



re•search \ri-'sərch, 're-,\ *n.* studious inquiry or examination; esp: investigation or experimentation of facts, revision of accepted theories or laws..., or practical application of such new or revised theories or laws

de•vel•op•ment \di-'vel-əp-mənt\ *n.* a step or stage in growth, advancement, etc.; to show or work out by degrees; reveal; disclose

The Research and Development class is designed to allow the student the freedom to explore different fields of visual communication within a structured format. Success is measured by what the student learns or discovers as well as the quality of the final product. This type of course requires a large commitment from the student since the majority of the work is done on an independent basis. The teacher's role is to act as a supervisor of the project, rather than the instructor. Emphasis is placed on self-discovery. Self-motivation is the key to success in this class.

First Six Weeks: A Review

The first six weeks will be a review of skills learned in Communication Graphics. You will have the opportunity to work with 35mm and 120mm black and white in order to reacquaint yourself with photographic and darkroom practices.

On Friday, September 10 and on Friday, September 24 you will turn in some of your photographs. Your assignments this six weeks are

- a) environmental portrait,
- b) self-portrait (in an environmental portrait setting),
- c) action/sports, and
- d) architectural detail.

In addition, I will want to see at least three proofsheets from you this six weeks.

You may turn the assignments in in any order you wish. The architectural detail photo must be photographed on 120mm film.

Each Monday will be lecture, so you should plan accordingly. You will have Tuesdays through Thursdays, after August 30, to work in the darkroom. Written assignments will be available for those students who do not have anything to work on in the darkroom.

Second Six Weeks: Commercial Emphasis

The second six weeks will emphasize commercial photography. Your deadlines will include one proofsheets due each Friday, starting October 8. You will turn in photographs on Friday, October 15 and Friday, November 5. You will have the opportunity to put up work in progress so that you can have it critiqued without being given a grade. In some cases, re-shoots may be required.

Formats of choice will be 35mm and 120mm with some 4x5 thrown in. Lectures will again take place each Monday with the darkroom open Tuesday through Thursday. Written assignments will be available for those students who do not have anything to work on in the darkroom.

The assignments will include a formal studio portrait, an outdoor product shot (depending on the weather), an advertising photograph of an automobile and a photograph for the PTA contest.

I will provide more specific information to you about the requirements for each of these photographs as we get closer to the six weeks. In the meantime, you should be looking at examples of advertising and portrait photography to get some ideas for the type of shots that you might do.

Design Clipbook

One assignment that you will work on all year long, in addition to your other photographic assignments, is a design clipbook. The project is graded at the end of each semester and counts as a major portion of the semester exam grade.

Using the list above, the student will create two photographs illustrating each category. These pictures could be photographed specifically for the Design Clipbook or they could be other photographs which the student

The elements of design are:

Line
Color
Value
Shape and Form
Space
Texture

The principles of design are:

Balance
Unity
Contrast
Emphasis
Pattern
Movement and Rhythm

has completed during the school year.

Each print should be 5x7 full-frame. The final project should be presented in a notebook, such as a sketch book or three-ring binder, with the images clearly identified and attractively mounted.

Half of the clipbook must be completed by the end of the fall semester while the complete as-

signment is due at the end of the year. Specific due dates will be announced the last six weeks of each semester, but I will occasionally check your progress on the project. Do not wait till the last minute.

For reference materials I would suggest Exploring Visual Design by Gatto, Porter and Selleck as well as any books the library might have.

But That Is Not All You Will Be Doing

While you are working on these assignments you will be doing some preparatory work as well as some in-class assignments. One ongoing assignment that you will have this year is to keep a journal for the class. This journal will serve a number of purposes:

- You should utilize it to keep track of ideas for photographs or other assignments which you are interested in working on.
- You will be selecting photographs to evaluate on a weekly basis and inserting them into the journal. As part of this evaluation (lighting, composition, what the photographer is trying to communicate, why you selected the photograph, etc.) you will also describe or draw how you would photograph the same subject differently. I will provide you with an additional handout explaining the journal in more detail.
- You will turn in this journal every other week

Photojournalism

One of the activities the Photo II class will be involved in this year is helping photograph for the yearbook and newspaper. You will have the opportunity to earn extra credit by shooting specific activities and events for the publications. In addition, other extra credit may be earned by processing or printing for the yearbook and newspaper. As the only photographers available to start the school year, we will be relying on the Photo II class to help with the publication photography.

And In The Spring...

While you will still be working on specific assignments from me, you will have some choices with those assignments, whether you choose to continue working with black or white or would like to try color, whether you choose to experiment with video production or computer work, or if you want to do something completely brand new. The only limit is your imagination...and your wallet.