

Unit 05: Design In Photography

Content Area: **Fine Arts**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**
Length: **7-8 Weeks**
Status: **Published**

Brief Summary of Unit

Through lecture, multimedia presentations, discussion and text readings students will be given assignments which will require them to solve design problems creatively using the photographic medium. Over the course of the unit students will explore creative outcomes for the given weekly topic of study. The variety of individual outcomes will be formally addressed through weekly critique where students can track growth amongst themselves and peers. As always safety precautions will be addressed in the handling of chemicals all the while developing the students' photographic language. The unit of study is comprised of various photographic assignments exploring concepts and design. Continued use of group critique of photographic assignments key learning tool.

Transfer

- • Create photographs which convey specific message and meaning.
- • Create photographs with strong compositions.

Essential Questions

- • How do the elements and principles of design relate to photography?
- • How do you express ideas and concepts photographically?
- • How does working within a given design problem force one to think creatively?
- • What are key photographic terms?
- • What safety precautions are needed when working in the darkroom?

Essential Understandings

- • Creative possibilities will have varied outcomes when working within a given design problem.
- • Expressing ideas and concepts photographically requires one to think metaphorically as well as literally.
- • Strong compositions are a direct result of careful consideration of design elements and principles.
- • Working with complex chemical solutions requires precautionary measures and respect for the materials and studio space.

Students Will Know

- • How to apply the Rule of Thirds in a photographic composition.
- • How to create a strong composition using the elements and principles of design.
- • How to identify and define design elements and principles within a photograph.
- • Key photographic terms.
- • There are design variations available to the photographer when taking each photograph: camera angle, lens, film, exposure and subject matter.

Students Will Be Skilled At

- • Creating photographs with strong compositions.
- • Making contact prints.
- • Printing images in the photographic darkroom.
- • Processing black and white film.
- • Utilizing a 35mm SLR camera to take photographs.
- • Utilizing the photographic medium as a means of creative expression.
- • Working in the darkroom in a safe and productive manner.

Evidence/Performance Tasks

- • Actively participate in weekly critique sessions by way of photographic submission, oral participation and writing prompt when assigned.
- • Complete journal sheet logging camera exposures.
- • Print contact and images within the photographic darkroom.
- • Properly expose and process film.
- • Roll and load film into cameras.
- • Submit journal sheet, negatives, contact print, test strips and images from weekly theme based design assignments with rubric.

Learning Plan

- • Darkroom safety, care and use to be addressed where needed throughout the year.
- • Due dates for outstanding assignments posted on board for students to budget time accordingly.
- • Encouragement to work in a group environment where students share creative ideas with peers.
- • Evaluation of journal sheet, negatives, contact print, test strips, and printed images based on rubric.
- • Feedback given individually as needed.
- • Group critique of photographic work based on weekly design theme/problem. Class examines images in group critique to discuss individual and group success of working within given theme.
- • Individualized critique throughout the image making process to ensure technical success.
- • Introduction of weekly photographic design exploration through the use of: multi-media presentations, critique of selected works. Teacher-led discussion.

- • Open forum for discussion allows questions to be answered in informal environment.
- • Preview the essential questions and connect to learning throughout the unit.
- • Small and large group demonstration to ensure student success.
- • Sticker chart of completed assignments posted/updated weekly so students can monitor success.
- • Students may reference class resources to complete weekly assignments.
- • Students select one of the displayed works to critique for Photographer of the Month.
- • Students will continue to explore a variety of matting and mounting options for optimal presentation of finished work.
- • Students will present ideas/brainstorm ways to problem solve based on discussion.
- • Students will utilize studio facilities of the darkroom to:
 - o Bulk load 35mm film into canisters.
 - o Load film into camera.
 - o Shoot images to satisfy given assignment.
 - o Log journal sheets.
 - o Process film.
 - o Print contact sheet.
 - o Print enlargements from selected images.
 - o Fill out rubric and submit completed work.
- • Students work independently at individual pace to complete assignment within given deadline.

Materials

- 35mm Ilford HP5 plus film
- Bulletin board
- Computer, Whiteboard, document camera and projector
- 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, negative dryer
- Pentax ZX-M cameras
- Photographic darkroom and enlargers
- PowerPoint and internet connection
- Reference books: The Photographic Eye, Michael F. O'Brien & Norman Sibley, Davis Publications, Inc., Worcester, Massachusetts, 1995. Photography In Focus, Jerry Burchfield, Mark Jacobs and Ken Kodra, NTC Publishing Group, Lincolnwood, Illinois, 1997. Dictionary of Contemporary Photography, Leslie Stroebel and Tockel, Morgan & Morgan Publications, 1997.
- Scissors
- Student work
- Websites related to subject: ICP Photography museum Masters-of-Photography Alternative photography Photonet NPPA Met Museum MOMA PBS

Suggested Strategies for Modifications

- Group work.
- Hands on activities to support unit objectives.
- Individualized instruction.
- Mini lessons in addition to large group instruction.

- Multi-media presentations.
- Outline of tasks to accomplish posted throughout the room.
- Peer critique of photographic work.
- Sticker chart so students may monitor individual success.
- Use of rubric as self-evaluation tool.
- Videos to enhance instruction where needed.
- Visual Aids and writing samples.