

# **Welcome to Photography 1**

**Course Number:** ART223 – Photography 1 **Room:** B64

**Teacher Name:** Ms. Steffany King

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**Office Hours:** 7:00-2:30 (I teach 1<sup>st</sup> in E23, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> in B64; 5<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> Prep and Content Leader – check board by door if I am not in the room for location in the building – if the lights are on under the door, I am in the building somewhere!)

\*\*Students are welcome to come in and work during any class period provided there is equipment available, they are working on class work and are not distracting to the current class. Please check in with instructor during periods 5-7 for availability. After school time can be arranged with instructor - please check in at least a day ahead.

## **Course Description:**

Students will experience Photography in a studio-based class through construction and operation of a pinhole camera, discussion of features common to both film and digital techniques, processing black and white negatives and prints, working with photo chemicals, camera operations and darkroom techniques. Activities may include an overview of the history of photography, presentation techniques, and an introduction to photographic career, education and employment possibilities. Students should anticipate an introduction to photographic design elements/composition, creative assignments resulting in a portfolio of mounted photographs, self-evaluation, critiques, quizzes, tests, readings, note taking and experimentation. Class requires a high level of student self-direction in studio work time.

**COMMENT:** Camera work is required to be completed outside of school.

## **Standards:**

The National Core Art Standards guides educators in providing a unified quality arts education for students in Pre-K through high school.

### **Creating**

- Anchor Standard #1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.
- Anchor Standard #2. Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.
- Anchor Standard #3. Refine and complete artistic work.

### **Presenting**

- Anchor Standard #4. Analyze, interpret, and select artistic work for presentation.
- Anchor Standard #5. Develop and refine artistic work for presentation.
- Anchor Standard #6. Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.

### **Responding**

- Anchor Standard #7. Perceive and analyze artistic work.
- Anchor Standard #8. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.
- Anchor Standard #9. Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.

### **Connecting**

- Anchor Standard #10. Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.
- Anchor Standard #11. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding.

### **Assessments:**

Formative assessments include in-process observations of student progress, formal and informal conferences/discussions with students, checklists, studies, peer review, and critiques. Summative assessments include a pre-test and post-test, self, peer and teacher assessments using rubrics that reflect the learning targets of culminating projects and national arts standards expectations.

### **Content:**

The semester of Photography 1 engages the student to create images using photographic processes which will be presented in class for self-assessment and critique. Connections will be made to both personal interest and knowledge and art/photo history to deepen understanding. During the semester, you will learn the basics of black and white photography. We will start by building and photographing with pinhole cameras, and then we will move into working with a digital camera. You will learn how to make strong photographs, develop and print from negatives, and finish with matting and presenting your work. We will also cover the elements and principals of design and how they affect and are applied in photography, as well as learn about other photographers, photo history and its effect on culture through research and presentation. More importantly, you will learn how to self-evaluate your work and figure out how you function on a semi-independent basis in a lab situation.

### ***Pinhole Photography:***

The pinhole photography unit will include a series of assignments, studies, and projects using a self-made pinhole camera from a found box to explore subject matter, technical skills and design elements. Work will be photographed, selected, printed and matted to create gallery presentable work.

### ***Digital Photography:***

Digital Photography unit will include in depth study and application of the elements and principals of design using a variety of digital cameras to capture a broad variety of subject matter. Students will post images in flickr and share using social media applications and will apply editing techniques using an online image editing program.

### **Instructional Strategies:**

The student will construct knowledge through authentic tasks such as projects, studies, and assignments. When introducing new concepts and processes instruction/demonstrations may include modeling a task, guided instruction, large and small group discussions, constructive criticism through informal and formal critique, and reflection.

### **Resources:**

Almost all of the materials/ equipment you will need to complete artwork will be provided. The only materials that you will want to have available:

- Box or can to create pinhole camera
- Digital camera (limited number of cameras are available for short term check out through the teacher) - this can be a phone, point and shoot or SLR camera
- Student planner to track assignment due dates
- Writing utensil

Students will also use a variety of computer / phone applications including but not limited to phone camera, flickr, twitter.

