

# COURSE OUTLINE

ARTT-140

Photography Appreciation

3 Semester Hours

## HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Description

This course is a study of photography as a fine art form from its beginnings to contemporary times. Individual photographers' work will be studied in some depth. Genre considerations such as portraiture, documentation, landscape, and the nude will be discussed. Emphasis will be placed on the aesthetic qualities of the photographs. Parallels will be drawn to painting and sculpture and to more recent photographs. (3 hours weekly)

### Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Formulate aesthetic judgments about photographs.
2. Assess the different purposes of photography such as portraiture, snapshot, photojournalism, and measure these purposes against the idea of photography as a fine art form.
3. Write clearly and with a thesis about photographs and photographic exhibitions.
4. Employ descriptive analysis when writing about the artistic merits (or demerits) of a photograph.
5. Compare and contrast an individual photographer's style and content as well as the style and content of different photographers.
6. Analyze the relationships between photography and other visual arts such as painting and collage.
7. Demonstrate an understanding how photography reflects the human spirit in aesthetic forms.
8. Research and critique the work of individual photographers.
9. Recognize and appreciate the work of individual photographers.
10. Apply aesthetic appreciation to photographs and other visual art forms beyond the historical framework of the course.

### Major Topics

- I. Early photographs
- II. Portraiture
- III. Photojournalism
- IV. Social conditions (FSA)
- V. Development of photography as a fine art form
- VI. The pictorialists
- VII. Straight photography
- VIII. American photography with emphasis on Stieglitz, Weston, Adams, Evans, etc.

## **Course Requirements**

Specific assignments and procedures for evaluating student performance in the class (i.e., grading) will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

1. Students will use writing as a means to learn, to integrate information, to review what they have learned, and to clarify their responses to assigned works.
2. Students will write at least two interpretive papers (one of which will be a critical analysis). The required papers will communicate with a specific audience and meet the minimum standard of proficiency for college-level writing. Papers will be evaluated not only on content but also on clarity of expression and style. (A total of at least 2500 words of formal, graded writing is required.)
3. At least 60% of the final grade will be based upon writing, both formal and informal.

## **Other Course Information**

This course is a Fine Arts and Humanities core course and a Fine Arts, Humanities, or Arts and Sciences elective.