

Course Syllabus Spring 2017

Course Title: **Advanced Studio Lighting**
Course Code: **AVT 458**
Section: **001**
Class Timings: **Monday -Wednesday 10:30 AM- 1:10 P.M**
Room #: **L015**

Credit Value: 4 hours

Instructor: Xang Mimi Ho
How to Contact your Instructor: xho2@gmu.edu
Office Hours and Location: 2 P.M Photo Studios
(703) 993-8897 Photo Cage

Course Objective: Advanced study of studio concepts intended to provide students with comprehensive understanding of the still life, portrait, and on-location photography.

- Advance use of flash in/out doors.
- Use of electronic strobes, power packs, and monolights.
- Proper metering techniques for strobe equipment.
- Proper care and safety of all studio equipment.
- Assisting others through assembling, shooting, and disassembling studio sets.
- Constructing studio equipment.
- Introduction to on-location photography.
- Understanding the design elements of in-studio art.
- Constructive critique techniques.

Recommended Text book: **Basics Photography 02: Lighting 2nd Edition By: David Praker**

Material for class:

Gaffer tape

Sekonic light meter

External hard drive

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory for both lecture and lab. Absences due to illness will only be excused by a doctor's note. Three unexcused absences could result in a failing grade. Three times late equals an unexcused absence. One unexcused absence deducts ½% from "Attendance". Leaving class early without permission will be considered an unexcused absence. Please see George Mason Undergraduate Bulletin for more information. Lectures and/or critiques begin promptly at 10:30PM. Do not be late.

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- **Requirements:** All assignments and critique work are due on the dates specified in the syllabus. Late assignments/critique work must be brought to the attention of the professor prior to the due date. Any late submissions will be penalized by one full letter grade for each class up to two weeks. After
- Two weeks it will be considered an F. Students are to attend all lectures/critiques and will be graded on participation.
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- Expect to expose a minimum of 36 to 72 images (this includes bracketing)
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Assignments: Six Assignments

Midterm exam: Based on identifying studio equipment and their functions, as well as the technical applications studio lighting.

Final Assignment: A final portfolio consisting of five images that are theme related and content specific.

All lab rules are to be followed at all times. This includes cleanliness, safety and respect to others. All students are expected to follow and adhere to the **GMU Code of Honor**.

Grading: Art is subjective, therefore so is grading art. I have broken the grading of your photographs into two specific groups Aesthetic and Technical.

Each image submitted for grading will receive points for both aesthetic and technical categories. These

Points will be added together to give you your overall grade for that image.

<u>Example:</u>	<u>Aesthetic</u>	
	Visually Interesting	35pts
	Composition Structure	5pts
	<u>Technical</u>	
	Image Exposure (includes WB)	20pts
	Highlights/Shadows	15pts
	Focus	15pts
	Cropping	<u>10pts</u>
	Total	100pts

Overall Course Grading:

10% Class Participation/ Attendance

10% Midterm Exam

60% Critique Work (Six Assignments)

20% Final Assignment

GRADES:

A+	97	B+	87	C+	77	D+	67
A	94	B	84	C	74	D	64
A-	90	B-	80	C-	70	D-	60

REMEMBER: Late assignments/critique work must be brought to the attention of the professor prior to the due date. Any late submission will be penalized by one full letter grade for each week up to two weeks. After two weeks it will be considered an F.

The Photography Program has established a policy prohibiting use of an I Pod or other portable audio devices during scheduled class time. Internet surfing, viewing Facebook and email are also prohibitive. You may however, use your audio devices during any open lab period (i.e. non-scheduled class time).

The Program provides equipment such as, cameras, lenses, flashes, tripods, lights and other miscellaneous items for loan through the Photo Cage #L013J. Borrowed equipment is your responsibility and you are held liable for any and all costs if the equipment is damaged, lost or stolen. The program also charges a late fee of \$5.00 per day for all equipment past due.

University and School of Art Policies

In accordance with George Mason University policy, turn off all beepers, cellular telephones and other wireless communication devices at the start of class. The instructor of the class will keep his/her cell phone active to assure receipt of any Mason Alerts in a timely fashion; or in the event that the instructor does not have a cell phone, he/she will designate one student to keep a cell phone active to receive such alerts.

Commitment to Diversity

This class will be conducted as an intentionally inclusive community that celebrates diversity and welcomes the participation in the life of the university of faculty, staff and students who reflect the diversity of our plural society. All may feel free to speak and to be heard without fear that the content of the opinions they express will bias the evaluation of their academic performance or hinder their opportunities for participation in class activities. In turn, all are expected to be respectful of each other without regard to race, class, linguistic background, religion, political beliefs, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, age, veteran's status, or physical ability.

Statement on Ethics in Teaching and Practicing Art and Design

As professionals responsible for the education of undergraduate and graduate art and design students, the faculty of the School of Art adheres to the ethical standards and practices incorporated in the professional Code of Ethics of our national accreditation organization, The National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

Open Studio Hours

SOA teaching studios are open to students for extended periods of time mornings, evenings and weekends whenever classes are not in progress. Policies, procedures and schedules for studio use are established by the SOA studio faculty and are posted in the studios.

ArtsBus

Dates for Spring 2017:

February 18

March 25

April 15

ArtsBus Credit:

* Each student must have up to 5 AVT 300/Artsbus credits before graduation. For credit to appear on your transcript you must enroll in AVT 300. This also applies to anyone who intends to travel to New York independently, or do the DC Alternate Assignment.

* If you plan/need to go on multiple ArtsBus trips during a semester and need them towards your total requirement, you must enroll in multiple sections of AVT 300. Please go to the ArtsBus website: <http://artsbus.gmu.edu> "Student Information" for additional, very important information regarding ArtsBus policy.

