I. INTRODUCTION

A. This introduction to the basics of photography covers technical information including camera operation, black and white camera techniques, chemistry, and presentation skills with emphasis on design, history, and contemporary trends as a means of developing an understanding of photographic aesthetics. Students complete projects which address art, journalism, and commercial photography.

B. This course is a recommended elective for Commercial Art majors, serves as a general elective, and is valuable to anyone in any area of study who is interested in photography. It is related to the visual arts, journalism, public relations, and communications occupations. It fulfills a core curriculum requirement in the Creative Arts when pursuing AA/AS degrees or transfer to other Texas public colleges and universities for BA/BS degrees.

C. In support of the objectives of the Texas core curriculum, this course provides significant exercise of students’ critical thinking, communication skills, teamwork and social responsibility. These objectives form a foundation of intellectual and practical skills that are essential for learning.

- Critical thinking skills include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information
- Communication skills include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual media.
- Teamwork includes the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
- Social responsibility includes the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.

D. Prerequisite: none.

II. COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

General Educational Objectives:

A. To demonstrate an awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
B. To understand those works as expressions of individuals and civilizations in context of their times
C. To respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
D. To engage in the creative process and comprehend the physical and intellectual demands required of the artist.
E. To be able to articulate and informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities both individually and in a group.
F. To develop an appreciation for the aesthetic principles that guides the humanities and arts.
G. To demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature, philosophy, and/or the arts on intercultural experiences.

Specific Course Objectives:

A. The students will demonstrate effective communication, critical thinking, and teamwork skills in photography.
B. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the relationship of the Visual Arts and Social Responsibility.
C. Students will gain a familiarity with photographic terminology.
D. Students will demonstrate knowledge of camera operation.
E. Students will utilize aperture and shutter to control motion and depth of field.
F. Students will learn to manipulate images in the dark room.
G. Students will learn basic darkroom procedures.
H. Students will use social responsibility and safety in their use of chemicals and hazardous wastes.
I. Students will utilize compositional design elements to create communicative photographic images.
J. Students will discuss their photographs in verbal and/or written form.
K. Students will maintain a professional and respectful attitude.
L. Students will effectively use of time, resources, and materials.
M. Students will present work for grading in a professional manner, as directed by the instructor.
N. Students will participate meaningfully in critiques.
O. Students will maintain a professional and respectful attitude.
P. Students will maintain classroom facilities and shared supplies.
Q. The students will explore topics dealing with the history of photography.
R. The student will gain an overall appreciation of photography as an expressive medium.

Texas Core Curriculum Objectives for Foundational Component Area – Creative Arts:

- Communication Skills (REQUIRED)

**Brief Description of Assignment and/or Activity to fulfill Course Objectives:**
Student groups/teams will create a visual arts project and/or submit an essay or speech that demonstrates an understanding of focus, organization, understanding the assignment, personal style, (and effective vocal and nonverbal communication if it is a speech). Given topics should focus on photography, but may include public art, architecture, environmental art, installations, etc., that are connected to photography.

**Direct Assessment Method:** A rubric will be used in photography, but could include embedded questions, juried assessment, pre/post tests and other methods.

**Brief Outline of Assessment Method(s):** The rubric for this portion of the project and/or essay or speech will include proper documentation, sources, and include visual elements that rely on good design. Each of the specific concepts of communication will be evaluated: focus, organization, understanding of the assignment, style, (and vocal delivery and nonverbal communication if it is a speech). The rubric will be a 5 point evaluation system with 5 being excellent, 4 being good, 3 being competent, 2 being marginal, and 1 being poor.

**Benchmark/Target:** 70% of all projects, speeches or essays will score at least an average of 3 on the rubric. The number of teams being evaluated will depend on the class size.

- Critical Thinking Skills (REQUIRED)

**Brief Description of Assignment and/or Activity to fulfill Course Objectives:** Student groups/teams will create a visual arts project and/or submit an essay or speech that shows effective use of critical thinking skills that will include the concepts and use of inquiry, analysis, synthesis, and product. Given topics should focus on photography, but may include public art, architecture, environmental art, installations, etc., that are connected to photography.
Direct Assessment Method: A rubric will be used in photography, but could include embedded questions, juried assessment, pre/post tests and other methods.