## Academic/Behavioral Expectations:

### Classroom Conduct Expectations: (Ms K's sweet and simple expectations)

1. Be here! We miss you when you are not!
2. Be responsible.
3. Respect the rights of self, others, possessions, classroom equipment.
4. No food or drink during class. Screw top water bottles are acceptable, but must be kept off of the tables and out of the darkroom.
5. Phones, ipods, etc should be put away during lectures. School policy and it is disrespectful to be checking messages (or playing games) when you should be listening or working. No earphones in sight – please put them away. **Special Note** - The light from your phone will expose paper in the darkroom. Don't be the person your classmates are annoyed with you.
6. Approved phone use only happens when we are not in lecture or critique (full class conversation) – timer on your clock (this happens when you are out taking pictures not during a lesson), camera – when you are taking photos for in class assignments (most of your digital photos should be taken out of school), flickr use to post, critique and reflect on images. During this time you should not be texting, calling, checking, or playing.
7. Learn something!

Students are expected to: (In a little more detail)

1. Abide by all Dubuque Community School District attendance and conduct/behavior policies as well as all specific attendance and conduct policies for Dubuque Senior High School (found in the student planner).
2. Be ready to learn and be prepared.
3. Attend class daily and arrive on time. Studio courses, such as art, expect students to be present for demonstrations, guided instruction, critiques, class discussions, and facilitated student work time which are all vital to producing quality artwork. If arriving late or leaving early for any reason students must show the teacher a pass. Failure to check in or out may result in being counted absent for the class period. Attendance issues will be addressed through the Assistant Principals' Office.
4. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to follow up on what was missed, gather handouts from the board, and make work up as quickly as possible. While there is a time allotment for late work when you are absent, the nature of the class builds one assignment to the next and getting behind can have negative effects on your success in the class. Check the weekly board for current class information.
5. Respect his/her artwork and the work of others. Also respect viewpoints and beliefs of others that may differ from your own. We share this classroom- no harassment or bullying will be tolerated.
6. Treat equipment and supplies with care and adhere to all safety rules. Ask for permission to use equipment that has not been designated for the unit (this includes the teacher's desk). Most items are fine to use—just ask first. Students misusing equipment may lose the privilege of using classroom equipment, which may result in a total loss of points for the project. Students may also be referred to the assistant principal for further consequences.
7. **Cell phones are NOT allowed** in the classroom, hallway, bathroom, etc. during class time (silenced in backpack, pocket, or locker-not out). If there is an emergency, please ask the teacher to use the classroom phone. Please inform your parents, guardians, and other people who want to contact you that you are in class and will not be allowed to accept any phone calls/texts on your cell phone during class; they must call the office to contact you. Please note Senior's Cellular Phone Policy found in the student planner. Student is responsible for any loss or damage to personal property.
8. **\*\*\* Cell phones in Photography class** – because we will be using the camera on your phone and the online applications that are available for use on your phone, you will have access to your phone during class. During lecture it is expected that you follow regular school policy – they should not be seen or heard. If your phone is out it should be off or on silent on the phone spot on the desk. Do not touch it or it will be turned in to the teacher until the end of the lecture. As you are working on class work, you should not be texting, making calls or playing games. It is your responsibility to use your phone for class work only. There are no phones in the darkroom – they expose your photo paper.

9. **No CD players, MP3 players, IPODs, Earbuds, and other musical devices** are present in class even if the device is turned off. Please note Senior's Electronic Devices Policy found in the student planner. Student is responsible for any loss or damage to personal property.
10. Remain in the classroom unless he/she has received permission/pass from the teacher. Be responsible for his/her artwork, attitude, work area and overall condition of the room. Make sure the tables, floor, and sink area are clean before leaving. If a student chooses to misuse materials/equipment he/she may be asked to replace the item or may be asked to clean the art room after school.
11. If leaving the classroom for any reason – shooting photographs, restroom or drink – please act according to the school policy on behavior you are being held accountable to.
12. Be an active listener during demonstrations, discussions and critiques.
13. Remain on task. If he/she finishes early it is an opportunity to create additional artwork for his/her portfolio.
14. Abide by the No Food or Beverages policy—except unflavored water. Lid must be capped at all times because water may wreck artwork or damage supplies. If food is brought into the classroom it will be thrown away by the student or the teacher (exception- medical conditions require doctor's approval).
15. We will not tolerate stealing. If you are caught stealing – other people's work or something from the lab – you will receive an F for the semester and will not be allowed to return to class.

