

Course Syllabus

Alternative Photography 301

This course explores photography from its early beginnings through salt printing, albumen printing, cyanotype, gumoil and gum printing. Participants will have the hands-on opportunity to work with these vintage techniques in order to produce photographs of their own. We will cover the theory and the history behind these processes. (Chemistry, films, paper and inks are pay-per-use)

Objectives

The purpose of this course is to prepare the participant to be comfortable and efficient in producing photographic prints in the techniques mentioned above. At the end of the course, participants will present their portfolio for a round-table and critique.

This course is divided in two parts:

1. **Theory:** covers history and chemistry concepts involved in alternative photography.
2. **Practice:** projects you will produce and present.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course the student will be able to:

1. **Understand** the use of sensitizers.
2. **Understand** the chemical and physical processes involved in alternative photography.
3. **Explore** photography without silver.
4. **Explore** salt printing and albumen printing.
5. **Explore** Gumoil and Gum printing.
6. **Explore** making photographic prints in vintage techniques.

Projects

Notes	Class Content	Session
Learning Outcomes 3 & 2 ,1	Project 1 Cyanotypes.	2
Learning Outcomes 4 & 5 ,6	Project 2 Gum Printing and Gum Oil.	4
Learning Outcomes 1 & 5 ,6	Project 3 Salt Printing and Albumen Printing.	12

Content

Notes	Class Content	Session
	Lecture: Historic methods for making photographic prints.	1
Start Project 1	Papers and negatives adequate for each technique.	2
	Preparing Cyanotype chemistry. Coating the paper.	3
	Exposing and developing cyanotypes.	4
Start Project 2	Preparing gelatin, gum arabic, sensitizers and hardners.	5
	Coating supports with gelatin.	6
	Making gum prints - day 1.	7
	Making gum prints - day 2. Demo for multicolored gum prints.	8
	Coating paper for gumoil.	9
	Making gumoil prints - day 1.	10
	Making gumoil prints - day 2.	11
Start Project 3	Demo: Making salt prints. The discovery of silver, sensitizers and fixers.	12
	Albumen preparation. Albumen coating.	13
	Preparing silver emulsion.	14
	Making albumen prints - day 1.	15
	Making albumen prints - day 2.	16
	Making albumen prints - day 3.	17
	Presentation of projects.	18