Brief Outline of Assessment Method(s): The rubric for this portion of the project and/or essay or speech will exemplify effective and sound critical thinking in order to reach their conclusion. Each of the specific concepts of critical thinking will be evaluated: inquiry, analysis, synthesis and product. The rubric will be a 5 point evaluation system with 5 being excellent, 4 being good, 3 being competent, 2 being marginal, and 1 being poor.

Benchmark/Target: 70% of all projects, speeches or essays will score at least an average of 3 on the rubric. The number of teams being evaluated will depend on the class size.

- Teamwork: (REQUIRED)

Brief Description of Assignment and/or Activity to fulfill Course Objectives: Student groups/teams will create a visual arts project and/or submit and essay or speech that shows effective teamwork and the ability to support a shared goal as well as considering differing points of view. All team members should contribute to the research project, cooperate with one another, and be able to show good self-management skills. Given topics should focus on photography, but may include public art, architecture, environmental art, installations, etc., that are connected to photography.

Direct Assessment Method: A rubric will be used in photography, but could include embedded questions, juried assessment, pre/post tests and other methods.

Brief Outline of Assessment Method(s): The rubric for this portion of the project and/or essay or speech will exemplify effective teamwork and the ability to work with one another. Each of the specific concepts of teamwork will be evaluated: contribution, cooperation, and self-management. The rubric will be a 5 point evaluation system with 5 being excellent, 4 being good, 3 being competent, 2 being marginal, and 1 being poor.

Benchmark/Target: 70% of all projects, speeches or essays will score at least an average of 3 on the rubric. The number of teams being evaluated will depend on the class size.

- Social Responsibility (REQUIRED)

Brief Description of Assignment and/or Activity to fulfill Course Objectives: Student groups/teams will create a visual arts project and/or submit and essay or speech that shows an understanding and use of social responsibility in relation to the visual arts. The student team should show a demonstration and understanding of intercultural viewpoints and civic knowledge in their project and their role in local, regional, national and global communities. The student teams should demonstrate an understanding of good citizenship, social justice, and ecology. Given topics should focus on photography, but may include public art, architecture, environmental art, installations, etc., that are connected to photography.

Direct Assessment Method: A rubric will be used in photography, but could include embedded questions, juried assessment, pre/post tests and other methods.
**Brief Outline of Assessment Method(s):** The rubric for this portion of the project and/or essay or speech will exemplify an understanding of the relationship to photography and social responsibility. Each of the specific concepts of social responsibility will be evaluated: citizenship, social justice, and ecology. The rubric will be a 5 point evaluation system with 5 being excellent, 4 being good, 3 being competent, 2 being marginal, and 1 being poor.

**Benchmark/Target:** 70% of all projects, speeches or essays will score at least an average of 3 on the rubric. The number of teams being evaluated will depend on the class size.

**Course Compilation/Summary Results:** At the end of the semester, a rubric of success/failure will be created to show the percentages/results of all the sections for reporting purposes.

### III. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

www.ctcd.edu/books

**Supplies:** The following is a list of materials and equipment the student will need for this course:

1. 35mm camera with manual capacity
2. 50mm lens
3. Tripod
4. Film (as stipulated by assignment)
5. Photographic paper (as stipulated by assignment)
6. Negative carriers
7. A loose leaf notebook (standard size)
8. Mounting board (as stipulated)

### IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**A. Reading Assignments:**
Students are expected to read all assigned work. Text pages will be announced and are included in the course outline.

**B. Projects:**
All photography projects must be completed and turned in on time. Students are expected to bring all necessary materials to class.

**C. Class Performance:**
1. Students are expected to attend every class, be on time, and remain throughout the class.

2. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate making up any work missed. An acceptable written excuse must be submitted and approved in order to submit exam projects.

