

ARTS 2410 - Photo I

UNM-Valencia, Film & Digital Arts
Fall 2022
Face-to-Face Course

updated 8-2022

Professor: Alexa Wheeler (she, her) | alexa08@unm.edu

Class time & location: Mondays & Thursdays, 10:30am - 1pm, Fine Arts (B&T Building) Darkroom Room 149

Virtual Student Drop-In & In-Person Office Hours: Wednesday 1pm - 3pm & Thursday 10:00am - 2pm*
*and by appointment
*see "How to Contact the Instructor" section

Office: B&T Building Rm. 114

Zoom Office Hours Link: <https://unm.zoom.us/j/9541776612>, Meeting ID: 954 177 6612

Cell [for text only, please]: 505.515.1055

Land Acknowledgment: UNM-Valencia is located on the traditional and ancestral Pueblo people and is unceded. This region holds great historical, spiritual, and personal significance for its original stewards, the Native nations and peoples of this area. I acknowledge their connection to this land, and give thanks for the opportunity to live, work, and learn on their traditional homeland.

A note about our times: Over the past few years, we have experienced both the emergence of the global COVID-19 pandemic and the painful consequences of long-endured violence against the BIPOC community. These events have caused, and continue to cause, fear, stress, and pain for many members of our community, and will continue to impact each of us in various ways throughout this semester. Under these circumstances, it is completely normal to feel overwhelmed or anxious, and to have difficulty concentrating. I have designed this course with these challenges in mind, and am committed to continuing to work with all of you to create a positive and supportive learning environment. If your health, well-being, or school work are being impacted, I offer support services and resources in this syllabus. If your needs are not being met in any way, contact me and I will help you find services that will meet your needs as best I can.

Credit-hours: This is a three credit-hour course delivered in-person for 16 weeks. Class meets for five hours of direct instruction per week for the Fall 2022 semester. Please plan for a minimum of 4 hours of out-of-class work (or homework, study, open lab, projects, and class preparation) each week.

Course Description

This course introduces the fundamental techniques of black and white photography, which includes camera functions and use, exposure techniques and film processing, traditional darkroom printing, and presentation of work.

Objectives

1. Demonstrate competent film development and photographic printing skills.
2. Demonstrate an emerging understanding of aesthetic, compositional, conceptual, and communicative tools in photography including lighting and dynamic composition techniques.
3. Be able to critically analyze and discuss photographic images using photographic terminology.
4. Demonstrate proper image adjustment and correction techniques, and apply proper exposure techniques.

Supplies

Most items (aside from a camera) are available at the UNM-Valencia Bookstore. *You should buy the photo paper and film from the UNM-Valencia Bookstore because it is specific to the chemicals we have in the darkroom.*

- 35 mm camera (manual or one with a manual option)
- RC multi-grade photo paper
- Kodak T-max 100 or 400 speed black & white film (NO black box film from Wal-Mart/Walgreens, etc...)
- Pair of rubber gloves (thick dishwashing type)
- Apron
- Negative sleeves (plastic, NOT glassine) - SHARE with someone
- Scissors
- Folder/binder for photos
- Full page clear sleeves

Student Responsibilities & Course Policies

- **COVID-19 Health and Awareness:** UNM-Valencia is a mask friendly, but not a mask required, community. To be registered or employed at UNM-Valencia, students, faculty, and staff must all meet [UNM's Administrative Mandate on Required COVID-19 vaccination](#). If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please do not come to campus. If you have a positive COVID-19 test, please stay home for five days and isolate yourself from others, per the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) guidelines](#). If you do need to stay home, please communicate with me (see "How to Contact the Instructor" section); I can work with you to provide alternatives for course participation and completion. UNM-Valencia faculty and staff know that these are challenging times. Please let us know that you need support so that we can connect you to the right resources and please be aware that UNM will publish information on websites and email about any changes to our public health status and community response. [Check Bring Back the Pack](#).
- **Affirmed/Preferred First Name:** As part of its commitment to providing a safe, inclusive, and respectful learning, living, and working environment, the University of New Mexico Valencia Campus recognizes that many people prefer to use a name other than their legal name to identify themselves. Here is a general website for it- <https://oeo.unm.edu/resources/preferred-name.html>.
- **AccessAbility Policy:** I can and want to make appropriate accommodations that will support you in this class by collaborating with you and the [Equal Access Services at UNM-Valencia](#), 505-925-8560 or [call/email any of the Advisors](#). It is important that you take the initiative to inform me of your accommodations needs, as I am not legally permitted to inquire. In accordance with University Policy 2310 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation.

