

Sam Houston State University
College of Fine Arts and Mass Communication
Department of Art

ARTS 3366, SECTION 01

HUMAN FORM: A PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDY

3 Credit Hours

Spring 2018

Class Location:	ABIII 104
Class Meeting Times:	Tues & Thurs 12:30 – 3:20
Instructor:	Professor Rebecca Finley (Becky)
Office Location:	Huntsville Campus, AB III 114C
Instructor Contact Information:	(936) 294-3418 E-Mail: bfinley@SHSU.EDU
Office Hours:	TTR 11:30 – 12:30 (or by appointment)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will take an investigative look into the use of the human form through the medium of photography. There will be discussion of the variety of contexts and representations of the human body throughout the history of art. Students will complete a body of photographic work using or referencing the human figure.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After completing this course, students will be able to demonstrate:

1. Development of personal projects centered around the course topic of the human body demonstrated in a final portfolio of photographic work consisting of 15 – 20 images.
2. The ability to produce photographic work that shows technical and conceptual growth.
3. Ability to analyze and discuss photographic work by classmates and other artists through class discussions and critiques.
4. Ability to write an artist statement that clearly expresses the concepts and content of their work.

TEXTBOOK AND REQUIRED MATERIALS

There is no specific textbook for this course. Reading materials will be distributed throughout the course. Students are expected to read all material and be prepared to discuss at least 3 points from the article during the following class.

SUPPLIES

- DSLR Camera with manual capabilities (ability to change shutter speed, aperture, and ISO)
- Thumb Drive or Portable Hard Drive
- Sketch Book (optional)
- Mac Book Pro w/ Adobe Photoshop CC and Lightroom
- Epson Photo Quality Ink Jet Paper, 8.5" x 11" or larger, surface optional.
Note: Paper must be compatible with pigment ink jet printers. For best results, use **Epson** paper **only** unless approved by instructor.

***Note: Students must personally print all images that are submitted for grading. Prints must be produced in digital darkroom (AB3) unless approved by instructor.**

ATTENDANCE POLICY

In order for you to succeed in this course, you must come to class and participate. Students are responsible for all material covered in their absence. **After three absences, your final grade will be lowered a full letter for each additional absence.** It is essential for the success of the class that students participate in class discussions, critiques, and presentations. Missing class, arriving late, and failure to participate in discussions will result in a lowered final course grade.

3 misses classes = Highest possible grade = A

4 missed classes = Highest possible grade = B

5 missed classes = Highest possible grade = C

6 missed classes = Highest possible grade = D

7 or more missed classes = F

GRADING POLICY

Students will be graded based on completion and qualities of assignments, class participation, and progress. The final grade will consist of an average from all critiques, attendance, participation, and creative growth.

A = 90 – 100

Super Amazing and excellent! A's are given to students who go the extra mile. Simply completing the assignments will not result in an A. In order to get an A in this class, students are expected to be shooting throughout the semester, participate in class discussions, and present work regularly in critiques. This work should demonstrate strong technical and conceptual development. **You will not receive an 'A' if you are consistently late, frequently texting, sleeping in class, neglecting to participate in class discussions, or missing more than 3 classes.**

B = 80 – 89

Well above average, B students show work at least the minimum amount of times and contribute to their blogs. They have strong work showing progress.

C = 70 – 79

Average. Complete. Competent. Most photos are average.

D = 60 – 69

Below average work. Student shows infrequently. D students show very little progress and do not appear to take their work very seriously.

F = 0 – 59

Unacceptable work for a college student.

