due to injury, disability, or due to pregnancy should contact the DRC as early as possible in the academic term. A Disabilities Specialist will discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours, so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

## Final Examinations

The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur on the date and at the time specified in the Final Exam schedule. The Final Exam schedule is typically available at the start of the semester, and the classroom locations are available approximately one month before the end of the semester. See the Final Exam Schedule, link here - <https://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars>.

## Identity Verification in Online Courses

All UNLV students must use their Campus-issued ACE ID and password to log in to WebCampus-Canvas.

UNLV students enrolled in online or hybrid courses are expected to read and adhere to the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, link here - <https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/misconduct/policy>, which states that “acting or attempting to act as a substitute for another, or using or attempting to use a substitute, in any academic evaluation or assignment” is a form of academic misconduct. Intentionally sharing ACE login credentials with another person may be considered an attempt to use a substitute, and could result in investigation and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Academic Misconduct Policy.

UNLV students enrolled in online courses are also expected to read and adhere to the Acceptable Use of Computing and Information Technology Resources Policy, <https://www.it.unlv.edu/policies/acceptable-use-computing-and-information-technology-resources-policy>, which prohibits sharing university accounts with other persons without authorization.

To the greatest extent possible, all graded assignments and assessments in UNLV online courses should be hosted in WebCampus-Canvas or another UNLV-managed platform that requires ACE login credentials for access.

## Incomplete Grades

The grade of “I” (Incomplete) may be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session, but cannot complete the last part of the course for reason(s) beyond the student’s control and acceptable to the instructor, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. For undergraduate courses, the incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700- level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the period indicated, a grade of “F” will be recorded, and the student’s GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete grade do not register for the course, but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the “I” grade.

## Library Resources

Librarians are available to consult with students on research needs, including developing research topics, finding information, and evaluating sources. To make an appointment with a subject expert for this class, please visit the Libraries’ Research Consultation website, link here - <https://guides.library.unlv.edu/appointments/librarian>. You can also ask the library staff questions via chat and text message, link here - <https://ask.library.unlv.edu/>.

## Missed Classwork

Any student missing class, quizzes, examinations, or any other class or laboratory work because of observance of religious holidays will be given an opportunity during that semester to make up the missed work. The make-up opportunity will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for Fall and Spring courses (except for modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for Summer and modular courses, of their intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit the Missed Work policy, under Registration Policies, on the Academic Policies webpage, link here - <https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=29&navoid=7326>.

In accordance with the policy approved by the Faculty Senate regarding missed class time and assignments, students who represent UNLV in any official extracurricular activity will also have the opportunity to make up assignments, provided that the student provides official written notification to the instructor no less than one week prior to the missed class(es).

The spirit and intent of the policy for missed classwork is to offer fair and equitable assessment opportunities to all students, including those representing the University in extracurricular activities. Instructors should consider, for example, that in courses which offer a “Drop one” option for the lowest assignment, quiz, or exam, assigning the student a grade of zero for an excused absence for extracurricular activity is both contrary to the intent of the Faculty Senate’s policy, and an infringement on the student’s right to complete all work for the course.

This policy will not apply in the event that completing the assignment or administering the examination at an alternate time would impose an undue hardship on the instructor or the University that could be reasonably avoided. There should be a good faith effort by both the instructor and the student to agree to a reasonable resolution. When disagreements regarding this policy arise, decisions can be appealed to the Department Chair/School Director, College/School Dean, and/or the Faculty Senate Academic Standards Committee. For purposes of definition, extracurricular activities may include, but are not limited to: academic recruitment activities, competitive intercollegiate athletics, fine arts activities, liberal arts competitions, science and engineering competitions, and any other event or activity sanctioned by a College/School Dean, and/or by the Executive Vice President and Provost.

## Rebelmail

Rebelmail is UNLV’s official email system for students and by University policy, instructors and staff should only send emails to students’ Rebelmail accounts. Rebelmail is one of the primary ways in which students receive official University communications, information about deadlines, major Campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the University. Emailing within WebCampus-Canvas is also acceptable.

## Tutoring and Coaching

The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching, and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, please visit the ASC website, <https://www.unlv.edu/asc>, or call 702-895-3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of SSC A, Room 254. Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library, and on the second floor of the College of Engineering building (TBE A 207).

## UNLV Writing Center

One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, link here - <https://writingcenter.unlv.edu/>, located in the Central Desert Complex, Building 3, Room 301 (CDC 3–301). Walk-in consultations are sometimes available, but students with appointments receive priority assistance. Students may make appointments in person or by calling the Center, telephone 702-895-3908. Students are requested to bring to their appointments their Rebel ID Card, a copy of the instructions for their assignment, and two copies of any writing they have completed on their assignment.

## Diversity Statement

As an institution of higher learning, UNLV represents a rich diversity of human beings among its faculty, staff, and students, and is committed to aspiring to maintain a Campus environment that values that diversity.

