COURSE TITLE: The Art of Photography
COURSE NUMBER: ART 1800
CREDITS: 3 (Lec 1 / Lab 2)
PREREQUISITES: None. Students must have access to a digital camera with manual control feature for focus, aperture, and shutter speed.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
The Art of Photography is designed for beginning and developing photographers, concentrating on developing technical skills and photographic fundamentals. Students study photography’s history, evolution, and traditions, as well as analyze and critique historical and contemporary photographs.

Introduction to the tools, mechanics, and techniques required to produce and edit digital photographs will be presented in a “hands on and how to” style ensuring successful compositions and images. Strong emphasis is placed on developing artistic expression through composition and manual camera controls. Students will produce a final photographic image that will be exhibited in our Student Gallery.

OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
1. Photographic History and Critical Seeing/Evaluation of the Photograph
   A. Introduction—Photographic History: Daguerreotype, Calotype, Collodion Wet-plate, Gelatin Emulsion, color photography, digital photography
   B. Early Masters 1827-1900: Niepce, Daguerre, Talbot, Cameron, O’Sullivan, Riis
   C. Photography as documentation, photo journalists, and street photography
   D. Photography during Pop, Minimalism, and Modernism
   E. Photography as Art, Contemporary and Digital Art
   F. Images as photographs: critique techniques and design concepts

2. Hands on study of tools, mechanics, and techniques required to produce digital photography.
   A. The Camera: types, basic controls, shutter speed, aperture
   B. The Lens: focal lengths, focus and the depth of field, perspective, lens attachments
   C. Light and Exposure: pixels, resolution, color photography, white balance, back lighting, exposing scenes with high contrast
   D. The Digital Darkroom: equipment, pictures as files, digital color, improving the image
   E. Image Editing: adjusting levels, adjusting part of an image, editing workflow, ethics and digital imaging
   F. Printing and Display: printers, papers and ink, mounting, presenting your work
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**COURSE GOALS/OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES:**

1. Students will identify the great changes in photographic art and technique from photography’s conception to the present digital photographic image.

2. Students will describe the contributions of major photographic artists, and their seminal technical and cultural advances through the centuries.

3. Students will define creativity as it relates to photography.

4. Students will react informally to photographic images and demonstrate an understanding of photography’s aesthetic, theoretical, and historical aspects as an expressive medium.

5. Students will demonstrate an awareness of digital photography’s scope and variety of techniques, equipment, manual controls, processes and concepts.

6. Students will create images demonstrating an understanding of design elements and principles and their content.

7. Students will follow a formal aesthetic process to analyze and critique photography.

**MNTC Goals Met:**
Humanities and Fine Arts, Area B and Diversity

**HCC COMPETENCIES MET:**
- Communicating Clearly and Effectively
- Thinking Creatively and Critically
- Social /Civic Responsibility
- Practicing Cultural, Economic, and Environmental Sustainability

**STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS:**

1. Textbook will be obtained prior to class start date.

2. Test and quizzes will be taken within the time frame given by the instructor.

3. Reports, reading assignments, photography assignments, technical exercises and other assignments will be submitted on time.

4. Students will maintain honesty and integrity in all written work, photographic imaging, and in general course performance.

**METHODS FOR EVALUATING STUDENT LEARNING:**

1. Students may be evaluated by class discussions, tests, reports, homework activities, presentations, photography assignments, critiques and technical exercises.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
Students must have access to a digital camera with manual control feature for focus, aperture, and shutter speed and a photo editing software that can perform advanced tasks. Gimp, free software available for photo editing, is suitable for this class. Cell phone cameras, only as a last method of substitution, having 12 megapixels or more, along with a downloaded app for manual controls will be allowed with permission from instructor.

Curriculum Committee Approval Date: April 2, 2018

AASC APPROVAL DATE: April 18, 2018
REVIEW DATE: April 2023