Request for Courses in the Core Curriculum

Originating Department or College: Fine and Performing Arts

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Course Number and Title: ARTS 2356: Photography

Please attach syllabus as a separate document. (If this is a new or substantially changed course, it will require University Curriculum Committee approval.)

List the student learning outcomes for the course (i.e., statements of what students will know and/or be able to do as a result of taking this course and include the Core-Curriculum Learning Objectives (CCLOs) addressed. See example below.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs): Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. identify major and minor works in various decades by photographer and contribution(s);
2. analyze the cultural, social, and historical aspects of photography;
3. evaluate photographs studied and turned in by students;
4. make connections between images, technology, aesthetics, and themes; and
5. make photographs that demonstrate creativity, effective arrangement of visual elements, technical competence, and active participation in critique.

Core-Curriculum Objectives (CCOs):

1. Critical Thinking Skills: includes creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information. (SLOs # 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
2. Communication Skills: includes effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. (SLOs #, 2, 3, 4, 5)
3. Teamwork: includes the ability to work well with others to support a shared purpose or goal and consider different points of view. (SLOs # 3, 4, 5)
4. Social Responsibility: includes intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. (SLOs # 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Component Area for which the course is being proposed (check one):
- Communication
- American History
- Mathematics
- Government/Political Science
- Language, Philosophy, & Culture
- Social & Behavioral Science
- Creative Arts
- Component Area Option
- Life & Physical Sciences

Competency areas addressed by the course (refer to the appended chart for competencies that are required and optional in each component area):

- Critical Thinking
- Communication Skills
- Written Communication
- Oral Communication
- Visual Communication
- Empirical & Quantitative Skills

- Teamwork
- Personal Responsibility
- Social Responsibility
Because we will be assessing student learning outcomes across multiple core courses, assignments in your course must include evaluation of the relevant core competencies. For each competency checked above, indicate the specific course assignment(s) which, when completed by students, will provide evidence of the competency. Provide detailed information, such as copies of the paper or project assignment, copies of individual test items, etc. A single assignment may be used to provide data for multiple competencies.

**Critical Thinking:**

ARTS 2356 has a number of opportunities for students to demonstrate critical thinking skills. Students will be given a midterm exam that will ask them to analyze a photographer’s work from cultural, social, and historical perspectives, and include questions that require analysis of images. In addition the final exam photo series will require students to turn in “artist statements” - reflection pieces on the work turned in. Student artifacts can be assessed using a rubric designed for courses in Communication. The rubric domains of invention, arrangement, style, delivery and memory include the critical thinking aspects of “creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.” For assessment purposes, instructor will submit these rubric scores for core-curriculum assessment, or student essays can be assessed by a Core-Curriculum Assessment Committee using a rubric designed specifically for “critical thinking.”

**Communication Skills:**

The same assignment submitted for “Critical Thinking” can be submitted for assessment of “Communication Skills” in the area of written and visual communication. The midterm essays will include students’ ability to analyze artwork from a given time period. For example, students might analyze images from the Great Depression or write about the work and contribution of Alfred Stieglitz. The final exam photo series requires the submission of an “artist statement” - reflection pieces on the work turned in. Student artifacts can be assessed using a rubric designed for courses in Communication. The rubric domains of invention, arrangement, style, delivery and memory include the communication aspects for written and visual communication skills. For assessment purposes, instructors will submit these rubric scores for core-curriculum assessment, or student artifacts can be assessed by a Core-Curriculum Assessment Committee using a rubric designed specifically for “communication skills.”

For oral communication, ARTS 2356 students will participate in group critique sessions and communicate their ideas about the photographs turned in for a grade, perhaps answering specific questions posed by the instructor or perhaps developing their own set of questions and ideas within a group setting. Additionally, each student will be required to not only visually present their photos during critique sessions, but to also speak about their images (creative process, technical application and aesthetic choices), and reflect on the final product. The final exam photo series will also require participation in critique and a submission of an “artist statement”. Students oral (visual and written) communication can be assessed using a rubric designed for use in all Communication courses and that is based on the five canons of rhetoric. The rubric domains of invention, arrangement, style, delivery and memory pertain specifically to oral communication, and can be applied to visual and written communication. The results of the assessment could then be submitted for evaluation by the Core-Curriculum Assessment Committee.

**Empirical & Quantitative Skills: N/A**

**Teamwork:** Group critiques can also be used to assess “a student’s ability to work successfully with others to support the shared goal” of constructive criticism “and consider different points of view.” Students enrolled in ARTS 2356 will participate in critique sessions and communicate their ideas about the photographs turned in for a grade, perhaps answering specific questions posed by the instructor or perhaps developing their own set of questions and ideas within a group setting. Students can assess their peers using a peer-to-peer assessment, or student can be assessed using a rubric designed for “teamwork”. The result of the assessment could then be submitted for evaluation by the Core-Curriculum Assessment Committee.

Students will also be required to work in small groups for the “Night” photography assignment (Project 7). Students will be asked to make images at night using available light in exterior locations. The assignment requires the

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use of a tripod and stopwatch as students will be attempting timed exposures of one to two minutes. While one student holds the shutter release button (the photographer) another can keep time (the assistant photographer), and a third student can participate as a model. Students can assess their peers using a peer-to-peer assessment, or students can be assessed using a rubric designed for “teamwork”. The result of this assessment could then be submitted for evaluation by the Core-Curriculum Assessment Committee.

**Personal Responsibility:** N/A

**Social Responsibility:**
Photography traditionally lends itself well to the study of “social responsibility” and the “intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.” Students who successfully complete ARTS 2356 will understand how photography can be used as a tool for social change. Students will be required to make images with a social reform agenda (Project 4), and then participate in a group critique. Students will present their images and be expected to speak about their creative process, technical application, aesthetic choices, and social reform agenda. Students can be assessed using a rubric designed for “social responsibility”. The result of this assessment could then be submitted for evaluation by the Core-Curriculum Assessment Committee.

**Will the syllabus vary across multiple sections of the course?** _X_ Yes ___ No

**List the assignments that will be constant across the sections:**
The assignments that will be constant across the sections will be individual photo assignments, a mid-term exam, and a final-exam photo series. The content may vary from section to section because of the individual instructor’s predilection for one photo assignment over another, and/or one photographer over another. This is deemed acceptable in the study of photography because the SLOs remain. Moreover, these kinds of variations create flexibility in the curriculum to keep the course fresh from semester to semester as well as reducing the chances of academic dishonesty inherent in maintaining the same content semester after semester, especially with regard to examination questions.

Reviewed and approved by the Core Curriculum Committee on March 1, 2013.