

Photography Course Descriptions:

Each of these courses address photographic imaging from a combination of aesthetic, conceptual, theoretical, and practical perspectives. The Photography program is a part of the San José State Laptop Project, meaning all students are expected to have high quality laptops (preferably Macintosh), capable of running contemporary graphics and image software applications. This is an unofficial list. Not all courses are offered every semester, and courses could change in the future. This is meant as a guide only:

- **Photo 40: Beginning Photography**– A beginning photography course which introduces students to basic aesthetic issues in image making (primarily in black and white), as well as photographic technique utilizing digital cameras, electronic image processing and printing. Now taught digitally, requires a DSLR type (digital) camera (see Camera section of this site). Requires Adobe Lightroom.
- **Photo 110: Intermediate Photography**– A traditional darkroom photography class which introduces black and white film developing, fiber based fine printing, and the exploration of image manipulations and presentation techniques. Taught with traditional film and photo paper; requires a film camera, a limited number of which the department can loan students.
- **Photo 112: Color Photography**– An intermediate course introducing principles of color photography, color theory, a refined use of the camera and printing techniques, now taught digitally. Requires DSLR type (digital) camera, (see Camera section of this site). Requires Adobe Lightroom and Adobe Photoshop.
- **Photo 113: Alternative Processes**– Explores historical, handmade photographic printing processes which open avenues of expression unavailable through contemporary photographic processes. Cyanotype, Van Dyke, and gum bichromate techniques are covered, as well as creating both traditional and digital negatives for contact printing.
- **Photo 114: Advanced Black and White Photography**– Presents students with an advanced exploration of traditional silver based film and darkroom printing, the use of view cameras, and the Zone System. Provides students with the opportunity to explore the qualities of expression unique to the gelatin silver process.
- **Photo 115: Digital Photography**– An intermediate level survey course investigating the unique possibilities afforded by contemporary digital imaging. Includes preparation of images for presentation via web, print or video.

Emphasizes making digital tools relevant to the ongoing development of student work.

- Photo 116: Contemporary Issues in Photography– A seminar exploring current issues in photography and related media in the larger art world. Viewing contemporary imagery, readings and discussions of today’s photographers, ideas and philosophies will be conducted.
- Photo 120: Image and Idea – An intermediate course in which students pursue individual projects. Emphasis on diverse strategies of approach and presentation which culminate in a group exhibition.
- Photo 121: Introduction to Studio Lighting– An introductory class presenting basic lighting techniques in a studio setting with specialized equipment and digital view cameras.
- Photo 122: Product Photography– The technical and conceptual aspects of product photography with emphasis on design, lighting, visual impact and clarity of purpose. Course is repeatable once for credit.
- Photo 123: Photographic Illustration– An advanced course in studio photography with an emphasis on illustrating a narrative or editorial topic.
- Photo 125: Advanced Photographic Media– Advanced course in use of photographic imaging techniques. Emphasis upon relating new technologies to ongoing work developed in previous classes. Energies directed toward a balance of imagery, appropriate craft and concept.
- Photo 126: The History of Photography – A survey of aesthetic and technical trends in photography from its invention in the 19th century to the present day, conducted in an art historical context.
- Photo 129: Professional Practices– Designed to prepare graduating photo majors for practicing their professions. Visiting experts in the field will present various strategies for developing and maintaining business practices for professional photographers.
- Photo 197: BA Senior Project – An undergraduate exit class in creating professional artist portfolios, developing methods of approaching galleries, refining a professional web presence and other relevant forms of career development.

- Art 208: Graduate Seminar in Photography– Ongoing reviews and discussions of class members' work as well as discussions of current issues in contemporary art.

Additional BFA Courses:

- Art 198: BFA Seminar– A gathering of BFA students from different media across the school of Art and Design in a seminar course, discussing current issues in art and professional practices.
- Art 199: BFA Project Exhibition - Creation and exhibition of a solo show of the student's BFA artwork, in consultation with two faculty members of the student's choice.