

Streets and Your Photography

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Course Prerequisites:

Basic Photography or equivalent.

Materials Required:

SLR camera (digital or analog), Tripod and the courage to work on the streets.

Course Description:

Streets have been the elemental and most vivid experience in photography since its beginning. This course is an introduction to the genre of street photography and in-depth review for those who already started on their own. In the perfect balance of practice (field trips) and theory (lectures) the students will be encouraged to develop their own unique style as well as a large individual project of their choice, which would lead to building of their professional portfolio.

Course Duration and homework expected:

10 Three-hour sessions once per week, alternating between classroom lectures/critiques and field trips. Each student is required to present his/her work after each field trip. At the end of the course students will present their portfolio within the street photography genre. Each student will present a short presentation for class about his/her favorite photographer in relation to his/her own work.

Learning Objectives / Outcomes:

To learn, practice and understand the tactics, techniques and principles of the street photography genre.

Upon successful completion of this course the student will have reliably demonstrated the following:

Students would gain the ability to work and photograph on the streets with knowledge of basic principles and respect for their subjects. They would learn the professional attitude while handling various challenging situations on the streets. Every student would be encouraged to develop and nurture his/her own photographic style while simultaneously working on their reflexes and speed in assessing and photographing a particular situation. From lectures the students would learn the history, processes, works from various photographers and tactics in this genre.

Student Progress/Assessment Methods:

Attendance 10%

Presentation In Class 25%

Each Assignment (4) 10%

Final Portfolio 25%

Course Details:

1. Introduction, History of street photography from its beginning, Outlining the path of the course and expectations from the students
2. Location would be in downtown with emphasis and concentration on the candid portrait. Students will practice speed and composition. The time would be divided into two parts – the first when students would photograph candid portraits and the second where they would ask their subject for permission and to pose for them. These two methods would allow for learning to handle professionally uncomfortable situations as well as personal contacts with people, a speed for assessing the situations, quick reactions and ethics of street photography.
3. Critique of the field trip works. Lecture on Street photography of 20th century.
4. The emphasis would be on the action/reactions/interactions among and in between people on the streets. This time the students would learn to isolate and work with few subjects in the frame as opposed to one single candid portrait.
5. Critique of the field trip works. Lecture on Women in street photography

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7. Critique of the field trip works. Lecture – STUDENTS CAN CHOOSE (Unknown street photographers, Czech street photographers, Italian take on street photography).
8. Each student would present in class their short presentation about a photographer of their choice whose work they found interesting and/or relevant to their own work. Short lecture about professional portfolio presentation.
9. The students would be encouraged to implement and use all the techniques and various fields within photography they learn up to date to produce a short reportage about the city where they live. They are expected to employ their own point of view and personal style.
10. Critique of the last work (a reportage) and critique of students' final portfolios