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JOUR 328.01: Advanced Photojournalism

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"Chance favors the prepared mind."
--Louis Pasteur

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND CLASS STRUCTURE:
This is an advanced black and white and color course for juniors, seniors and graduate students in the professional program. The goal is for you to learn to shoot publishable, informative and creative photographs in typical "daily" situations. If you want to be a photojournalist, you need to learn to recognize and photograph the kinds of things that you see everyday in newspapers and magazines: spot news, general news, sports, features, portraits and photo stories.

This class will require a lot of time. The semester begins with a Photoshop tutorial. In addition to shooting single images nearly every week, you will shoot one picture story. You will make a ten-minute class presentation on the photography in one paper you will follow during the semester. At the end of the semester, you will each have an interview session with me in which you will be required to bring a portfolio, resume and cover letter. There will be discussions, lectures and weekly critiques of your work, which should involve significant class participation. The class structure will remain flexible in order to accommodate possible field trips, guest lecturers, etc...

We will discuss how to find ideas, and you will often generate your own weekly assignments. Good pictures begin with good ideas, and they usually begin with the photographer! Buy a notebook today, and start your research. As you will learn, mastering the technical aspects of photography is important, but being a technically-sound photographer doesn't make you a good photojournalist. "You gotta have heart," as Patty Reksten says.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
- To learn to initiate your own stories and assignments
- To have a portfolio by the end of the semester with at least one good photo story and five single images
- To experience being a photojournalist in a news situation
- To become proficient in scanning black and white and color images
- To learn to work quickly while taking informative images and captions

Handouts will be provided during class until further notice of textbook buying.

SUGGESTED READINGS:
For additional information, you may find the following books helpful
(You can look at them in my office at any time):
Photojournalism: The Professional's Approach by Ken Kobre
PhotoShop 5.0 for Macintosh by Werinmann and Lourekas
News Photographer Magazine (free with NPPA membership)
any of the Best of Photojournalism books (yearly POY winners)

DEADLINES:
Assignments must be handed in at the beginning of class on the due date!!! Late assignments will receive an automatic F. Deadlines are not flexible in photojournalism or in this class.

EQUIPMENT:
You will need the following equipment: zip discs (to store images), 35mm. Camera with manual control, lens (es), flash, black-and-white and color negative film (as much as you can afford to shoot), darkroom equipment used in basic

ATTENDANCE:
Regular and timely attendance is crucial in a production class. You will be responsible for material covered in your absence, and your assignments will still be due at their scheduled times. I expect you to arrive on time and will mark down when you arrive late. Class participation is an important part of this class, and unexcused absences and regular tardiness will make a difference in your final grade.

GRADING:
There will be 10 weekly assignments. There will be no re-dq assignments. You will be graded on content (how well the image communicates, what you have to say, captions, creativity, graphic organization, originality) and execution (technical skills with camera, darkroom and computer)

• Weekly assignments (10): 100 points (56%)
• Picture story 25 points (14%)
• Photoshop quiz 10 points (6%)
• Class participation/attendance 10 points (6%)
• Presentation 15 points (8%)
• Final portfolio ________________________20 points (12%)

possible total: 180 points

A=90 to 100%.............................................162 to 180 points
B= 80 to 89%.............................................144 to 161.5 points
C=70 to 79%.............................................126 to 143.5 points
D=60 to 69%.............................................108 to 125.5 points
F=59% and below.................................below 108

EXTRA CREDIT:
I will give extra credit for entering at least three images in the 4th quarter student clip contest. You must be an NPPA member. You have to show me the entry before mailing it in, and it must be done according to their rules. The entries are due December 7. You will need to show them to me at least a week in advance. I will also give extra credit for entering the Hearst Competition. The deadline is November 1. You can choose only one of the two offerings. It will take the place of your lowest weekly assignment grade.

SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS:
All assignments are due at the beginning of class on their due date. When you arrive in class, put your printout on the board for critique. After the critique, photo assignments are to be submitted in a manila envelope. On the outside of the envelope, write your name, the course number and the assignment name.
For the single-picture assignments, include the following inside the envelope:
1) one (or more if requested) printout of your final select.
2) all film shot for the assignment, with final edit or edits marked.
3) complete and accurate caption information for each select. This should be typed or computer-generated.
4) If the image was scanned, I need to see the final scan. I will give you details on how to submit scans early in the semester.

Details for submission of the photo story will be provided during class.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:
All work turned in for this class (photographic or written) must be your own. Also, everything that you turn in for this class must be shot for this class. In other words, it is expected that you shoot new work for this class. Failure to comply with this will result in an F for the assignment and possibly for the class. Any act of academic dishonesty will result in referral to the proper university authorities or disciplinary action.

WEEK 1:
T, Sept.5 Go over syllabus. Introductions. Equipment. Discuss fire assignment.
Slide show. PHOTOGRAPHY AND ME essay handout
Spot news warning!

TH, Sept. 7: DUE: Photography and Me essay
Review Photoshop handout
Photoshop workshop in J108 & J212

WEEK 2:
T, Sept. 12: DUE: ASSIGNMENT 1 (FIRE RELATED PICTURE) (COLOR)

TH, Sept. 14: Portrait discussion and slide show
Handouts PHOTO SHOP TEST in J108

WEEK 3:
T, Sept. 19: DUE: ASSIGNMENT 2(PORTRAIT) (COLOR)
Establish a rapport with your subject, and reveal something about his or her personality. Pay close attention to the quality of light and what emotion you convey with it. You will shoot this as an environmental portrait outside of the studio.
Critique it.