- **School/Life Conflict:** Many of you face obstacles to your education as a result of work or family obligations or unforeseen personal difficulties. If you are experiencing challenges throughout the semester that are impacting your ability to succeed in this course, or in your undergraduate career more broadly, please reach out to me immediately so that we can work together to form a plan for your academic success. Reach out to me at anytime to discuss this!
- **Caregiver Responsibilities Policy:** I have great respect for students who are balancing their pursuit of education with the responsibilities of caring for children or other family members. If you run into challenges that require you to miss class or if your caregiving responsibilities are interfering with your ability to engage in remote learning, please contact me. There are instances of flexibility I can offer to support your learning.
- **Citizenship and/or Immigration Status:** Everyone is welcome in this class regardless of citizenship, residency, or immigration status. I will respect your privacy if you choose to disclose your status. UNM-Valencia as an institution has made a core commitment to the success of all our students, including members of our undocumented community. The Administration's welcome is found on the UNM-ABQ campus website: <http://undocumented.unm.edu/>.
- **Course Conduct:** I am committed to creating a learning environment where diverse perspectives are recognized and valued as a source of strength. I request that all students work with me to create a class culture based on open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. As a class we will approach all discussions with respect and civility. Disagreements and debates in academic discourse are expected and welcome, but personal attacks are never OK, and will not be tolerated. I strive to ensure an open and welcoming classroom for all students. If I ever miss the mark, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. We are all learning together.
- **UNM Email/CANVAS Access:** All UNM-Valencia students will be required to have a UNM Net ID which can be created by going to: <http://it.unm.edu/accounts/>. UNM Net ID will give you access to the computer labs on campus, Canvas and UNM Email. Make sure to update this information as your method of contact under personal information on Lobo Web.
- **Computer & Internet Policy:** Students will need to have access to a computer with **high-speed Internet** for this course. If you do not have access to a computer with high-speed internet at home, I want to help! UNM-Valencia and UNM-ABQ have implemented **laptop checkout options**.
 - If you are a **UNM-Valencia student** and you need access to a laptop, please contact the UNM-Valencia Library at: <http://valencia.unm.edu/library/index.html>
 - If you are a **UNM-ABQ student**, you will need to fill out this form: <https://at.unm.edu/coronavirus/laptop-request-form.pdf> and send it to avdept@unm.edu. For more information on computer checkout and wifi access for UNM-ABQ Campus, visit this website: <https://at.unm.edu/coronavirus/student-tech-access.html>.
 - **ALL students can request** access to a beta of LoboVirtualDesktop. Here is the website: <https://lobovirtualdesktop.unm.edu>. Fill out the online form. This virtual desktop is a work-in-progress, and you would need a decent computer and internet connection to make this work. But, it would give you access to a variety of UNM owned software.
 - Students should have basic computer and file management skills for all courses, especially online courses. If you are struggling with these, reach out to tutoring and support services (see support section on syllabus).
 - If you have any questions or concerns, reach out to me!
- All students, whether online or in-person (or in-between) are able to access the computer labs on the UNM-Valencia Campus and the UNM-ABQ Campus regardless of where you are taking classes.

- **Access to internet:** The UNM-Valencia Campus has great wifi if you are on campus. But, many companies are offering extended options and/or free/inexpensive plans for at-home wifi during and in this post-pandemic era. Also, many cell phone data plans are offering unlimited data and wifi hot pots for your devices. Check with your provider!
 - o Comcast: <https://www.internetessentials.com/covid19>
 - o Xfinity: <https://www.xfinity.com/student>
 - o CenturyLink: <https://www.centurylink.com/aboutus/community/community-development/lifeline.html>- financial assistance and waiving late fees
 - o At UNM-Valencia parking lots: <https://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/technology-support/tech-how-tos.html>
 - o At UNM-ABQ Campus parking lots: <http://it.unm.edu/wireless/coverage-map.html>. Here is how to connect: <http://it.unm.edu/wireless/>
 - o City of Albuquerque Outdoor Wifi hotspots: <http://www.cabq.gov/coronavirus-information/wifi>
 - o If you are unable to access any of these options, please contact me and I will advocate for you!