Accordingly, the University supports understanding and appreciation of all members of its community, regardless of race, sex, age, color, national origin, ethnicity, creed, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, marital status, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, or political affiliation. Please see University Statements and Compliance, link here - <https://www.unlv.edu/about/statements-compliance>.

A successful learning experience requires mutual respect and trust between the students and the instructor. Accordingly, the instructor asks that students be willing to listen to one another's points of view, acknowledging that there may be disagreements, keep discussion and comments on topic, and use first person, positive language when expressing their perspectives.

## SUPPLIES

- 1) 35mm MANUAL FILM CAMERA (not digital) w/50 mm or 35mm lens (have batteries checked). If you need to purchase a camera, I suggest a Pentax K1000. (\$100-200) (\$5 battery)
- 2) Light meter, most manual cameras have built in light meters. (\$50 & up)
- 3) 17 rolls of 36 exposure B&W film, purchase Tri-X 400 film. (If this isn't available, any 400 or 100 Kodak, Agfa or Ilford film) Do not buy B&W C-41 film! This usually comes from Walgreens or Target. This film is actually color film, processed using color chemistry. We will be processing all film in B&W chemistry in the lab. (\$4-6 each)
- 4) Paper for Prints: Ilford 8x10 - 100 sheets Variable Contrast (VC) Fiber Based (FB) Double Weight (DW) Glossy - DO NOT OPEN!!!! DO NOT BUY WARM TONE PAPER) (\$95-125 each) Paper for Contact Sheets: 25 pack of any brand 8x10, RC, VC, DW, Glossy.
- 5) Print file 35mm negative sleeves and a binder to keep them in. (\$7/25 pack)
- 6) Latex or Dishwashing gloves
- 7) Multigrade printing filters (may share or use departments) (\$18)
- 8) Thermometer (\*\*recommended, but may share or use departments) (\$4)
- 9) Developing tank and 2-35mm reels (may use photo departments) (\$20-25)
- 10) 8x Loupe (\$9)
- 11) Dust Gun & Ilford antistatic cloth (\$10)
- 12) Masking Tape
- 13) Q-Tips
- 14) Scissors
- 15) 3-5 Towels (Photo Lab does NOT have paper towels or rags)
- 16) Apron
- 17) Lock (2 students must share 1 locker)
- 18) Bottle opener (may share or use departments)
- 19) Cable release (\$5-30) \*\*optional
- 22) Notebook

These items may be purchased locally at B&C Camera (702)-871-1100, 4511 W. Sahara Ave, Las Vegas NV 89102.

You can also order online from: B&H [www.bhphotovideo.com](http://www.bhphotovideo.com), Freestyle [www.freestylephoto.biz](http://www.freestylephoto.biz), KEH [www.keh.com](http://www.keh.com)

## ART 135 COURSE CALENDAR

## WEEK 1

Aug 30 Intro to course

HW: get supplies

Sept 1 Photographic possibilities slide presentation: campus art tour (bring student ID)

HW: Read ch. 1-5

## WEEK 2

Sept 6 Review ch. 1-5, How To Use Camera (bring cameras, camera manuals, 1 roll of film)

HW: Read ch. 6, shoot 1 roll of film for next class session

Sept 8 Review ch. 6, Developing Film Demo (bring all supplies including exposed roll of film)

HW: Read ch. 7, re-read ch. 1-7, READ your camera manual!!!!!!!

## WEEK 3

Sept 13 Review chapter 7, Printing Demo (rayograph and contact sheet)

HW: read chapters 12,15,16,17 , make dodging and burning tools

Sept 15 Review printing techniques: Make 1st print from 1 roll, slide presentation Self Portraits