* Non-AVT majors taking art classes do not need Artsbus credit BUT may need to go on the Artsbus for a class assignment. You can either sign up for AVT 300 or buy a ticket for the bus trip at the Center of the Arts. Alternate trips must be approved by the instructor of the course that is requiring an ArtsBus trip.

Visual Voices Lecture Series

Dates for Spring 2017:

January 26

February 9

March 9

March 23

March 30

Visual Voices is a year-long series of lectures by artists, art historians and others about contemporary art and art practice. Visual Voices lectures are held on Thursday evenings from 7:20- 9:00 p.m. in Harris Theater: <http://soa.gmu.edu/visualvoices/>

Important Deadlines

<i>January 1 Day of Week</i>	<i>Sunday</i>
Martin Luther King Day (no classes)	Mon Jan 16
First day of classes ; last day to submit Domicile Reclassification Application; Payment Due Date; full semester waitlists removed	Mon Jan 23
Last day to add classes —all individualized section forms due Last day to drop with no tuition penalty	Mon Jan 30
Last day to drop with a 33% tuition penalty	Mon Feb 13
Final Drop Deadline (67% tuition penalty)	Fri Feb 24
Immunization Record Deadline	Wed Mar 1
Midterm progress reporting period (100-200 level classes)— grades available via Patriot Web	Mon Feb 20 – Fri Mar 24
Selective Withdrawal Period (undergraduate students only)	Mon Feb 27 – Fri Mar 31
Spring Break	Mon Mar 13 – Sun Mar 19
Incomplete work from Fall 2016 due to Instructor	Fri March 31
Incomplete grade changes from Fall 2016 due to Registrar	Fri April 7
Dissertation/Thesis Deadline	Fri May 5
Last day of classes	Sat May 6
Reading Days Reading days provide students with additional study time for final examinations. Faculty may schedule optional study sessions, but regular classes or exams may not be held.	Mon May 8 – Tue May 9
Exam Period (beginning at 7:30 a.m.)	Wed May 10 – Wed May 17
Commencement and Degree Conferral Date	May 20

Once the add and drop deadlines have passed, instructors do not have the authority to approve requests from students to add or drop/withdraw late. Requests for late adds (up until the last day of classes) must be made by the student in the SOA office (or the office of the department offering the course), and generally are only approved in the case of a documented university error (such as a problem with financial aid being processed) , LATE ADD fee will apply. Requests for non-selective withdrawals and retroactive adds (adds after the last day of classes) must be approved by the academic dean of the college in which the student's major is located. For AVT majors, that is the CVPA Office of Academic Affairs, Performing Arts Building A407.

Students with Disabilities and Learning Differences

If you have a diagnosed disability or learning difference and you need academic accommodations, please inform me at the beginning of the semester and contact the Disabilities Resource Center (SUB I room 234, 703-993-2474). You must provide me with a faculty contact sheet from that office outlining the accommodations needed for your

disability or learning difference. All academic accommodations must be arranged in advance through the DRC.

Official Communications via GMU E-Mail

Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include communications from course instructors, notices from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and instructor feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their Mason e-mail account, and are required to activate that account and check it regularly.

Attendance Policies

Students are expected to attend the class periods of the courses for which they register. In-class participation is important not only to the individual student, but also to the class as a whole. Because class participation may be a factor in grading, instructors may use absence, tardiness, or early departure as de facto evidence of nonparticipation. Students who miss an exam with an acceptable excuse may be penalized according to the individual instructor's grading policy, as stated in the course syllabus.

Honor Code

Students in this class are bound by the Honor Code, as stated in the George Mason University Catalog. The honor code requires that the work you do as an individual be the product of your own individual synthesis or integration of ideas. (This does not prohibit collaborative work when it is approved by your instructor.) As a faculty member, I have an obligation to refer the names of students who may have violated the Honor Code to the Student Honor Council, which treats such cases very seriously. No grade is important enough to justify cheating, for which there are serious consequences that will follow you for the rest of your life. If you feel unusual pressure about your grade in this or any other course, please talk to me or to a member of the GMU Counseling Center staff.

Using someone else's words or ideas without giving them credit is plagiarism, a very serious Honor Code offense. It is very important to understand how to prevent committing plagiarism when using material from a source. If you wish to quote verbatim, you must use the exact words and punctuation just as the passage appears in the original and must use quotation marks and page numbers in your citation. If you want to paraphrase or summarize ideas from a source, you must put the ideas into your own words, and you must cite the source, using the APA or MLA format. (For assistance with documentation, I recommend Diana Hacker, *A Writer's Reference*.) The exception to this rule is information termed general knowledge—information that is widely known and stated in a number of sources. Determining what is general knowledge can be complicated, so the wise course is, "When in doubt, cite."

Be especially careful when using the Internet for research. Not all Internet sources are equally reliable; some are just plain wrong. Also, since you can download text, it becomes very easy to inadvertently plagiarize. If you use an Internet source, you must cite the exact URL in your paper and include with it the last date that you successfully accessed the site.

Writing Center

Students who are in need of intensive help with grammar, structure or mechanics in their writing should make use of the services of Writing Center, located in Robinson A116 (703-993-1200). The services of the Writing Center are available by appointment, online and, occasionally, on a walk-in basis.

The Collaborative Learning Hub Located in Johnson Center 311 (703-993-3141), the lab offers in-person one-on-one support for the Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office, Blackboard, and a variety of other software. Dual monitor PCs make the lab ideal for collaborating on group projects, Macs are also available; as well as a digital recording space, collaborative tables, and a SMART Board. Free workshops are also available (Adobe and Microsoft) through Training and Certification; visit ittraining.gmu.edu to see the schedule of workshops and to sign up.