Course Syllabus Spring 2018

Course Title: Fundamentals Studio Lighting
Course Code: AVT 356
Section: 002
Class Timings: Tuesday and Thursday 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 Studio
(703) 993-8897 Photo Cage

Course Objective: Beginning studio course intended to provide the basic principles of lighting, equipment utilization, and studio design theory.

• Use of digital camera in studio setting.
• Proper metering techniques using hand held meters.
• Proper care and safety of all studio equipment.
• Use of continuous light sources; photoflood, quartz, etc.
• Use of diffusion devices and reflectors.
• Use of stands, tripods, grips, and supports.
• Assisting others through assembling, shooting, and disassembling studio sets.
• Introduction/use of different types of tungsten and daylight transparency film.
• Understanding color temperature and how it affects lighting.
• Constructing studio equipment.
• Understanding the design elements of in-studio art.
• Constructive critique techniques.

• 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 1:30 P.M. Do not be late.

• Recommended Text book: Basics Photography 02: Lighting 2nd Edition By: David Prakel

• Material for class:
• Gaffer tape

• Sekonic light meter

• External hard drive

• **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:** Five 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.

**Example:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aesthetic</th>
<th>Technical</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visually Interesting</td>
<td>Image Exposure (includes WB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35pts</td>
<td>20pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composition Structure</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5pts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Image Exposure (includes WB)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Highlights/Shadows 15pts
Focus 15pts
Cropping 10pts
Total 100pts

Overall Course Grading:
10% Class Participation/Attendance
10% Midterm Exam
60% Critique Work (Five 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.

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 Office of Disability Services (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 Office of Disability Services.

Technology: In accordance with George Mason University policy, please silence all 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.

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**Important University Dates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King Day (no classes)</td>
<td>Mon Jan 15</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>First day of classes:</strong> last day to submit Domicile Reclassification Application; Payment Due Date; full semester waitlists removed</td>
<td>Mon Jan 22</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Last day to add classes</strong>—all individualized section forms due</td>
<td>Mon Jan 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last day to drop with no tuition penalty</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Last day to drop with a 33% tuition penalty</strong></td>
<td>Mon Feb 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Drop Deadline (67% tuition penalty)</td>
<td>Fri Feb 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immunization Record Deadline</td>
<td>Thu Mar 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm progress reporting period (100-200 level classes)—grades available via Patriot Web</td>
<td>Mon Feb 19 – Fri Mar 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Dates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selective Withdrawal Period (undergraduate students only)</td>
<td>Mon Feb 26 – Fri Mar 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>Mon Mar 12 – Sun Mar 18</td>
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<td>Incomplete work from Fall 2017 due to Instructor</td>
<td>Fri Mar 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Incomplete grade changes from Fall 2017 due to Registrar</td>
<td>Fri Mar 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dissertation/Thesis Deadline</td>
<td>Fri May 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
<td>Sat May 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Days</td>
<td>Mon May 7 – Tue May 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam Period (beginning at 7:30 a.m.)</td>
<td>Wed May 9 – Wed May 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commencement</td>
<td>Fri May 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Degree Conferral Date</td>
<td>Sat May 19</td>
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**ArtsBus Credit and Policies:** You are responsible for knowing and following Artsbus policies and rules. Please go to the ArtsBus website: [http://artsbus.gmu.edu](http://artsbus.gmu.edu) "Student Information" for important information regarding ArtsBus policy. 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* 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.

ArtsBus - Dates for Spring 2018:
- February 24
- March 24
- April 14

**Visual Voices Lecture Series Spring 2018:** 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/](http://soa.gmu.edu/visualvoices/)
- January 24 – Brian Noyes
- February 1 – Teresa Jaynes
- February 22 – Sharif Bey
- March 1 – Juliet Bellow
- March 8 – John Henry

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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, and are responsible knowing the rules, as stated on the George Mason University website’ Academic Integrity page (http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code-2/). “To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, trust, and fairness among all members of the Mason community, and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this honor code:

Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.

Mason’s Commitment: To create an environment that is innovative, diverse, entrepreneurial, and accessible-helping you avoid accidental or intentional violations of the Honor Code.”

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.

Where To Buy Supplies:

Dominion Camera 112 West Broad St, Falls Church, VA www.dominioncamera.com 703-532-6700

Photocraft 6025-C Burke Centre Pkwy, Burke, VA www.ephotocraft.com 703-250-5555

Embassy Camera 1735 Connecticut Ave NW, DC www.ephotocraft.com 202-483-7448

Ace Photo 44710 Cape Court Ste. 122, Ashburn, VA www.acephoto.net 703-430-3333

B+H (NY) www.bhphotovideo.com

Adorama (NY) www.adorama.com

Freestyle (CA) www.freestylephoto.biz