- **Computer Lab Responsibility:** Please be advised that use of computer labs on UNM-Valencia and UNM-ABQ properties is governed by "Policy 2500: Acceptable Computer Use" which can be found at <http://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2500.html>. Anyone violating these policies is subject to possible suspension and loss of computer lab privileges.

- **Title IX:** Our classroom and our university should always be spaces of mutual respect, kindness, and support, without fear of discrimination, harassment, or violence. Should you ever need assistance or have concerns about incidents that violate this principle, please access the resources available to you on campus. Please note that, because UNM-Valencia faculty are considered "responsible employees" by the Department of Education, any disclosure of gender discrimination (including sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, and sexual violence) made to a faculty member must be reported by that faculty member to the university's Title IX coordinator. For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, please see: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html>

- **Academic Integrity and Honesty:** Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, including dismissal, against any student who is found responsible for academic dishonesty. Any student who has been judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in coursework may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; and misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or outside the University. You are capable of meeting my expectations for this course! The arts are such a personal, unique experience for each person, and your story and how you choose to share it with the world are so important! If you are concerned about how well you are doing in this course, please reach out to me instead of considering academic misconduct.

Participation

Student participation is considered a necessary factor in the learning process. Course participation and attendance is key to mastering skills and successfully completing projects. You are adults and I expect you to be motivated to grow your knowledge and abilities by engaging in coursework. You are still held responsible for all academic work required regardless of weekly participation and attendance. Class participation influences your grade heavily. Participation includes:

- You should complete all projects on time (to your best ability), participate in scheduled critiques/class discussions, and maintain a safe, respectable, positive lab environment.
- You are required to attend class and be prepared for each day's work.
- If you do not attend the first week of class may be dropped.
- You will need to work a few hours each week in addition to the scheduled class times. Darkroom lab hours will be announced.

Grading Policy

- Grading is based on completion of course work and projects, the quality of your individual technical and critical development, and a personal commitment to your work. Personal commitment involves regular participation, consistent effort, completion of work, participation in critiques and class discussions and the general willingness to try. Make each project meaningful to yourself!
- Each assignment will culminate in a critique, which will consist of pinning up your work. Being prepared for these critiques, both with your completed work and your readiness to participate in the discussion surrounding your and your peers' artwork is a meaningful part of the process of creating art. Attending the critique, even if your project is incomplete/late, is extremely important.
- If you are submitting work past the posted deadline, it is super important that you communicate your circumstances with me so that we can work out a plan for you to grow and succeed in this art class!
- Incompletes are rarely issued. If 75% of the semester's work/deliverables and participation have been completed with a satisfactory grade, and incomplete may be issued.

Grading Breakdown

Semester Requirements:

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| • Projects (3) | 60 points | 20 points each |
| • Individual Meeting | 10 points | for attendance & preparation |
| • Final Project | 30 points | |

Extra Credit: 10 points

Extra Credit will be offered throughout the semester for various points at a maximum of 10 points for the entire semester. Points will be added up and a letter grade will be issued according to this scale to the right:

A+	101+
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	88-89
B	84-87
B-	80-83
C+	78-79
C	74-77
C-	70-73
D+	68-69
D	64-67
D-	60-63
F	50-59

How to Contact the Instructor

Remind App:

The instructions on how to join the REMIND App portal for this course are posted online in our Canvas portal. I am available on the Remind App everyday between 8am and 8pm (officially, but try anytime). Plan on a response within 48 hours for REMIND.

Email:

Email can be sent either via the internal Canvas messaging system or through UNM email (alexa08@unm.edu). In the subject line of the email/message, please write the class number, for example - "ARTS 1510". I will check email regularly and plan to respond to emails/messages within 48 hours/2 business days. At some points in the term, my inbox gets quite full, but I do want to hear from you! If you email me and don't hear back from me within two business days, please send a follow up email. I will appreciate the gentle reminder.

