

# Special Studies- Landscape Photography

Art 4392-007 Spring 2014 F 9AM-2:50PM

FA 346

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Instructor: Scott Hilton

Office Hours: TTh 2-3PM

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## **Course Description-**

This Special Studies section will concentrate in the methods, concepts, and various aesthetic strategies of Landscape photography. Instruction will focus on the historical and contemporary approaches to picturing the land- from 19th century survey explorations of the unsettled West, to the formalist beauty of the mid-20th, to contemporary artists addressing the troubled relationship between nature and human civilization. Classwork will include work in the field as well as lecture and lab.

**Prerequisite-** ART 3360 or permission of the instructor

**Student Learning Outcomes-** Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate proficiency and creative control of the technical and aesthetic concerns specific to landscape photography
- Identify and articulate the conceptual underpinnings of the concept of "landscape" in general, and landscape photography in particular.
- Identify and articulate the influence of those conceptual underpinnings on their own work, as well as by other photographers
- Identify major historical and contemporary artists and theorists, and their contribution to the dialogue about the nature of "landscape" and landscape photography.

## **Recommended Textbooks-**

There is no specific textbook but there will be a series of required readings, which will be discussed in class. All required readings will be posted as .pdf files to the class Blackboard section.

## **Attendance and Grading-**

You are required to attend all lectures and critiques and to turn in work when it is due. If you miss a lecture or demonstration, you are responsible for gathering material you have missed. If you know you are going to miss a required class due to travel or other planned events, inform the instructor ahead of time. If there is an emergency preventing you from coming to a required class, contact me as soon as is practical.

All work is due at the beginning of class time on the due date. Late assignments will not be accepted without prior communication and arrangement.

Grade breakdown-

**10% Artist Presentation**

**10% Discussion/ Participation-** Critiques and discussion of readings

**16.66% each- Short Themed Assignments**

1-Landscape as the Sublime- 6 prints

2-Landscape as Form- 6 prints

3-Landscape as Real Estate- 6 prints

**30% Final project** - 6 prints in exhibition-ready presentation, with artist's statement

\*All students who are Majors in Photography must complete either one of the short themed assignments, or the Final Project, using 4x5 analog film cameras, though they need not be printed on analog (silver gelatin) prints.

All assignments, as well as all readings, will be discussed in class and posted to Blackboard. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the criteria and due dates of each assignment.

Assignments are given one letter grade based on three criteria- Technical skill, aesthetic sensibility, and conceptual rigor.

**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. Sloppy, last-minute efforts given inadequate time or consideration.

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

### **Drop Policy**

March 28 is the deadline for withdrawal. If you are in serious danger of receiving a grade below a C, I will contact you before this date and suggest you drop.

**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 Schedule** (subject to change. All changes to this schedule will be announced and posted on the class section in Blackbaord)

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| Jan 17   | Intro, "Landscape as Theater"- JB Jackson reading   |
| Jan 24   | Excerpts from Emerson's "Nature"<br>Images of the Sublime in 19 <sup>th</sup> Century painting and photography                |
| Jan 31   | Luther Smith guest lecture<br>Images- 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Sublime<br>4x5 Camera field work at Cedar Ridge Preserve       |
| Feb 7    | Presentations Due<br>Photographer Presentations Part 1<br>Meet w/John Rohrbach, Curator of Photographs at the Amon Carter     |
| Feb 14   | Photographer Presentations Part 2<br>Contact sheets (48 images) for Assignment 1 due<br>Field work at Goat Island Preserve    |
| Feb 21   | Crit #1- Landscape as the Sublime- 6 prints due<br>Lecture on "Landscape as Form"   |
| Feb 28   | Field Work- Dinosaur Valley State Park  |
| March 7  | <i>SPE Conference Scott Gone</i> - Special Guest and discussion on film<br><i>Manufactured Landscapes</i> by Edward Burtynsky |
| March 14 | Spring Break  |
| March 21 | Crit #2- Landscape as Form- 6 prints due<br>Lecture "Landscape as Real Estate" JB Jackson Film                                |
| March 28 | Guest lecture/ discussion with Leslie Murell of the Fort Worth Modern<br>Field work TBA                                       |
| April 4  | Guest lecture- Jackson Echols<br>Contact sheets (48 images) for Crit #3 due   |
| April 11 | Crit #3- Landscape as Real Estate- 6 prints due   |
| April 18 | Work day  |
| April 25 | Contact sheets for Final Crit due- Lab work day   |
| May 2    | Final Crit- 8 prints due  |