TH, Sept. 21: Sports discussion and prep for weekend shoot-out
Cal Poly women's soccer game at 1:00pm Sun, 24th
EVERYONE BE THERE!!!!
Handouts

**WEEK 4:**
T, Sept. 26:
DUE: ASSIGNMENT 3 (SPORTS SHOOT-OUT) (BLACK & WHITE)
Turn in your best print for the critique. Either sports action or feature.

TH, Sept. 28:
DUE: read chapters 1 and 2 (LaBelle book)
Feature assignment discussion

**WEEK 5:**
T, Oct. 3
DUE: ASSIGNMENT 4 (FEATURE) (COLOR)
Shoot a publishable feature with community interest. Keep in mind our class discussion about what makes a good feature. You don’t want the viewer to ask “So what? Who cares?”
Critique it.

TH, Oct. 5
Photo request discussion and exercise assignment.

**WEEK 6:**
T, Oct. 10:
DUE: Photo assignment requests
Picture story discussion

TH, Oct. 12
DUE: Picture Story ideas
Turn in three written ideas for your picture story. They should be at least one paragraph each. Slide show/discussion.

**WEEK 7:**
T, Oct. 17
DUE: ASSIGNMENT 5 (PHOTO REQUEST) (COLOR OR B&W)
Turn in the assigned photo request picture put together from a classmate.

TH, Oct. 19:
Research and find a scheduled news event concerning election 2000. Find out all logistics, and make sure you’re able to shoot it from the location you want. In other words, check out your access. Bring back an interesting, informative image with thorough captions!
News discussion. Handouts.

**WEEK 8:**
T, Oct. 24:
DUE: ASSIGNMENT 6 (SPORTS ACTION AND FEATURE) (COLOR)
Go to one scheduled sporting event (not an impromptu frisbee football game!) and shoot for 2 images. Bring back a feature and an action shot.
Critique it.

TH, Oct. 26
TBA. Possible guest lecturer.

WEEK 9:
T, Oct. 31:
DUE ASSIGNMENT 7 (IN-CLASS DEADLINE SHOOT) (B&W)
Come to class ready to shoot an assignment that will be due at a specific time. You will turn in a printout by that deadline. Details will be discussed in class.
Happy Halloween!

TH, Nov.2:
Guest lecturer Jay Drowns from Seattle to demo digital cameras.

WEEK 10:
T, Nov.7:
NO CLASS!! Vote and shoot.

TH, Nov.9
DUE: ASSIGNMENT 8 ELECTION GENERAL NEWS) (COLOR or BW)
Critique it.
DUE: Read chapters 3 and 4 (LaBelle book)
Discuss feature at an event

WEEK 11:
T, Nov.14:
DUE: ASSIGNMENT 9 (FEATURE AT VETERAN'S DAY EVENT)
(Color or BW)
This will take some research and planning. Find an interesting event or person that deals with Veteran's Day. Most of you, if not all of you, will probably shoot something that happens on the actual holiday. Turn in at least one image for critique. Also, critique in-class deadline shoot.

TH, Nov. 16: DUE: read chapters 5 and 6 (LaBelle book)
Be ready for an ethics and THE LAW talk...

WEEK 12:
T, Nov. 21 DUE: ASSIGNMENT 10 (SPOT NEWS) (Color or BW)
Hope you found something!!
Critique

TH, Nov. 23 NO CLASS!!! Happy T-Day!

WEEK 13:
T, Nov. 28 DUE: (PRESENTATION ON PHOTOGRAPHY IN A PAPER)
A 10-minute presentation on the photography in the paper they followed and the specific photographer they talked to at the paper.

TH, Nov. 30: Continue photography presentations. ..
WEEK 14:

T, Dec. 5
Discussion on portfolios, resumes, presentation
Internship and job hunting skills

TH, Dec. 7:
DUE: (PICTURE STORY)
You will turn in a minimum of 5 images for this story. Two pages of text
typed with captions.
Critique picture stories.

WEEK 15:

T, Dec. 12
Continue critique of picture stories.

TH, Dec. 14
DUE: PORTFOLIO SESSION WITH ME!!!
Last day of class. Review and semester evaluations. Sometime in week
15, you will each have a portfolio session with me. You should bring at
least 5 pictures and picture story burned on a CD, caption sheet, resume
and cover letter to the meeting. I want you to put this together as is it
were for a real internship or job of your choice.

THAT'S ALL FOLKS!!!
Happy Holidays!
Assignment Deadlines

Fire
Sept. 12

Portrait
September 19

Sports Shoot-out
September 26

Feature
October 3

Photo Request Swap
October 10

Picture Story Ideas(3)
October 12

Photo Request
October 17

Sports Action and Feature
October 24

In-Class Deadline Shoot
October 31

Election 2000 General News
November 9

Veteran’s Day Event Feature
November 14

Spot News
November 21

Presentation on Photography in a Paper
November 28

Picture Story
December 7
Where to purchase:
Missoula: The Darkroom at 135 North Higgins Ave ............... 549-1070
Yellowstone Photo at 218 East Front ......................... 728-7637
Pro Photo Lab at 1935 Brooks ................................. 721-1662

Support our local guys:
** *Stephen Neal in Philipsburg .......................... 1-800-859-3855
Harry June in Hamilton ...................................... 1-406-363-3575

By phone: McNab Enterprises (F/11) Bozeman .............. 1-800-548-0203
Calumet, Chicago, IL ...................................... 1-888-888-9083
ask for Jennifer Lipp or David Grant

Abbey Camera: Philadelphia .................................. 1-800-982-1414
B&H, N.Y: ......................................................... 1-800-947-7785
Pitman Photo, Miami ........................................... 1-800-252-3008