Zoom Link: <https://unm.zoom.us/j/9541776612>, (Meeting ID: 954 177 6612).

During office hours, I will attempt to have my Zoom open and available for us to connect. But, I might be working with a student in a studio or otherwise not in front of my computer. If you are trying to Zoom in and I am not responding, please text me and let me know!

Phone:

I am not available via phone call for this course. But, you can text me (no calls please) to my personal cell phone if needed at anytime: 505-515-1055. This and Remind are probably the best way to contact me for fastest response.

Office Hours:

Virtual Student Drop-In & In-Person Office Hours: Wednesday 1pm - 3pm & Thursday 10:00am - 2pm, and always by appointment as well.

Support Information, Resources, & Tutorials

UNM-Valencia Campus provides extensive academic supports for students, and these supports are there to support you to achieve the academic success you are truly capable of. Most students access them at some point in pursuit of their degree. **There is no shame in seeking help!** I have provided a list of the academic support offices offered by UNM-Valencia below.

Open Studio Time - Darkroom Lab:

- Located in B149 Darkroom/Classroom: Times and hours TBD.

Support for Canvas:

- <https://canvasinfo.unm.edu/support/index.html>

UNM-Valencia Tutoring Services:

- Custom tutoring services are available through The Learning Center at <https://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/the-learning-center/index.html>. Even online tutoring is available!

Instructor Support:

- Please see "How to Contact the Instructor" for methods of contacting the instructor for help.

Community Support:

- We will have a HELP FORUM discussion board in the Canvas course. Use this as a place to post questions about the course content to the community. These questions are not private! But, if one of you has a question about course materials or an assignment, that question is usually shared by your peers. This allows everyone in the course to benefit from each other's questions. I will respond to posts there, but you can help out each other as well!

AccessAbility & Equal Access:

- UNM-Valencia's accessibility/ADA compliance website: <http://valencia.unm.edu/about/accessibility.html>
- UNM-Valencia's Equal Access Services website: <http://valencia.unm.edu/students/advisement-and-counseling/equal-access-services.html>

Mental Health and Counseling Services:

- All of us need a support system, and many students benefit from the use of counseling services. I know I do! UNM-Valencia has one part-time mental health counselor position. Contact [Student Services](#) to access the services. If you have any problem with this process at all, let me know and we will rectify the issue. Also, here is a [list of services available in Valencia County and around the state: https://valencia.unm.edu/students/student-resources/index.html](https://valencia.unm.edu/students/student-resources/index.html).

Coronavirus Information::

- UNM-Valencia Covid Site: <https://valencia.unm.edu/class-updates-covid-19.html>
- UNM-ABQ Covid Site: <https://www.unm.edu/coronavirus/>

Dates	Schedule	Projects
<u>Week 1</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions • Review Syllabus • Equipment & Supplies Overview • Darkroom Tour 	
<u>Week 2</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demo: Photograms, darkroom, enlarger, develop prints 	
<u>Week 3</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work time • Project 1 Due- Critique 	Project 1 Due: <i>Photograms</i>
<u>Week 4</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demo: darkroom - printing with negatives, developing prints • Load film, camera, lenses, aperture, shutter, shoot film, develop film 	
<u>Week 5</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work time 	
<u>Week 6</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work time 	
<u>Week 7</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photo Art Movements • Demo 	
<u>Week 8</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work time • Project 2 Due- Critique 	Project 2 Due: <i>Urban Landscape</i>
<u>Week 9</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demo: Lighting/Studio • Work time 	
<u>Week 10</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artist Spotlights • Demo 	
<u>Week 11</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work time 	
<u>Week 12</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work time • Project 3 Due- Critique 	Project 3 Due: <i>Portraiture</i>
<u>Week 13</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artists Books and the Narrative • Demo: Alternative Darkroom Techniques • Individual Meetings 	
<u>Week 14</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual Meetings • Work time <p style="text-align: right;"><i>thanksgiving break</i></p>	
<u>Week 15</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work time 	
<u>Week 16</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work time • Final Project Due- Critique 	Final Project Due: <i>Narrative</i>

Project 1: Self-Portrait

Objective:

To study two-dimensional design and introduce basic darkroom printing techniques. To create an abstract self-portrait series that introduces us conceptually to you via object. To share with us your values and how you access joy.

