PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS PROPOSALS

NIGHT AND LOW-LIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

This course is best suited to intermediate or advanced students, who already have some experience with photography. The class teaches extended photographic techniques, time-exposure techniques, and unusual "tips and tricks" that require some prior experience as a photographer. The field photography session would begin just before sunset, and continue into the evening. Special effects such as time-exposure and time-lapse photography are included in the curriculum.

Three sessions:

- 1. Introduction to low-light photography, showing slides of examples. Explanation of tools and techniques. Basic theory, etc.
- 2. Practicum in the field.
- 3. Evaluation of student slides. Discussion of what worked and what didn't. (I strongly believe that we all learn from our mistakes.)

Materials needed: slide film, a classroom, and a slide projector. Students would also need tripods, manual cable releases, and (optional) handheld flash units. OPTIONAL: Digital camera with tripod; most of the night-photography techniques apply to digital as well as film cameras, with some notable differences that can also be discussed in class.



DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Basic, intermediate, and advanced-level students welcome.

ARTHUR DURKEE

608-332-3653

Three-session course in general photography with digital cameras. All levels of photography experience and age are welcome, as the emphasis is on learning the technology and how to use it. (It would be good to have access to a computer in the classroom; also, if possible, and this would also be good for a Photoshop class, it would be good for the instructor's computer to have a projector so that all the students can watch easily).

Three sessions:

- 1. Introduction and review of techniques; viewing example images with commentary.
- 2. Field/studio photography session, various locations indoors & outdoors. This could be in the evening or on a weekend afternoon. Some Photoshop work. This will also cover some studio lighting techniques, if indoors.
- 3. Classroom critique of student images. Examples of Photoshop artwork, to show what you can do with digital photos once they're in the computer. More Q&A as needed.

Materials needed: some way to view digital images that the students have taken. Perhaps a laptop computer with slideshow capability. The students can print on their home computers, too; some might bring in their own laptops. Also useful would be an LCD projector, the type that projects onto the wall what the instructor's computer has on its screen.

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PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS PROPOSALS

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY (SHORT COURSE)

Basic, intermediate, and advanced students welcome.

Course in nature photography, emphasizing working outdoors using available light.

Three sessions:

- 1. Introduction and review of techniques, viewing example images with commentary. Also, looking at images by great nature photographers such as Jim Brandenburg, DeWitt Jones, Ansel Adams, Eliot Porter, etc.
- 2. Field photography session, various locations outdoors. Ideally, class will meet in a nearby nature center, wildlife refuge or State Park.
- 3. Classroom critique of student images.

Materials needed: SLR camera, slide film, tripod, telephoto lens if available. OPTIONAL: Digital cameras are also acceptable, if students can then show their work on laptop or print it for the class to view together.



ARTHUR DURKEE

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NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY II (EXTENDED-LENGTH COURSE)

This course is more suited to intermediate or advanced students. Because we will be spending more time in the field, this is also a course that places more physical demands on the students than your average photo class. Expect to go out and shoot regardless of what the weather is doing; warm coats and/or raingear may be appropriate for one session, and shorts and sandals for the next.

Course in nature & landscape photography, emphasizing working outdoors using available light. Each of the field photography sessions would emphasize specific topics.

Six weekly sessions:

- 1. Introduction and review of techniques; viewing example images with commentary. Also, looking at images by great nature photographers such as Jim Brandenburg, DeWitt Jones, Ansel Adams, etc.
- 2. Field photography session: basic outdoor & available-light photography techniques.
- 3. Field photography session: photo composition and graphic design elements. Close-up and macro photography.
- 4. Field photography session: special techniques, for example: using reflective surfaces and water.
- 5. Field photography session: pulling it all together to work in detail with a specific location (for example, a local park or flower garden), using all techniques learned so far.
- 6. Classroom critique of student images, emphasizing artistic as well as technical mastery.

Materials needed: SLR camera, silde film, tripod, telephoto lens if available. OPTIONAL: Digital cameras also acceptable, if students can then show their work on laptop or print it for the class to view together.

