

Art 4344-001 Fall 2013

## Alternative Process Photography

T'TH 8:00AM- 10:50PM

Instructor: Scott Hilton

Office Hours: Wednesday, 10-noon

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**Course Prerequisites-** Art 2359 Introduction to Photography, Art 3360 Intermediate Photography

### **Course Description-**

This class explores a variety of “alternative” photographic processes. For many decades before the introduction of factory-made film, all photographs were hand-made objects. The continual advancement in photographic technology has made the production of photographs much easier and faster. For many artists, the hand-made photograph inspires a kind of fascination and visual interest that more common technologies simply don't have.

We will be investigating the historical use of these processes, and their conceptual/aesthetic application in contemporary artwork. Much of the instruction for class will focus on the technical challenges of learning to make hand-made photographs, but we will also discuss the conceptual and aesthetic meaning of the hand-made photograph in the age of digital technology.

**Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives-** Students taking this class will-

- Produce prints from a variety of alternative photographic processes, demonstrating an adequate competence of each technique
- Create a final portfolio focusing on one technique, that demonstrates a higher level of mastery and a clear conceptual focus
- Discuss and interpret the use of “alt processes” as a element of contemporary artmaking

### **Grading-**

Final grade breakdown-

Assignments 1-3 15% per assignment

Assignment 4- (tintype)- 5%

Final portfolio- 40%

Critique Participation- 10%

Assignments are given one letter grade based on craftsmanship and creativity.

**A** Indicates outstanding work, which goes far beyond simply completing the assignment. A superior level of innovation, thoroughness, effort, and thought.

**B** Indicates better-than-average work, which does go beyond the basic requirements of the assignment, but may still have significant problems.

**C** Indicates average work. Basic satisfaction of all the requirements, but may lack innovation, effort, or thoughtfulness.

**D** Indicates less than average work. Does not meet the basic requirements. Usually sloppy, last-minute efforts given little time or consideration.

**F** Indicates incomplete or grossly negligent work.

### **Course and Instructor Policies**

**Attendance-** Roll is taken at the beginning of class time. You are required to attend all class times that are not specifically marked as “Open Lab”.

More than four absences from all required class times will result in an “F” grade for the class.

If you arrive late for class, it is your responsibility to inform me of your arrival after I have taken roll.

**Late assignments-** An assignment is late if it is not completed by the beginning of class time on the day the assignment is due. Late assignments will not be accepted. Missing the critique for an assignment will result in a failing grade for that assignment.

**Critiques-** I offer, and encourage you to offer, constructive and honest opinions and feedback of the work submitted for critique. Objective criticism of your work may be painful to hear, but it is a necessary part of the learning process. Criticism should not be taken, or meant, as a personal attack. Critiques are neither a therapy session, nor a battle for intellectual glory.

**Facilities-** The darkroom is a communal facility. We have to depend on each other to keep it in clean running order. Please, always leave it in better shape than you found it. Follow proper safety procedures. Bring a towel. If something doesn't work, tell me, or another instructor or staff person. If you cannot respect the lab, you will be denied the privilege of using it.

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Academic Integrity:** It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. According to the UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts."

**Student Support Services Available:** The University of Texas at Arlington has established a variety of programs to help students meet the challenges of college life. Support to students includes advising, counseling, mentoring, tutoring, supplemental instruction, and writing assistance. For a complete list of academic support services, visit the Academic Assistance resource page of the Office of Student Success Programs, [www.uta.edu/uac/studentsuccess/academic-assistance](http://www.uta.edu/uac/studentsuccess/academic-assistance). To help students address personal, academic and career concerns, individual counseling is also available. For more information, students are encouraged to contact Counseling Services [www.counseling.uta.edu](http://www.counseling.uta.edu) at (817) 272-3671 or visit a counselor in 216 Davis Hall.

**Electronic Communication Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University "MavMail" address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. **Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly.** Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/>. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active even after they graduate from UT Arlington.

## **Class Calendar-** (subject to change)

Aug 22-	Introduction
Aug 27-	Lecture on Pinhole photography and other alt process work
Aug 29-	Making and testing pinhole cameras
Sept 3-	Images and discussion- Pictorialism and the history of "Alt Photo"
Sept 5-	Open Lab- Pinhole work
Sept 10-	Images and discussion-
Sept 12-	Open Lab- Pinhole work
Sept 17-	<b>Critique on Pinhole</b>
Sept 19-	Demo on Cyanotype accordion photogram books
Sept 24-	Images and discussion- Cliché Verre
Sept 26-	Open Lab- cyanotype
Oct 1-	Images and discussion- Cyanotype toning and printing on fabric or other materials
Oct 3-	Open Lab- cyanotype
Oct 8-	<b>Crit on Cyanotype Accordion Books</b>
Oct 10-	Inkjet Negatives
Oct 15-	Van Dyke Brown printing
Oct 17-	Open Lab
Oct 22-	Images and discussion- Gum Bichromate
Oct 24-	Open Lab
Oct 29-	<b>Crit on Inkjet Negatives- cyanotype and VDB</b>
Oct 31-	Open Lab
Nov 5-	Tintype (in-class by appointment)
Nov 7-	Tintype (in-class by appointment)
Nov 12-	Tintype (in-class by appointment)
Nov 14-	Open Lab
Nov 19-	<b>Crit on Tintype</b> , and Work-in-Progress
Nov 21-	Open Lab
Nov 26-	Open Lab
Nov 29-	Thanksgiving holiday
Dec 3-	<b>Final Crit</b>

## Assignments-

- 1- **Pinhole-** Due Sept 17  
4 prints using a lensless camera of your own creation, with rc paper negatives and prints. You will be graded both on the prints and on the camera you make!
- 2- **Cyanotype Books-** Due Oct 8  
Two versions of a simple, 6-panel accordion book using watercolor paper to make photogram-style cyanotypes, exposed in the sun.
- 3- **Inkjet negatives-** Due October 29  
3 cyanotype and 3 Van Dyke prints (8x10ish or larger) using a hybrid digital/ alt process on watercolor paper exposed in the UV box.
- 4- **Tintype-** Due Nov 19  
1 tintype per group. Working in pairs, each group is responsible for conceptualizing a duo-portrait that will be shot on Tintype, with your instructor's supervision.
- 5- **Final Portfolio-** Due Dec 3  
6 prints, no specified size. Your chance to really shine! A conceptually cohesive body of work that focuses on one of the above-mentioned processes (except tintype), or, you can be very ambitious and try something new!

## Materials needed-

Chemistry is provided for you.

### Pinhole-

- Boxes to make cameras
- Flat black spraypaint
- Black duct tape
- RC photo paper (matte finish)

### Cyanotype Books-

- Apron
- Latex disposable gloves
- Stonehenge watercolor paper (sold by FOCUS)
- 3 3-inch foam sponge brushes

### Inkjet Negatives-

- 8.5" x 11" Ryonet Rite Film WaterProof Inkjet Transparency (comes in 100 sheet boxes)