3. Students are expected to maintain civility, courtesy, and scholastic honesty.

4. Students are expected to participate fully in class discussions and critiques.
5. Students will be expected to maintain their work area.

D. Notebook: Students will turn in a notebook at the end of the semester in addition to their final project. This notebook is to contain negatives from each photography class session, exposure logs, contact sheets, filter project, hand-outs, test strips, and any classroom notes taken.

E. Portfolio: A quality portfolio will be turned in as part of the final grade. The portfolio will consist of ten 8 x 10 photographs utilizing techniques and procedures studied throughout the semester.

F. All students are advised that no class or laboratory assignments can involve the production of illegal, obscene, or indecent materials or the execution of what is commonly considered to be illegal, obscene, or indecorous behavior.

V. EXAMINATIONS

A. Quizzes will be given periodically over reading assignments, lectures, procedures, and/or terminology.

B. The mid-term assignment will be a practical application of a specified subject.

C. The final examination will be a review of material studied throughout the semester.

D. Quizzes and exams will be of the matching, multiple choice, true/false, essay, and/or fill-in the blank type.

E. In the event of an excused absence the student will make arrangements to take the make-up exam before or after the class period.

F. A student must take the final examination and complete the final project to receive a grade for the course.

G. Key cards must be returned before a final grade is given.

VI. NOTES AND ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM COURSE INSTRUCTOR

A. Course Withdrawal: It is the student’s responsibility to officially withdraw from a course if circumstances prevent attendance. Any student who desires to, or must, officially withdraw from a course after the first scheduled class meeting must file a Central Texas College Application for Withdrawal (CTC Form 59). The withdrawal form must be signed by the student.

CTC Form 59 will be accepted at any time prior to Friday of the 12th week of classes during the 16-week fall and spring semesters. The deadline for sessions of other lengths is:

- 10-week session Friday of the 8th week
- 8-week session Friday of the 6th week
- 5-week session Friday of the 4th week
The equivalent date (75% of the semester) will be used for sessions of other lengths. The specific last day to withdraw is published each semester in the Schedule Bulletin.

A student who officially withdraws will be awarded the grade of “W” provided the student’s attendance and academic performance are satisfactory at the time of official withdrawal. Students must file a withdrawal application with the College before they may be considered for withdrawal.

A student may not withdraw from a class for which the instructor has previously issued the student a grade of “F” or “FN” for nonattendance.

B. Administrative Withdrawal: An administrative withdrawal may be initiated when the student fails to meet College attendance requirements. The instructor will assign the appropriate grade on CTC Form 59 for submission to the registrar.

C. Incomplete Grade: The College catalog states, “An incomplete grade may be given in those cases where the student has completed the majority of the coursework but, because of personal illness, death in the immediate family, or military orders, the student is unable to complete the requirements for a course. . .” Prior approval from the instructor is required before the grade of “I” for Incomplete is recorded. A student who merely fails to show for the final examination will receive a zero for the final and an “F” for the course.

D. Cellular Phones and Beepers: Cellular phones and beepers will be turned off while the student is in the classroom or laboratory.

E. American’s With Disabilities Act (ADA): Disability Support Services provide services to students who have appropriate documentation of a disability. Students requiring accommodations for class are responsible for contacting the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) located on the central campus. This service is available to all students, regardless of location. Explore the website at www.ctcd.edu/disability-support for further information. Reasonable accommodations will be given in accordance with the federal and state laws through the DSS office.

G. Instructor Discretion: The instructor reserves the right of final decision in course requirements.

H. Civility: Individuals are expected to be cognizant of what a constructive educational experience is and respectful of those participating in a learning environment. Failure to do so can result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

I. Guests in Classrooms: Adult guests may visit a class with the prior permission of the instructor. Children are not to be brought to any class or the studio areas.
J. **Reference Lab Fee**: You paid $24.00 lab fee for this class. That amount covers many expenses which may not be obvious, including all expendable items you use such as chemicals, paper, audio/visual materials, exhibition materials; and equipment maintenance, repair and replacement. The supplies which you furnish are a necessary expense in the learning process of a hands-on class. The projects you produce are your property and cannot be fully funded by Central Texas College.

