

**Syllabus for Basic Photography
2012-13**

Instructor: G. Stinnett

MLWGS Credit: 1

VCU Photography 243 - VCU Credits: 3 semester hours

**Room 127, periods 5, 7, and 8, 354.6800, ex1270, available as needed during
planning 1st, 2nd, and 6th gstinnett@gsgis.k12.va.us**

Course Description: This course is designed to explore the basics of photography through black and white shooting and printing. Emphasis is on giving students general information on understanding the photographic process for artistic expression and personal use. It will include study of composition. Students will be working with light sensitive materials and photographic chemicals. They will gain a thorough knowledge of the operation of a 35mm camera, black and white film processing and printing. This course will include a basic history of photography and will include a look at contemporary work.

Textbook: PHOTOGRAPHY, Barbara London and John Upton, Seventh Edition

Web Page: www.sgwlmotohp.weebly.com

Objectives/Goals:

1. To learn to enjoy and appreciate looking
2. To see how photography has been used as a potent art form
3. To see how the student can participate in this tradition

Major Topics:

1. Operation of adjustable 35mm camera including use of shutter speed to control motion, aperture to control depth of field, focusing ring to control sharpness, light meter to determine exposure
2. Black and white film processing, printing and presentation. Topics to include: contrast and density; cleanliness; photograms; contact sheets; enlargements; spotting; editing and window matting
3. Basic History of Photography including: camera obscura; early photo Processes; use of sharpness and blur and portraiture

Assessment(s)/Evaluation(s): Assessment will be based primarily on the shooting and printing work done in response to specific assignments. Evaluation will be based on the creativity of a problem's solution, timeliness, craftsmanship, effort and participation in critiques. Students will also be evaluated through written tests. Percentages for each nine weeks will be printing and shooting 70%, participation and effort 20%, tests and presentations 10%. If no test is given during a marking period and no presentation is made, the shooting and printing will be worth 80%. Each semester will conclude with a comprehensive exam that will be worth 20% of the semester grade. We will use the 10 point grading scale as this course is VCU dual.

Classroom Expectations: Students are to come to class on time with materials and equipment needed for each day. They are expected to participate in class actively and with imagination and creativity. They should also feel free to ask questions. If they are absent for any reason, the student is responsible for obtaining notes on information that was covered during the time missed from another student. If a student leaves the classroom at anytime without the teacher, they must sign out in the notebook next to the door. They must sign in upon their return. Also, if a student leaves the classroom to work on a shooting assignment, they may not disrupt other teachers or classes and must stay on the grounds of the school.

Materials Needed: Some presentation supplies and all darkroom chemistry will be provided. The student will need to provide the following: 35mm adjustable camera with light meter (or hand held light meter) a battery for the camera and a spare battery; 3-ring binder for negatives and prints; a notebook- paper or digital to take notes; Illford Multigrade Glossy 8x10 RC Deluxe or Rapid photographic paper; Kodak Tri-X film for 35mm camera, a fine point sharpie and other materials and supplies as assigned. A tripod would be useful but is not required. Failure, on the part of the student, to provide required materials will result in a lower grade.

Dates: Friday, December 7, 2012- Fine Arts field trip to Washington, D.C., Friday, March 8, 2013- Youth Art Month exhibit opens at MLWGS.

Projects: Following are examples of the projects that will be completed during the course: first nine weeks – photograms, overlooked objects, light and shadow; second nine weeks – depth of field, motion, elements of design; third nine weeks – portraits, self portraits, montage, toning; fourth nine weeks – dream imagery or time portfolio project.

“I have read and understand the Basic Photography syllabus”

Student Name: _____ Class Period _____

Student Pledge: _____

Parent Pledge: _____