Consider what objects you choose to have on your body most of the time. What objects do you carry in your bag? Why are these necessary and/or important? Think about time and what you do with it- will you gather objects in preparation for this project? Will you be present in your day and experience nature? How can we become more empathetic by experiencing your self-portrait series?

Process:

Compose and print 4" x 5" and/or 8" x 10" photograms. Group critique will discuss design principles and basic exposure, as well as the visualization of you via your imagery.

Project 2: Boundaries

Objective:

Select visual imagery that highlights how the human-made urban landscape intersects with the natural landscape, and how those can become metaphors for your mental and emotional boundaries. Propose an interpretation on your history of the area you choose to shoot. We will try to go on a class field trip for at least one shoot. Demonstrate your knowledge of aperture, shutter speed, and the law of reciprocity.

Consider what you feel our class community can learn about you via the exploration of your mental and emotional boundaries depicted via the physical world. How much of your story can we hold and cherish and love, and how much of it do you feel we deserve to learn. What do you choose as a healthy boundary and what boundary are you trying to free yourself from? Think about boundaries that help and support you, and boundaries that may be limiting to your growth.

Process:

Shoot as many pictures as needed. Take into account composition, focus, metaphor, and depth of field. Think about contrast, highlights, midtones, and shadows.

Project 3: Habits & Rituals

Objective:

Research how light affects composition to create mood using lighting with habits and rituals as the subject matter. Pick a concise theme that is reflected throughout your series of images. Explore creating a variety of moods and atmospheres. Tell us your story. What do you want your audience to learn by experiencing your series of work? Observe and manipulate the image with light. Trust yourself and your instincts.

Consider: who or what is the object of a habit? Who or what is the object of a ritual? How can you depict habit and ritual visually? Are the habits you are sharing good habits or not-so-good habits? Who determines what is good? What is the history of you engaging in your rituals and who benefits from them? Do ritual and habit both create a sense of purpose larger than ourselves?

Process:

Print 6 full-sheet compositions that follow your narrative and choice of subject matter throughout.

Final Project: Paradox & Story

Objective:

Explore and develop an idea using multiple images to create a narrative. This series should engage the viewer, draw them in, and share your story - your story is super important because you are important. Take this opportunity to think conceptually and explore the definition of paradox and how that relates to you, your beliefs and values, and your personal truth. Use the time and energy of this process for personal exploration, expression and interpretation.

Consider how you can live with the tension of two competing ideas that can both be very true.

Process:

Shoot and print compositions that will explore the development of a common concept through the use of multiple imagery. Shoot and print as much as needed. Create a narrative with your images, of which you have to have at least 6 full sheet prints.

Print Developing Process

1. **Developer:**
90 seconds
2. **Stop**
30 seconds
3. **Fix**
5 minutes
4. **First Water Bath**
5 minutes
5. **Second Flowing Water Bath**
5 minutes
6. **Remove Prints and Place in Drying Rack**

*****WEAR GLOVES FOR STEPS 1 THROUGH 3!!!**

Film Developing Process

1. **Developer**
400 speed film: 6 minutes @ 68°
100 speed film: 6.5 minutes @ 68°

Tank size:
Single, 250ml: 50ml developer, 200ml water
Double, 500ml: 100ml developer, 400ml water

1 minute continual agitation, 10 seconds for each additional minute (5 seconds during each 30 second interval), then dump down sink
2. **Stop**
Continual agitation for 30 seconds, then dump down sink
3. **Fix**
5 minutes: 1 minute continual agitation, 10 seconds for each additional minute, pour in pitcher, DO NOT DUMP DOWN SINK
4. **First Water Bath**
1 minute, stick hose in tank and run water
5. **Hypo Wash**
1 minute continual agitation then dump down sink
6. **Second Water Bath**
10 minutes, stick hose in tank and run water
7. **Photo Flow**
Let sit for 1 minute, then dump down sink
8. **Remove** film from tank and reel, **squeegee** with fingers and **hang** in dryer. **DO NOT OPEN** dryer while on.

*****WEAR GLOVES FOR STEPS 1 THROUGH 7!!!**