VII. **COURSE OUTLINE**

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ASSIGNMENTS:**

- Classroom Lectures, Demonstrations and Discussions
- Reading Assignments
- Slide Lectures and Films
- Quizzes and Exams (related to reading assignments, studio processes and terminology)
- Written Formal Analysis and Essays
- Texas Core Curriculum specific assignments (addressing the four required Creative Arts objectives):
  The four required objectives (Communication, Critical Thinking, Teamwork and Social Responsibility) will be evaluated through essays and group projects that will be graded with a rubric.

Unit One: **Introduction**

**Learning Outcomes**: Students will be able to explain course requirements and provide an overview of the sequence of events in the course.

**Learning Activities**: Lectures, Demonstrations and Student Studies

  i. Introduction
  ii. Overview of the course, textbook, and syllabus
  iii. Explanation of any additional requirements

Unit Two: **History of the Camera and Photographic Process**

**Learning Outcomes**: Students will be able to explain the development of the camera from its use and a viewing device to the modern day version and explain how the photographic process evolved and the role early photographers played in its development.

**Learning Activities**: Lectures, Demonstrations and Student Studies

  i. Explain how the camera was invented and its functions
  ii. Brief history of artists and photographers and the role they played in the history of photography
  iii. Evolution of the camera, film, and processes

(An essay or group assignment related to the four required objectives could be addressed and assigned in this unit)

Unit Three: **The Camera and Components**

**Learning Outcomes**: Students will be able to identify each part of a camera and knowledgeably discuss each parts function, explain and demonstrate the camera's various control devices and discuss various types of lenses and why they are used.

**Learning Activities**: Lectures, Demonstrations and Student Studies

  i. Types of cameras available
  ii. Various focusing systems
  iii. The aperture and the shutter
  iv. Camera Lenses: functions and use
v. Focus, depth of field, and perspective

Unit Four: **Light and Film**

*Learning Outcomes:* Students will be able to explain how and why film responds to light for image formation.

*Learning Activities:* Lectures, Demonstrations and Student Studies

i. Basic light theory

ii. Film: use and response to light exposure

iii. Meters: functions

iv. Camera Filters: functions and limitations

Unit Five: **Film Development**

*Learning Outcomes:* Students will be able to apply the techniques of black and white film development.

*Learning Activities:* Lectures, Demonstrations and Student Studies

i. Chemicals: Handling and Disposal (Social Responsibility)

ii. Film: Rolling film, the developing process, and troubleshooting the finished negative

Unit Six: **The Print**

*Learning Outcomes:* Students will be able to proficiently select the proper type of photographic paper to meet specified needs of the final product and use contrast filters to increase or decrease contrast in a print. Student will also learn about the various types of enlargers, how to process black and white photographs, print the positive, finish and mount the final product.

*Learning Activities:* Lectures, Demonstrations and Student Studies

i. Paper: Types and characteristics

ii. Contrast filters

iii. Enlargers: Types and functions

iv. The test print, the contact sheet and the print

v. Exposure controls

vi. Burning and dodging

vii. The print process: troubleshooting, mounting and retouching

Unit Seven: **Lighting**

*Learning Outcomes:* Students will be able to explain the types of lighting and proficiently apply light concepts to fit specific situations.

*Learning Activities:* Lectures, Demonstrations and Student Studies

i. Lighting: Types, Controlling light and exposure

Unit Eight: **Special Techniques**

*Learning Outcomes:* Students will be able to apply the techniques needed in action photography, demonstrate the principles of close-up photography and adeptly apply special printing techniques and principles to achieve a photograph that will retain the viewer's interest.

*Learning Activities:* Lectures, Demonstrations and Student Studies

i. Action photography

ii. Close-up photography

iii. Darkroom Techniques

iv. Proper photography techniques
v. Photographers: Areas of expertise and legalities

(An essay or group assignment related to the four required objectives could be addressed and assigned in this unit)

An example of an assignment and rubric that covers all of the Texas Core Curriculum and required objectives is attached.