

ARTS 597. 001 Landscape Photography Workshop
COURSE SYLLABUS: May Mini 2015
Monday-Friday 10:00 am- 2:50 pm Room J110

Professor: Chad D. Smith, Assistant Professor
Office Location: J 233
Office Hours: Please make an appointment via email.
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University Email Address: chad.cmith@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Reading List:

Old Fort Davis

by Barry Scobee / the Naylor Company –San Antonio Texas

My name is Fredrick Rice and I was born here.

The Story of a real Cowboy in Big Bend, Texas /

By Staley Ewald, Jean Ewald, Phyllis Grolla / self published

Tales of the Big Bend

By Elton Miles / Texas A&M University Press

I'll Gather My Geese

By Hallie Crawford Stillwell /Texas A & M Press

How come it's called that?

By Virginia Duncan Madison & Hallie Crawford Stillwell

The Way I Heard It – Tales of the Big Bend

By Walter Fulcher / University of Texas Press

More Tales of the Big Bend

By Elton Miles / Texas A&M University Press

Terlingua Teacher

By Trent Jones & Carlton Stowers / Iron Mountain Press

Tales from the Terlingua Porch

By Blair Pittman / Sun Country Publications

Quicksilver-Terlingua and the Chisos Mining Company

By Kenneth Baxter Ragsdale & Joe B. Frantz / TAMU Press

Archeological Reconnaissance on Big Bend Ranch State Park

By J. David Ing, Sheron Smith-Savage, William A. Clound, Robert J. Mallouf

Big Bend Country- a history of Big Bend National Park

By Ross A. Maxwell / Big Bend National Park

Description:

This May-Mini course will cover the very complicated idea of “Photography as Landscape”. This photography course will include lectures on the different types or genre of landscape photography(i.e. Landscape as Habitat, Landscape as History, Landscape as Artifact, Landscape as Aesthetic, etc.); field studies on how to photograph the landscape; demonstrations of photography equipment use in landscape photography; and how to edit, print and professional present photography in an exhibition setting. Prerequisite By permission of instructor.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- an understanding of the definition of landscape photography through photographic study and a research paper on landscape photographers
- a command of photographic equipment
- an understanding of composition, use of natural light, and proper exposure
- the ability to edit, process, print and archive RAW digital files using digital asset management software
- a comprehension of the photographic vocabulary by participation in critical evaluations regarding their own work and the work of others.
- how to make professional presentations and inkjet photographic prints of their work

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance: 100 points

Attendance is mandatory for every class day. 20 points will be subtracted for every unexcused absence.

Class time, Travel and Shooting Journals: 100 points

Students will keep daily journals during class and field study which will include technical notes. Journals must include the following: class and research notes, site/ location, weather conditions, morning/afternoon, technical info, problems encountered and how solved, other information as it pertains to the day. *Note:* Neatness will count. Journals that do not contain adequate information will be assigned a lower grade

Final Presentation: 100 points

Students will present their work during the final days of the course in both written and oral forms. Students must ok their presentational method with the professor before giving their presentations. There will be several discussions and meetings before the final presentation.

Final Slide Presentation /Prints / Essay : 100 points

Each student will give the instructor a copy of their final presentation, a copy of their final images in jpeg format (100 dpi /1,000 pixels at the longest dimension), and a copy of their research findings (Objectives, Method, Influences, bibliography) and short statement. There will be a handout on the format/style and content of their Research Summary.

Research Paper:

Students will pick two landscape photographers: one historical (before 1950) and one contemporary (after 1950) and write a 10 to 15 page research paper comparing and contrasting the works of these two photographers. The research paper will consist of the following elements: Statement (not a question) of what will be proved, major points of comparison and contrast of the work of these two photographers, conclusion of your research, examples of the photographers' work and bibliography.

Short Presentation:

Student will give a short presentation on these two photographers during our field studies. This will count toward the final grade of the research paper.

Note: All the above criteria/assignments count 100 points each and will be averaged at the end of the class.

Note: All papers must be typed single space, Times, 12-point font. Always include visual examples.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Camera, Lens, Tripods, etc.

External Hard drive

Laptop (one will be provided in the field to use for downloading cards only)

11 X 17 inkjet paper for final prints (a small fee per print in print with university equipment)

Notebook/ journal (for taking notes during class and trip)

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:

Please contact me via my email address or make appointments during class time.

Email: chad.smith@tamuc.edu

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Rules while in the Classroom:

Students are required to attend every class period while on campus. Roll will be taken. There will be discussions, demos, research, and lab time.

Rules while on the Road:

The Landscape Workshop will travel to the Southwest Texas area known as the Big Bend. The area includes: Big Bend National Park, Big Bend Ranch State Park, Fort Davis States Park, Alpine, Study Butte, Terlingua, Lajitas, and Marathon, just to name a few of the many places to explore. Students will provide their own transportation and food, and lodging. We will be staying at the Mitre Peak Girl Scout Camp in Fort Davis for seven nights. There will be mandatory class meetings after every dinner at which time there will be discussions of the days activities and plans for the next days activities.

Students will be expected to show exemplary behavior. Each student agrees to the park regulations. You are responsible for these rules and regulations. Everyone needs to remember at all times we are guests in all these places. Students will not have on their person any weapons, drugs or any other illegal items.

Underage students shall not have any alcohol. **Any** student found intoxicated or carrying any concealed weapon will be dropped from the class (F-grade) and will be asked to leave the camping area immediately.

There will be no exceptions to this!

University Specific Procedures:

ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act(ADA)is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Student Disability Resources & Services

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct* from the *Student Guide Book*)

COURSE OUTLINE/CALENDAR

Class Schedule:

Part 1: Each student will do research on the Big Bend area using the library and Internet in order make a proposal that states the direction of their field study. There will be discussions and lectures on the first Monday and Tuesday.

Part 2: Seven Day Field Studies in the Big Bend area. The group will travel on Wednesday May 20th to Mitre Peak Girl Scout Camp. There will be a short meeting at MPGSC that evening to discuss the week's activities. The group will meet every evening during which time there will be discussions, readings, downloading of the days images, short critiques and working on daily shooting journals. Graduate students will give a short presentation on two landscape photographers they have been researching. The group will travel back to Commerce on May 27.

Part 3: After returning the group will use the remaining days to edit their work from the field studies into individual presentations and prints. Final presentation will be given June 3rd.