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PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS PROPOSALS

BASIC PHOTOGRAPHY

A beginner-level class teaching basic techniques and photographic composition. In winter, the second session can be done indoors, and thus also talk about lighting and studio photography techniques.

Three weekly sessions:

- 1. Introduction and overview of the history of photography. How cameras work. Why we photograph. Slides of great photographs as examples of what is possible with a camera.
- 2. Practicum: Basic composition, model and landscape photography, how to get used to looking at the world through the lens.
- 3. Evaluation of student images, from both technical and artistic viewpoints. At the very end, one last slideshow to inspire the students to continue!

Materials needed: SLR camera, slide film, telephoto lens if available. OPTIONAL: Digital cameras also acceptable, if students can then show their work on laptop or print it for the class to view together.

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INFRARED PHOTOGRAPHY WITH YOUR DIGITAL CAMERA

This class is essentially the same as the Digital Camera class (see above), except that the focus will be on infrared (IR) photography, a special group of techniques and tips that involve the viewer in a wholly new way of seeing the world. Infrared light consists of longer wavelengths, beyond the red end of the visible spectrum. Because of the longer wavelengths, the camera must take longer exposures than normal, and thus the use of a tripod is recommended.

The class will feature the use of IR filters for your camera, the use of comparative photos--normal light (color) and IR--to see how IR differs from normal light, and ways to use white balance and autofocus to alter your images.

Three sessions:

- 1. Introduction and review of techniques, viewing example images with commentary.
- 2. Field photography session, various locations indoors & outdoors. This could be in the evening or on a weekend afternoon.
- 3. Classroom critique of student images. Examples of Photoshop artwork, to show what you can do with digital IR photos once they're in the computer, for examples, the use of filters. More Q&A as needed.

Required equipment: digital camera; IR filter(s); tripod.

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DIGITAL ART CLASS PROPOSALS

PHOTOSHOP TECHNIQUES AND TRICKS TO USE WITH YOUR DIGITAL CAMERA

This could be a beginner's Photoshop class, but it is more suited to intermediate and advanced photographers than to beginners.

Three weekly sessions:

- 1. Introduction and Photoshop basics. The theory of digital imaging. Basic digital camera work. The scanner is also a camera.
- 2. Image manipulation, from simple color-correction and image-correction, to extreme filter usage to create special effects.
- 3. Options for printing your images, from inkjet to IRIS giclee prints. How resolution affects quality. Materials and methods.

In each session, students would be encouraged to bring in their own images so that we can evaluate them and play with them. Turning a simple picture into a work of art is the goal.

Materials needed: Computers, (optional) digital cameras. Also useful would be an LCD projector, the type that projects onto the wall what the instructor's computer has on its screen. This could perhaps be borrowed for the duration of the class.



BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS FOR GRAPHIC ARTISTS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

Class requirements: basic computer skills, plus some photo/graphics experience. Inermediate or advanced artistic level, but beginning computer skills level okay.

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ARTHUR DURKEE

A short two to four week course in learning how to view the computer as an artistic tool. The goal is to make the computer transparent, so that artists spend their time making art rather than dealing with the operating system. Skills covered include:

- 1. Basic computer skills. How to turn the darn thing on.
- 2. Graphic design and layout; the software available for design and graphics production.
- 3. Typography.
- 4. How to use the Internet as a creative profesional. The Net has lots of useful sites for artists; how to find them. Search skills.
- 5. How to recycle your images into other areas: or, turning your painting in a notecard.
- 6. Digital photography as a means of documenting your work and your creative process.

Practical exercise: each student will be required to design, illustrate, and present a self-marketing piece, such as a brochure, business card, integrated identity system, poster promoting a solo or group show, etc. These will be evaluated at the end of class for design clarity and visual appeal.

In each session, students would be encouraged to bring in their own images so that we can evaluate them and play with them. Turning a simple picture into a work of art is the goal.

Materials needed: Computers, (optional) digital cameras. Also useful would be an LCD projector, the type that projects onto the wall what the instructor's computer has on its screen. This could perhaps be borrowed for the duration of the class.

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