# *Photography: Fine Art Digital Imaging*

*ART 333*
*Credits: 3*
*Fall 2026*
*Office: Art and Journalism Building AJ238*
*Office Hours: M 12:00 to 1:00 pm and by appointment (online as well)*

Elizabeth Clark Libert

## *Course Description:*

*Emphasizes fine art image making, focusing on the use of photographic images within the digital environment. Topics include techniques and aesthetics of digital imaging, digital cameras, scanning, fine art printing, Digital + Traditional Photobook Production and color management. Subtle image enhancement to complex compositing and manipulation will be explored.*

***Prerequisite: ART 231; and ART 200 or ADS 200 or by permission of the instructor. Open only to School of Art majors and minors.***

## *Course Objectives:*

*Upon completion of this course, you should understand the following:*

- *Principles of exposure & camera operation using a digital SLR or mirrorless*
- *equivalent*

- *Advanced image editing skills using Adobe Camera Raw, Bridge/Lightroom & Photoshop*
- *Scanning transparent and opaque materials on Epson scanners*
- *Epson printing at the following scales: 13" x 19", 17" x 22", and 24" wide mural*
- *Basic continuous studio lighting skills with a green screen*
- *Critically evaluating content and meaning of your photographs and your*
- *classmates' during in-class critiques*
- *Providing thoughtful analysis of readings related to contemporary photography*
- *Articulating your visual aesthetic through artist statements about your work*

*This class will cover learning new technical skills through self-driven projects, visually developing your ideas and aesthetic concerns, and constructively analyzing the work of your peers. You will be shown many photographers working in the digital medium and it will be expected that you research some on your own.*

*This course will also introduce students to digital capture, advanced software editing, and fine art printing. There will be relevant readings, writings, and discussions on the cultural currency of the photograph. You will be shown many photographers working in the digital medium and it will be expected that you research some on your own.*

## *Class Structure/Modality:*

*This course will include 4 major projects, as well as critiques, project proposals, demos, readings, class discussions, lectures, and in class workdays. This will include both lecture times as well as in lab hours. Just like other studio courses, you are expected to attend and work on your projects throughout scheduled meeting time each week which could include revisions and multiple versions before the final deadline. Course calendar subject to change under extreme circumstances. See schedule on Canvas or at the end of this syllabi.*

## *Material and Supply list:*

*Equipment: Each student must have access to a digital DSLR camera. You can purchase your own or check them out at the crypt located in the Photography Area on Floor 2 of the Art and Journalism Building. You can also check out additional equipment for project needs such as lighting kits, tripods, etc.*

*A dedicated portable hard drive with enough space for your photographs and scanned negatives. These are large files; most thumb drives will not suffice for space. Extra Paper/different types if desired are okay to use.*

*You are required to pay a Fee for the course. It includes all printing materials in the Photography Digital Lab, such as, Archival Pigment Ink for Printing, All required printing sheets. Course fees will be paid at the start of the semester to cover lab maintenance, chemistry, and digital lab areas.*

*Estimated Course Fees: $240*

*Materials: Epson printer paper in matte or luster if it goes over the amount provided (sheets are the only ones required, but rolls are sold as well. I suggest rolls because the paper can be used for future courses), any extra materials for projects beyond class requirements.*

*Technology and Software Requirements: You will need Adobe Photoshop to complete this course. Other Adobe programs may be necessary depending on project idea. Photoshop is available on campus in the Library and the Graphic Arts in The Applied Technology building. You can also get the Adobe suite at a student discount for your personal computer. I highly suggest this method for outside of class work.*

*Course fees will be paid at the start of the semester to cover lab maintenance, chemistry, and digital lab areas.*

*Cell Phones will not be used for ANY project or assignment unless stated by the professor.*

## *Materials For Book Making:*

*Required: 1 printed out book using the printing services for your final project. This will have to be purchased with your own money for the final project.*

*Not Required, but helpful (Does Not Have to Be Purchased from Sites Listed, If Questioning a Product Ask or Email your professor):*

- *Book Making Kit: https://www.amazon.com/HEJIN-Materials-Beginners-Bookbinding-Supplies/dp/B0D2R26NNS/?th=1* **Provided!**

- *Fabric (To Buy Later in the Semester) Any type of choosing.*

## *Attendance and Late Work Policies:*

*For Studio Art courses, it is extremely important to make it to every class period to make sure you do not miss any demos. You are allowed up to 5 unexcused absences and every absence after that will need to be excused before the missed class period or it will be counted as an unexcused absence no matter the reason. In addition, for each unexcused absence afterwards, you will get a letter grade docked off the project for the module where the absence occurred.*

*Excused absences will be only accepted under extreme circumstances. You will more likely than not be required to submit a doctor's note or documentation for it to be excused. All material covered in missed classes are up to the student to catch up on.*

*As always, please email me first if you have an emergency or something unexpected happen.*

## *Late Assignment Policy:*

*All assignments and projects not submitted at the start of class on the day they are due will automatically be considered late. Every day after will doc one letter grade off the assignment total (post grading). So, if you turn it in a day late and get a B, you will get a B- due to the late policy. As always, please email me if you foresee any difficulties with assignments. You will have a week after the due date to turn in the assignments for the docked points, anything turned in after a week will be an automatic 0.*

## *Participation and expected out of class work time:*

*Participation: You will be graded on your participation throughout the course. It is a significant part of your final grade. Participation will be graded first and foremost on respect and professionalism, as well as critique participation, lab and classroom clean up, quality of assignments, attendance, and classroom participation. This will also include limiting cell phone usage during class hours.*

