

# Northern Marianas College

## CURRICULUM ACTION REQUEST

Effective Semester / Session: Spring 1998

Type of Action:

- X New  
Modification  
Cancellation

Course Alpha and Number: AR 107

Course Title: Introduction to Black and White Photography

Reason for initiating, modifying, or canceling course, or other pertinent comment:

AR 107 will expand the range of courses offered by NMC's art program and will allow students to develop their artistic interests and abilities through an additional expressive medium. The course has been taught for three years to students of Northern Marianas Academy and is extremely popular. NMC students have voiced a strong desire to have this course added to the college-level curriculum.

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*Jan-Elia* 1/13/98  
Proposer Date

*Victoria M. Uludog* 1/13/98  
Department Chair Date

*John* 01-21-98  
Unit Review (Dean) Date

*John* 01-21-98  
English and Format Reviewer Date

*John* 02-09-98  
Academic Council Chair Date

*John* 02-09-98  
Vice President for Instruction Date

# Northern Marianas College

## Course Guide

Course : AR 107 Introduction to Black and White Photography

### 1. Department

Social Sciences, Fine Arts, & Humanities

### 2. Purpose

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the technical photographic skills to allow them to develop their inherent talents in this medium, both for artistic and for documentary purposes. Students will be exposed to various types of photography, including fine art, commercial, scientific, reportage, documentary, and others.

The target population for this course consists of students pursuing the A. A. degree in Liberal Arts (General), for which AR 107 will fulfill the General Education requirement for Performing or Visual Arts. This particular course has been taught for several years by an NMC instructor to students at Northern Marianas Academy, and has proven to be so popular that NMC students have expressed their desire that it be offered as a regular college-level course. While it may be used to fulfill a General Education requirement, AR 107 is also expected to be in high demand as an elective.

AR 107 is similar in course content and student competencies to basic-level photography courses offered at other colleges and universities, and will be proposed for inclusion in NMC's articulation agreements with the University of Guam and Hawaii Pacific University.

### 3. Description

#### A. Recommended Textbook(s) and Related Materials:

Horenstein, Henry. 1983. *Black and White Photography: A Basic Manual*, 2<sup>nd</sup> revised edition. Little, Brown & Co. Readability Level: Grade 10.

Handouts on relevant topics will be distributed by the instructor.

#### B. Contact Hours

1. **Lecture:** 3 per week/45 per semester
2. **Lab:** 3 per week/45 per semester
3. **Other:**

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## C. Credits

1. **Number:** 4
2. **Type:** Regular degree credits

## D. Catalogue Course Description

This course introduces the student to the basic elements and principles of black and white photography. Technical aspects of the medium, composition, equipment, and film development and printing are covered. Darkroom laboratory is a required course activity. NOTE: Since darkroom equipment and space is limited, the maximum enrollment for any section of this course is 10 students. Prerequisite: a "C" grade or better in AR 101, AR 103, or AR 135, or instructor's permission.

## E. Degree or Certificate Requirements Met by Course

For the A.A. degree in Liberal Arts (General), this course fulfills the General Education requirement for Performing or Visual Arts. It may also be taken to fulfill the Fine Arts requirement for other NMC associate degree programs.

## F. Course Activities and Design

This course is designed to incorporate lecture, demonstration, viewing and discussing of relevant videotaped programs, and completion of assigned projects that will assist the student in understanding the principles of black and white photography and in acquiring basic photographic skills. During the first two weeks of the term the student is introduced to basic photographic principles in the classroom and in the darkroom. During the remainder of the term the student is taught how these concepts can be used to create permanent photographic images. A minimum of nine assignments covering fundamental skills and techniques will be given. Course activities also include periodic written quizzes and a final exam. Occasional field trips during class time will be scheduled, and students will have the option of participating in additional field trips after hours or on weekends. The course concludes with a formal exhibition of the five best images created by each student.

## 4. Course Prerequisite(s); Concurrent Course Enrollment; Required English/Mathematics Proficiency Level(s)

Prerequisite: a "C" grade or better in AR 101, AR 103, or AR 135, or permission of the instructor.

Minimum English Proficiency Level: EN 093 and EN 094

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## 5. Estimated Cost of Course; Instructional Resources Needed

To the College: Instructor's salary; replacement of consumable supplies; periodic maintenance of photographic equipment.

To the student: Tuition for a 4-credit course; lab fee; cost of textbook.

