

# **COURSE OUTLINE**

**ARTT-140**

**Photography Appreciation**

**3 Credits**

**Humanities Core Course**

## **HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

### **Description**

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

### **Statement on General Education and Liberal Learning**

A liberal education prepares students to lead ethical, productive, and creative lives and to understand how the pursuit of lifelong learning and critical thinking fosters good citizenship. General education courses form the core of a liberal education within the higher education curriculum and provide a coherent intellectual experience for all students by introducing the fundamental concepts and methods of inquiry in the areas of mathematics, the physical and natural sciences, the social sciences, the arts and the humanities, and composition. This course is part of the general education core experience at Howard Community College.

### **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.
11. Analyze artistic expression as reflected around the world.

### **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.