Unit 02: Making, Recording and Reproducing Images

Content Area: **Fine Arts**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**
Length: **5-6 Weeks**
Status: **Published**

Brief Summary of Unit

Students will re-familiarize themselves with lens-based photography. Through lecture, multimedia presentations, discussion and text readings students will begin to understand the workings of lens-based photography and the parts and workings of a 35mm manual camera. Over the course of the unit students will learn black and white film processing and darkroom image enlargement and techniques. As always safety precautions will be addressed in the handling of chemicals all while developing the students' photographic language. The unit of study is comprised of various photographic assignments exploring the basic elements of good composition including the Rule of Thirds. Group critique of photographic assignments key learning tool.

Transfer

- • Creatively manipulate the depth of field within images they take.
- • Select when to use various lenses or zoom controls to achieve stronger compositions.

Essential Questions

- • How do you maintain a safe working environment in the photographic darkroom?
- • What are the creative possibilities offered to the photographer using lens-based photography?
- • What is lens-based photography?

Essential Understandings

- • Lens based photography allows for creative possibilities through the use of a variable depth of field, variable focal length and alternative darkroom processes and manipulation.
- • Working with complex chemical solutions requires precautionary measures and respect for the materials and studio space.

Students Will Know

- • key terms related to art and the photographic process.
- • lens-based photography is a form of photography that can take on a variety of formats.
- • the multiple functions of a 35mm camera to capture images, process film and print images.

Students Will Be Skilled At

- Applying their technical knowledge of the photographic darkroom to create images.
- brainstorm ways in which visual images are used to communicate.
- Collaborating with peers to work on technical problem solving in the photographic studio and lab.
- Communicating their ideas clearly through the photographic medium.
- Using research skills to delve deeper into how we use photographs to communicate.
- Working productively in a team to complete their technical photographic assignments.

Evidence/Performance Tasks

- All assignments are to be submitted with a completed journal sheet and rubric for the specified assignment.
- Appropriate use of through the lens light meter to calculate exposure as evidenced in negatives.
- Complete worksheet on camera parts and function.
- Proper processing of film with correct safety practices in handling of chemicals in lab.
- Quiz on Exposure.
- Students will read corresponding textbook chapters in Photography In Focus
- Students will refine knowledge of 35mm camera use focusing on focal length, depth of field and metering for exposure utilizing a Pentax ZX-M camera.
- Students will respond to the following writing prompt related to their technical assignment Over/Under. “Based on your assignment Overexposed/Underexposed compare and contrast the qualities of an overexposed negative and that of an underexposed negative. How does it affect film density and subsequent image quality?”
- Submission of completed negatives, contact print, test strips and images from weekly technical assignments.

Learning Plan

- Lecture on darkroom safety, care and use of Photographic lab.
- Approximately each week students will explore new technical skill exercise producing properly exposed negatives, contact sheets, images with good contrast and journal sheet of exposure times. All work is to be submitted with rubric for evaluation.
- Based on outline, student groups will lead teacher through demonstration of proper film processing and printing with the following material to be discussed: o Tools needed for processing. o Chemicals used and proper handling and safety. o Preparation and requirements. o Procedure for processing. o Negative drying, handling and storage o Printing materials and tools needed. o Working in the darkroom environment. o Proper use and handling of enlarger. o Proper use and handling of chemicals. o Printing process. o Care and storage of photographic prints.
- Evaluation is based on negatives, contact sheets, printed images, journal sheet and writing response.
- Group critique of first assignments will emphasize troubleshooting technical aspects of film processing and printing in addition to the new technical skills they are learning. Students will build vocabulary during critique session by using appropriate terminology when referencing work.
- Group critique of work is to be done at the end of each exercise. Class will examine images to

compare and contrast success of overall skills and the general areas in need of improvement.

- • Hands on presentation of 35 mm camera parts and comparison to comparable digital devices.
- • Individualized coaching throughout the image making process helps ensure technical success.
- • Presentation and hands on demonstration of following material: o Bulk loading 35mm film into canisters. o Loading film into camera. o Shooting images and metering for exposure. o Logging exposures onto journal sheets. o Rewinding film correctly to avoid accidental exposure. o Loading film onto stainless steel reels and into tanks for development.
- • Preview the essential questions and connect to learning throughout the unit.
- • Students will complete the handout 35mm Camera Parts and Functions as a pre-assessment.
- • Students will read and outline textbook chapter related to camera parts and functions.
- • Students will shoot, process and print film in darkroom facilities.
- • Students will work in groups to create outline of the various steps involved in film processing and printing. All class resources may be used as reference.
- • Working in pairs, students will photograph technical assignments in class to allow for teacher assistance and modelling where needed.

Materials

- 35mm Ilford HP5 plus film.
- Darkroom Printing materials: Negatives, enlarger, scope, contact printer, timer, printing easel, plastic chemical trays, tongs, print dryer, Kodak Dektol, stop bath, Kodak Fixer, sink, safelights
- Film Processing materials: sink, stainless steel tanks, reels, Chemical tanks, D76 developer, Kodak Fixer, Kodak Hypoclear solution, Kodak Photo-flo, film drying cabinet, thermometers, negative sleeves,
- Large photographic prints of student examples
- Markers, glue, scissors, posterboard
- Pentax ZX-M cameras
- PowerPoint
- Smartboard, Document camera and Projector
- Textbook: Photography In Focus, Jerry Burchfield, Mark Jacobs and Ken Kokrda, NTC Publishing group, Lincolnwood, Illinois, 1997.

Suggested Strategies for Modifications

- Auditory re-phrasing to assist students.
- Group critique of work in progress and completed exercises.
- Hands on activities to support unit objectives.
- Individualized instruction where needed.
- Mini lessons in addition to large group instruction.
- Use of document camera and projector.
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- Use of rubric as self-evaluation tool.
- Use of Visual Aids such as photographs, and presentation tools.

- Videos to enhance instruction.
- Working in small groups.
- Written outline of procedure as guideline.