Instructional resources needed for this course include chalk and chalkboard, TV/VCR and videotaped programs, equipped darkroom (with 2 enlargers, 2 sets of enlarging filters, sink with running water, various timers, 4 processing trays with tongs, print washer, 5 film developing tanks, amber safelight, 2 darkroom thermometers, print dryer, light box for viewing negatives, 2 adjustable easels, 3 beakers for measuring chemicals, paper trimmer), room adjacent to darkroom for loading/unloading film, 6 X 35-mm. manual cameras, 6 sets of B&W lens filters, and consumable photographic supplies for demonstration purposes (35-mm. B&W film, photographic paper of various sizes and surfaces, chemicals for developing film and processing paper, glassines for negatives, dry mount tissues, mount and matte boards, spot toning kit).

NOTE: Students may supply and use their own 35-mm. manual cameras, with instructor's approval. Students who do not have access to such cameras may use an NMC camera, provided they sign a waiver at the beginning of the term which obligates them to pay for repair or replacement of any NMC photographic equipment they may damage.

## 6. Method of Evaluation

Student learning and individual progress will be evaluated on the basis of class participation, completion of assignments, periodic written quizzes, a final exam, and a portfolio review at the middle and end of the term. Students are required to attend critiques and to give written and oral evaluations of classmates' work. NMC's grading and attendance policies will be followed.

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## 7. Course Outline

### 1.0 Introduction to Cameras

- 1.1 Types of cameras
- 1.2 Camera parts and their functions
- 1.3 Loading and unloading the camera
- 1.4 Determining correct exposure
- 1.5 Setting correct exposures manually (f:stops/shutter speeds)
- 1.6 Selecting exposures (creative aspects)

### 2.0 Introduction to Lenses

- 2.1 Basic fixed focal-length lenses and their uses
- 2.2 Special lenses and their uses

### 3.0 Films

- 3.1 Film types and their uses
- 3.2 Film formats and their uses
- 3.3 Film speed versus grain and definition

### 4.0 Light Sources

- 4.1 Available light and how to use it
- 4.2 Artificial light and how to use it
- 4.3 Light meters and their use

### 5.0 Filters

- 5.1 Calculating exposure
- 5.2 Common filters and their uses
- 5.3 Special-effect filters and their uses

### 6.0 Introduction to Composition

- 6.1 Rules of composition
- 6.2 Creative composition

### 7.0 Photography Genres

- 7.1 Fine art
- 7.2 Commercial
- 7.3 Scientific
- 7.4 Reportage
- 7.5 Documentary
- 7.6 Others

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## 8.0 Developing Film

- 8.1 Film processing
- 8.2 Care and storage of negatives
- 8.3 System for indexing negatives

## 9.0 Printing Negatives

- 9.1 The enlarger
- 9.2 Processing prints
- 9.3 Storage and retrieval of prints

## 8. Instructional Goals

This course will introduce students to:

- 1.0 Camera types, parts, and functions;
- 2.0 How to load and unload film;
- 3.0 How to determine the correct exposure for local conditions and desired effects, and how to experiment with creative exposures;
- 4.0 Camera lenses, both fixed focal-length and special-use lenses, and their uses;
- 5.0 Film types, formats, and speeds, and the relation of film speed to image grain and definition;
- 6.0 Light sources, both available and artificial, and the methods of interpreting the light for desired exposures;
- 7.0 Lens filters, both common and special-effect filters, and their uses;
- 8.0 The rules of formal composition and the creative use of composition;
- 9.0 Common photographic genres;
- 10.0 The processes of developing film and printing negatives.

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## 9. Student Competencies

Upon successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

- 1.0 Identify various types of cameras and their parts;
- 2.0 Properly load and unload film in various types of cameras;
- 3.0 Correctly determine exposure and adjust exposure for creative effects;
- 4.0 Demonstrate knowledge of both fixed focal-length and special-use lenses and when to employ each;
- 5.0 Demonstrate knowledge of various film types and formats and their common uses;
- 6.0 Explain the relation of film speed to film image definition;
- 7.0 Explain the correct use of light filters and demonstrate the effective use of both available and artificial light sources;
- 8.0 Correctly calculate exposure and demonstrate the effective use of both common and special-effect filters;
- 9.0 Demonstrate knowledge both of the formal rules of composition and of when and how to break the rules for creative composition;
- 10.0 Characterize and compare the common photographic genres;
- 11.0 Correctly complete the photographic process, from composing and shooting the photograph, to exposing the film, to developing the film, to printing the negatives.