** Please note that all visual art is subjective, however you will learn to honestly judge your own work. Always ask yourself whether or not you have put your best effort into your work. Can you do better? **All grades are non negotiable.**

MAKE-UP POLICY

Crits = Student are expected to be shooting and showing work on scheduled critique dates. Students will be working on self-assigned projects demonstrating an understanding of technical skills and show personal conceptual development. Students are expected to show their work on designated crit dates. **Late work will NOT be accepted. Other students may not turn in work for you. In order to receive credit, you must be in class and participate in critiques. If you leave after your work is critiqued, you will not receive full credit for that assignment.**

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: http://www.shsu.edu/~slo_www/

*****Becky's Class Policy: All work must be your own, generated by you alone and it must be completed this semester for this course. Any violation of these policies will result in an F for the semester. No DOUBLE DIPPING!**

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/811006.pdf>

STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: "a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20...." A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf

VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM

Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

USE OF PHONE & TEXT MESSAGING IN THE CLASSROOM

Cell phones must be **turned off or silenced** prior to the beginning of each class (**no texting**). You will be asked to leave and be counted absent if you are texting or taking calls in class. **Please use a sketchbook or your journal for taking notes.** Computer and cell phone LCD screens are disruptive to both the instructor and other students during slide lectures. ***Repeated disruptions will result in a reduction of a student's final course grade.***

DEPARTMENT OF ART BFA REVIEW

The purpose of the BFA Review is to ensure that students have learned basic principles and techniques needed for advanced art courses.

All Art students must successfully complete all of the Art Foundation courses and the BFA Review before being accepted into a BFA program in Computer Animation, Photography, or Studio Art or Graphic Design. Graphic Design students must also pass a separate Graphic Design Review after the BFA Review.

The Art Foundation Courses are WASH, Drawing, and Foundations in Digital Art. (ARTS 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, & 2313). Students must pass each course with a grade of C or higher to take the BFA Review and proceed to upper level courses.

The semester after all of the Foundation courses are complete, students must sign up for the BFA Review. Students should see an art advisor every semester to ensure they take the BFA Review on time. It should be taken the semester immediately following the completion of the Foundation Courses.

Students who do not pass the BFA Review may re-take it the following semester. Students who do not pass on the second attempt will not be allowed to continue as BFA majors, but may follow the degree plan for the BA in Art. Non-participation after signing up or being advised to sign up will count as a failure of that semester's review.

Graphic Design students must pass the BFA Review, complete Principles of Graphic Design (ARTS 2323) and participate in a BFA Review at the end of the semester that they are enrolled in Typography (ARTS 3322).

For more information on the BFA review see the Department of art web page: <http://www.shsu.edu/academics/art/review/>

DEFACING UNIVERSITY PROPERTY

Do not paint on concrete, asphalt, trees, sides of buildings, interior walls or floors of buildings, etc. When using any kind of paint use a drop cloth or tarp to protect the surface from overspray. Defacing university property is prohibited by university policy. Students will be held responsible for the cost of damages to the facilities.

COURSE TOPICS/TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

- * The Body Abstracted
- * Body Manipulations
- * Performance Art & The Body
- * Aging and the Body
- * Intimate Life
- * Strange Figurations
- * The Body in Fashion
- * The Body in Nature
- * Idealized vs. Realistic
- * Eros, Love, & Lust
- * Found Figures & Fragments
- * The Body: Sacred & Profane
- * Surveillance
- * Objectification and Advertising

***Be Advised: This course will contain imagery that might be difficult for sensitive viewers. If you are sensitive to nudity or suggestive material, please let the instructor know. All material shown will be shown in context of course discussion with the goal of discussing uses of the body in art.

Tentative Schedule

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| 1/18 | Thurs | Introduction
Syllabus and Policies |
| 1/23 | Tues | Review of Past Student Work – Students bring 10 digital images.
Image Presentation: The Body in Photography |
| 1/25 | Thurs | Images: Abstraction & Fragmentation |
| 1/30 | Tues | Images: Found Figures
Basic Lighting Considerations/Demo. |
| 2/1 | Thurs | Work Day / Lighting Workshop / Open Lab |
| 2/6 | Tues | CRIT #1 (all work is open, but if you need an assignment: Abstraction, Fragmentation, or Found Figures) = Digital Crit. |
| 2/8 | Thurs | Images / Discussion: Flawed, Realistic & Aging |
| 2/13 | Tues | Images / Discussion: Self-Portraiture and the Body |
| 2/15 | Thurs | Film: The Woodmans
Open Lab – Please use this time for editing and feedback. |
| 2/20 | Tues | CRIT #2 (possible assignment: Non-idealized/Aging or Self Portraits) |
| 2/22 | Thurs | Images / Discussion: The Body & Nature |
| 2/27 | Tues | Images / Discussion: Intimate Life & Personal Narratives |
| 3/1 | Thurs | Work Day! |
| 3/6 | Tues | Print Crit #3 (possible assignment: The body in Nature) |