### **Late Work and Make-Up Plan for Absences:**

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to contact the teacher upon returning from an absence to retrieve all missing work and to schedule time to make up any lab work. Students can also make up missed studio time during certain periods of the day if the teacher using the room gives consent. Assignments need to be made up within one week of each excused absence. Students choosing to have an unexcused absence have one day beyond the absence to make up missing work (one day for each unexcused absence). Students with unexcused absences may be asked to complete an alternative assignment if the instruction that is missed is not easily repeated due to the nature of the class/content. This will mean that you need to arrange time to come into the art room to use the equipment/materials. If you waste class time you will not be allowed to come into the art room for additional time. Assignments need to be completed and turned in by the due date or it will be considered late. Special circumstances/ any extensions will need to be discussed with the teacher. Since the teacher will need adequate time to finalize grades at the end of the semester no assignments will be accepted near the end of the semester without teacher approval. The teacher will provide due dates. Students will need to plan accordingly.

### **Grading Plan:**

The standards/ learning targets/criteria for each assignment/project will be discussed during presentation of each unit or project. You will be aware of what is expected for each unit and project as concepts are taught and may help define the criteria for which you will be graded. Learning targets will enable you to reflect on and assess your artwork and will be used as a guide during critiques. Points will reflect how well the student demonstrates the learning targets/criteria. Rubrics will be used for both self and teacher assessment.

A minimum of 60% of the total points available during a quarter or semester must be met to achieve a passing grade. Grades will be figured on a 90-80-70-60 percentage scale with top 3% for a plus and bottom 3% for a minus within each grade level.

### **Due Dates:**

Due dates for assignments will be given as the assignment is presented. They will be listed on the board in the classroom for reference. Keep track of what you are to be working on and when things are due. Because we multi-task there are often multiple assignments due in a week, stay on top of your work for a higher level of success. Work will be accepted for 5 days after a due date, anything beyond that may only be handed in after making arrangements with the instructor.

**Extra Credit Options:**

There are no identified extra credit projects. Occasionally, there may be opportunity in class or an art exhibit that relates to the content of this class. I will explain and post the extra credit option. Please take advantage of these opportunities as they become available. There will not be extra credit available at the end of the semester to simply increase your grade. You are expected to complete projects and hand in at the level of work which will earn you the grade you are working towards.

**Communication Plan:**

Student Information is available on Power School. I work to evaluate work and enter grades as soon as possible after work is handed in. The dates provided are the due dates, if there is a "0" or late code it indicates that I do not have the work. Please check in and get things taken care of. Please feel free to contact me if there are any questions or concerns. My preferred mode of communication is email, feel free to request a phone call.

**Final Words: (or things Ms. K has learned that may be helpful for you to know in order to be more successful in Photo 1 this semester!)**

Learn to redefine failure as a learning opportunity and chance to improve rather than an end point in a task or a reason to give up. Everyone will have moments that are challenging. A big part of the class is learning to problem solve and see new solutions based on information gained through the process! These are skills that may get you a job after high school!

Ask if you have questions or are having problems. Use your resources - teachers, paras, lab assistants, advanced students - have all been where you are and can help you out of a rut only if they know you are in one. 23 years - teaching Photo 1 six to eight times a year there is little I haven't seen, although even I get stumped sometimes. At that point I use my resources - hooray for having a sister who also teaches photography!!

Have fun! Approached with a smile you will gain knowledge, skills, create art and probably find valuable friendship (maybe even a mate for life - yes, it has happened). Be open to new opportunities, you never know what will knock on your door when you least expect it. You may even decide you need to come back for another semester! :)