*Expected out of class work time: Since this is a 3-credit course, it is expected that each student spends <u>at least</u> 6 hrs. of out of class time on this course to be successful.*

*You have 24 hr. access through card swipe to get to the labs required for this course. Please keep in mind that you will need supplies from the crypt to work in them. So, plan to get your required equipment before they close. The crypt hours will be posted on canvas.*

## *Class Structure/Modality and Assignments:*

*This course will include 3 major projects, as well as critiques, demos, readings, class discussions, lectures, and in class workdays. This will include both lecture times as well as in lab hours. Course calendar subject to change under extreme circumstances. See schedule on Canvas or at the end of this syllabi.*

## *Grading Policy:*

*All assignments and projects will be graded based on quality, effort, and participation. To get an A – or higher in the course, the student is expected to go above and beyond what the project calls for. For an example rubric for how the assignments are graded will be provided on Canvas. All projects will get a rubric and feedback, I read all smaller assignments, but they may have the same level of feedback as projects. You can always set up a meeting for further feedback.*

## *Percentage Breakdown:*

*Projects 1-2: 30%*
*Project 3: 30%*
*Participation: 10%*
*Readings and Assignments: 20%*
*Artist Presentations: 10%*

*2nd timers are required to do all class assignments along with the 1st timers with the focus of them on growing your independent projects. The thing that is different is your projects. You will be focusing on two short form projects with a long form project of a theme or subject of your choosing. Look on the project assignment pages at the end for your requirements. You will also submit them to those assignments as well. You can still submit a book, but it is not required for second timers.*

*Your final grade is determined according to the following point scale:*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *A = 100-94* | *B = 86-84* | *C = 76-74* | *D = 66-64* |
| *A- = 93-90* | *B- = 83-80* | *C-= 73-70* | *D- = 63-60* |
| *B+ = 89-87* | *C+= 79-77* | *D+= 69-67* | *F = 59 or lower* |

## *Ball State Grading Scale:*

*A: (4.0), A- (3.667), B+ (3.33), B (3.0), B- (2.667), C+ (2.333), D+ (1.333), D- (.667), F (0.00)*

### *A Note on Pronouns*

*We all have pronouns that we expect people to use when they refer to us. These may be he/him, she/her, they/them, or something else. Many people never have to think about their pronouns, but most of us would still be uncomfortable if someone referred to us using pronouns that feel wrong to us. For that reason, it is important to use the correct pronouns when referring to others, including your classmates, professor, and the artists and designers we will be discussing throughout the semester.*

## *Email and feedback policy:*

*I will respond to all emails within 24 hrs. during the school week. I also do not check my emails often at night, so please try to send them before 5 pm to hopefully get a response that day. On weekends, I rarely if ever check my school email. It is best to get all questions sent by Friday at 5 pm to here back before Monday.*

## *Syllabus Statement:*

*We are committed to ensuring that all members of the community are welcome, through valuing the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and among those we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse. If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact the instructor of record as soon as possible. Ball State's Disability Services office coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or dsd@bsu.edu.*

## *Learning Center:*

*The Learning Center offers free tutoring for many courses. We also provide writing and study skills tutoring. Students can make appointments for virtual (Zoom) or in-person (NQ 350) appointments. To make an appointment, visit my.bsu.edu and click on "Navigate" in the Additional Tools section, or just go directly to https://bsu.navigate.eab.com. You can also download the Navigate Student app. The Learning Center also has drop-in tutoring (no appointment necessary) for math, chemistry, and biology. Check our website for more information. Testing accommodations for students with disabilities are available for students who have received the appropriate documentation from Disability Services. Tests may be administered in the Learning Center.*

*For more information about all of our programming visit www.bsu.edu/learningcenter or call 765-285-1006. Email us at learncenter@bsu.edu.*

## *Counseling Center*

*The Ball State University Counseling Center offers free and confidential services to all students. The Counseling Center is located in Lucina Hall, Room 320. To schedule an appointment, you can contact us at 765-285-1736. Ball State also offers a 24/7 Crisis Line, which can be reached at 765-285-HOPE (4673). The Crisis Line is a mental health resource for those who are struggling with any mental health concerns, including thoughts of self-harm and/or suicide.*

*At the Ball State Counseling Center, we see students for a variety of reasons, some of which include homesickness, relationship concerns, anxiety, and depression. At your first appointment, you will work with a therapist to create a plan that will connect you with resources that best fit your needs. We assist students with getting connected to therapy at our Center as well as connecting students to self-help resources, other on-campus resources, and community-based resources. All Ball State students also have access to several on-demand, self-help resources through a variety of different platforms. All of these resources, including a direct link to our website, can be found here.*

## *Writing Center*

*All writers improve with practice and feedback, so as a student in this course, you are encouraged to use the Writing Center (in Robert Bell 295 during weekdays, Bracken Library First Floor West in the evenings, or online during any of our regularly scheduled hours) to get additional feedback on your writing. The Writing Center offers free planning, feedback, and accountability sessions (in person and online) to all students composing essays, reports, reflections, research projects, web content, lesson plans, slideshows, poster presentations, resumes, and other digital or print texts. To schedule a free appointment to discuss your writing, go to http://www.bsu.edu/writingcenter. Online and in-person appointments are available; however, plan ahead because appointments book quickly!*