

## OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

**Note:** The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

<b>Course Code and Number:</b> VA 283		<b>Number of Credits:</b> 3 <a href="#">Course credit policy (105)</a>													
<b>Course Full Title:</b> Darkroom Photography Fundamentals <b>Course Short Title:</b> Darkroom Photog Fundamentals															
<b>Faculty:</b> Faculty of Humanities		<b>Department (or program if no department):</b> Visual Arts													
<b>Calendar Description:</b> Introduces the basic principles of black-and-white darkroom photography. Students learn manual camera controls using 35 mm film cameras, followed by chemical processing and printing. Photographic processes involving digital scanning and printing are introduced. Students learn about contemporary concepts and practices in film-based photo art.															
<b>Prerequisites (or NONE):</b>		None. One of VA 113, VA 115, or VA 116 is strongly recommended. Note: As of September 2025, prerequisites will change to VA 100.													
<b>Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>															
<b>Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>															
<b>Antirequisite Courses</b> ( <i>Cannot be taken for additional credit.</i> ) Former course code/number: <b>VA 183</b> Cross-listed with: Equivalent course(s): <i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i>		<b>Course Details</b> Special Topics course: <b>No</b> <i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i> Directed Study course: <b>No</b> <i>(See <a href="#">policy 207</a> for more information.)</i> Grading System: <b>Letter grades</b> Delivery Mode: <b>Face-to-face only</b> Expected frequency: <b>Annually</b> Maximum enrolment (for information only): <b>17</b>													
<b>Typical Structure of Instructional Hours</b> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lecture/seminar</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tutorials/workshops</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Supervised studio hours</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total hours</b></td> <td><b>60</b></td> </tr> </table>		Lecture/seminar	10	Tutorials/workshops	10	Supervised studio hours	40					<b>Total hours</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)</b> PLAR is available for this course.	
Lecture/seminar	10														
Tutorials/workshops	10														
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<b>Total hours</b>	<b>60</b>														
<b>Scheduled Laboratory Hours</b> Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		<b>Transfer Credit</b> ( <i>See <a href="#">bctransferguide.ca</a>.</i> ) Transfer credit already exists: <b>Yes</b> Submit outline for (re)articulation: <b>Yes</b> <i>(If yes, fill in <a href="#">transfer credit form</a>.)</i>													
<b>Department approval</b>		<b>Date of meeting:</b> May 9, 2023													
<b>Faculty Council approval</b>		<b>Date of meeting:</b> June 2, 2023													
<b>Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval</b>		<b>Date of meeting:</b> November 24, 2023													

**Learning Outcomes** *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and use the controls of a 35 mm camera.
2. Demonstrate processing and printing methods for 35 mm black-and-white film.
3. Safely implement darkroom chemistry.
4. Explain the basic vocabulary used in black-and-white photography.
5. Apply the principles of natural light, composition, and design in film photography.
6. Respond respectfully to the critical feedback of others.
7. Articulate from different perspectives why film photography matters – to themselves and to others, recognizing the cultural specificity of diverse Indigenous photographic practices.
8. Discuss their own work from inclusive and equitable perspectives.

**Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting** *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Assignments:	40%	Portfolio:	40%		%
Quizzes/tests:	20%		%		%

**Details:**

**NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.**

**Typical Instructional Methods** *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Lectures/slides, class critiques, technical exercises, technical quiz, photo assignments, Indigenous guest artists.

**Texts and Resource Materials** *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. Open Educational Resources (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form.)*

Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1. Textbook	London, Barbara & Stone, Jim	A Short Course in Photography	2014
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

**Required Additional Supplies and Materials** *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)*

Note: Students must either provide their own 35 mm camera or rent one from the department.

**Course Content and Topics**

- History of photography and decolonizing the language of photography.
- How Indigenous artists employ photographic practices as a tool for cultural and political expression
- Introduction to 35 mm film cameras
- Safe use of darkroom equipment and chemistry
- Idea and concept development for photographic projects
- Processing film and making contact sheets
- Enlarger and exposure techniques
- Digital scanning with negatives
- Printing and presenting images from film
- Contemporary and de/anti-colonial practices in film photography
- Storytelling as critique and writing methodology