3/8	Thurs	Images: The body in Various Art Media	
3/13	Tues	SPRING BREAK!	
3/15	Thurs	SPRING BREAK!	
3/20	Tues	Images / Discussion: Sacred & Profane	
3/22	Thurs	CRIT #4 (Possible assignment: The Unattractive Body)	
3/27	Tues	Images / Discussion: Eros, Love & Lust	
3/29	Thurs	Images / Discussion: Fashion, Advertising, The Body & Objectification	
4/3	Tues	Images / Discussion: Body Manipulation	
4/5	Thurs	CRIT #5 (possible assignment: fashion or eros) = Prints Artist Statement Rough Draft #1 Due	
4/10	Tues	Images: Images / Discussion: Strange Figurations	
4/12	Thurs	Work Day / Open Lab / Open Studio NYC Trip	
4/17	Tues	Images / Discussion: Documentation - The Body in Performance Art	
4/26	Thurs	Images: New Directions with the Body	
5/1	Tues	CRIT #6 (you really shouldn't need an assignment at this point) Artist Statement Rough Draft #2 Due	
5/3	Thurs	Last Class Day / Work Day	
5/8	Tues	1:00 – 4:00	Final 20 Exhibition Sized Perfect Prints Artist Statement Digital File Containing ALL images and statement *Mounting, Matting and/or Framing = Extra Credit

Photo Resources

Advising – Professor Becky Finley is the Photography Area Coordinator and Academic Advisor. Make an appointment with her if you are or are interested in becoming a Photography major or minor. Studio, Animation, and Graphic Design majors can also minor in Photography. 936-294-3418 bfinley@shsu.edu

SHSU Photography Program on Facebook – We regularly post scholarships, internships, exhibition, free-lance, and job opportunities. You'll also see updated lab hours, advising notifications, photo related articles, and other helpful info.

<https://www.facebook.com/SHSUPhotographyProgram/>

B&H Photo Video Audio – This is a great resource for all photo related gear. They sell everything from cameras, to chemicals, to ink. The Art Department regularly orders from them as do the professors. <https://www.bhphotovideo.com>

Freestyle Photographic Supplies – They have all the same stuff as B&H. We recommend pricing both places. Sometimes things are cheaper on one or the other.

<http://www.freestylephoto.biz>

Houston Camera Exchange – a great place to buy cameras, batteries, film, flashes, lenses, etc. They are located at: 5900 Richmond Ave, Houston, TX 77057 (713) 789-6901

<http://hcehouston.com>

Kingwood Photo Lab – a photo lab specializing in film processing, prints from digital files, memory card recovery, etc. They also offer a mail in service. 2714 W Lake Houston Pkwy, Houston, TX 77339 281-360-8998 <http://www.kingwoodphotolab.com>

Amazon.com – Don't over think it. Amazon has lots of photo gear too.

Houston Center for Photography – This amazing and wonderful gallery is a must visit for anyone interested in Photography. Their website has lots of great resources as well. 1441 West Alabama, Houston, TX 77006 713-529-4755 <https://www.hcponline.org>

American Suburb X – is a great resource for photo related reading and viewing artist's works. They feature regular articles, galleries, interviews, and reviews.

<http://www.americansuburbx.com/photography>

Documenting your work – This resource from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago simply explains how to properly document artwork. A working knowledge of basic camera functions and white balance settings are included.

<http://www.saic.edu/media/saic/pdfs/lifesaic/careerco-opcenter/Documenting-Your-Work.pdf>