HW: Visual Analysis #1: Show - KUSO Project

## WEEK 4

Sept 20 Lab, Tec review

HW: shoot two rolls of Self Portraits

Sept 22 Lab, show 2 contact sheets of Self Portraits, KUSO visual analysis due

HW: Library Assignment #1: Library TR book or periodicals, take notes

## WEEK 5

Sept 27 Lab, print, Library Assignment #1 notes due

HW: Shoot second two rolls of Self-Portraits

Sept 29 Lab, show 2 contact sheets of Self Portraits

HW: Print

## WEEK 6

Oct 4 Lab, print

HW: Print

Oct 6 Critique of Self Portraits, Slide presentation Street/Documentary

HW: Prep for Mid-Term review

## WEEK 7

Oct 11 Mid-Term Review

HW: Study for Mid-Term

Oct 13 Mid-Term, Arbus, Marks, Winogrand/Gowin videos

HW: Shoot 2 rolls of Street/Documentary

## WEEK 8

Oct 18 Lab, show 2 contact sheets of Street/Documentary

HW: Watch a photography video, take notes

Oct 20 Lab, video notes due

HW: Shoot second 2 rolls of Street/Documentary

## WEEK 9

Oct 25 Lab, show 2 contact sheets, of Street/Documentary

HW: Print

Oct 27 Lab

HW: Print

## WEEK 10

Nov 1 Critique of Street/Documentary, Slide presentation Fabrication/Staging

HW: Shoot 2 rolls of Fabrication/Staging

Nov 3 Lab, show 2 contact sheets of Fabrication/Staging

HW: Library Assignment #2: Look at 2 photo

books on reserve, take notes

## WEEK 11

Nov 8 Lab, Reserve photo book notes due

HW: Shoot second 2 rolls of Fabrication/Staging

Nov 10 Lab, show 2 contact sheets of Fabrication/Staging

HW: Print, Visual Analysis #2: Movie scene

## WEEK 12

Nov 15 Lab

HW: Print

Nov 17 Critique of Fabrication/Staging, Slide presentation Narrative

HW: Shoot 2 rolls of Narrative

## WEEK 13

Nov 22 Lab, show 2 contacts of Narrative

HW: Print

Nov 24 NO CLASS

## WEEK 14

Nov 29 Lab

HW: Shoot second 2 rolls of Narrative

Dec 1 Lab, show 2 contacts of Narrative

HW: Print

## WEEK 15

Dec 6 Critique of Narrative, Final day to submit Critique Re-dos (extra credit) and Library Assignments/Visual Analyses (for half credit)

HW: Selects tops 10 images for digital portfolio

Dec 8 Scanning Demo of tops 10 images

## WEEK 16

Dec 10 FINAL 10:10am-12:10pm: Digital portfolio due (google doc, wetransfer, dropbox) Darkroom clean up, clean out lockers



## ASSIGNMENTS for Beginning BW Photography

Observation of the world as it exists

### ASSIGNMENT #1: Self Portrait/Portraits

Look at your world close at hand, what are you interested in? What and who are close at hand?

- b) Issues addressed include personal mythology, personal history, personal identity, social identity, multicultural and gender issues.
- c) Reveal something beyond the surface of things.

### ASSIGNMENT #2: Street/ Snapshot/Documentary Photography

a) Look at the world outside of you, beyond the intimacy of family and home.

b) Public vs private spaces, voyeurism, camera gives permission to look.

c) Serendipity, synchronicity, waiting for the moment of reveal (an insight/window into the scene)

Construction and Manipulation of Images

### ASSIGNMENT #3: Fabrication/Dream imagery/Telling Lies

a) Manipulation of image through shooting and darkroom techniques: blur, double negatives. etc

b) Constructing images: still lifes, installation, staging

c) Use of appropriated images: TV, video, advertisements

### ASSIGNMENT #4: The Narrative

a) Images in series, diptychs, triptychs (sequential or disjointed)

b) Images and text

c) Telling of stories- truth or fiction

## Photography by London, Stone, Upton

### CHAPTERS 1-5

-Getting Started

-Camera

-Lens

-Exposure and film

### CHAPTER 6

-Developing Film

### CHAPTER 7

-Printing in darkroom

### CHAPTERS 12, 15, 16, 17

-Lighting

-Seeing photographs

-History of Photographs

-Extending the image

## READING LIST

Social Graces (Larry Fink) TR820.5 F48  
Weegee's New York TR 820 W397  
Immediate Family (Sally Mann) TR 681 C5 M35X  
Diane Arbus TR 647 A7 A69  
Francesca Woodman TR 647 W63 A4 or TR685 W66 F7 1998  
Friends and Relations (Tina Barney) TR 654 B29  
George Krause TR 654 T 83  
Nan Golden TR 680 G65 or TR 680 S89 1996  
David Levinthal TR 654 L4 5916  
Sandy Skoglund TR 647 S56 1998  
Barbara Kruger N6537 K78 A4  
Carrie Mae Weems TR 647 W383 K57 1993  
Lorna Simpson TR 654 W55  
Now Becoming Then (D. Michaels) TR 647 M4945  
Arthur Tress TR 647 T737 1993  
A Distant Land (Pfahl) TR 647 P494  
Emmet Gowin TR 647 G69  
Holly Roberts TR 647 R571 A4X  
Joel-Peter Witkin TR 647 W57  
Judy Dater TR 654 D338 1986  
Laurie Simmons TR 654 S528X  
Mike and Doug Starn TR 647 S73  
Occupied Territory (Lynne Cohen) TR 654 C598  
Private Enemy (B. Charlesworth) TR 647 C44  
R.E. Meatyard TR 647 M393  
Mapplethorpe TR 647 M365 M3  
Cindy Sherman TR 654 S4773X  
Eileen Cowin TR 647 C69X  
Bruce Davidson TR 654 D36  
Mary Ellen Mark TR 820.5 F85  
Winogrand TR 647 W56  
The Americans (Robert Frank) E 169.02 F713  
Michiko Kon TR 654 K66 1997  
Albert Chong TR 654 C4867 1994

## TEXTBOOK

Photography London TR 145 L66 1989