

Art 2675 - Introduction to Digital Photography

Syllabus Date: Fall 2013 - V1

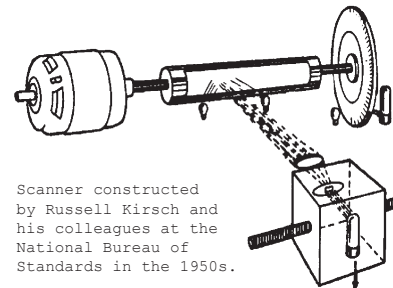
Instructor: Assistant Professor Stephen Chalmers
Schedule: TR 2-4:50 pm
Office Hours: MW 11-1, H 10-11
(*must sign up on calendar on office door*)
E-Mail: SChalmers@ysu.edu*
Office Phone: 330.941.3776 (e-mail is a quicker mode)
Class Website: <http://people.ysu.edu/~schalmers/>

* **Note:** Only e-mail from your YSU account will be responded to.

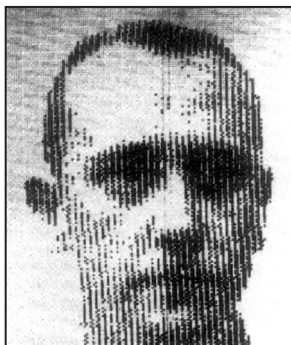
COURSE OBJECTIVES: From the catalog: "An introduction to digital still photography utilizing the computer as a fine art tool concentrating on photographic image capture, retouching, manipulation, color management and fine art image output using industry-standard computer hardware and software. Prerequisites: ART 2671, ART 2691". In short, this course covers digital imaging as it pertains to photography. The formal objectives for the term are:

- » Students will learn the tools and working environment of Photoshop.
- » Students will learn issues related to input/output calibration and profiling.
- » Students will complete assignments intended to further challenge and hone their technical/conceptual skills.
- » Students will apply to at least one extra-local photography opportunity (grants, exhibitions, fellowship, etc).
- » Students will develop a project during the second half of the course in order to have a quality portfolio of work (suitable, if desired, to show in a gallery setting or to apply for a photo related job or graduate school).

Throughout the term we will view videos that relate to digital imaging, projects that other contemporary photographers have done, and if our schedule and the weather cooperates we may take field trips to view work, a professional studio, and a professional lab in the region.



Scanner constructed by Russell Kirsch and his colleagues at the National Bureau of Standards in the 1950s.



One of the first digital images. Scanned on the NBS drum scanner above. This image was displayed on an oscilloscope.

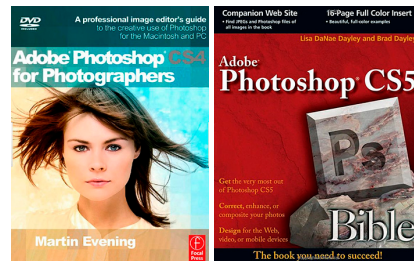
EXPECTATIONS: Throughout the term, you will be expected to have the readings and assignments completed weekly, check the class website weekly, and to check your YSU e-mail daily and the course website at least a couple times a week. At the end of the quarter you will have a final project consisting of twenty+ images (depending on difficulty of your project) which demonstrate a proficiency in Photoshop, that function as a cohesive group, and are presented in a manner and location appropriate to their subject matter.

MATERIALS: You need to make new imagery for this class and need to have a camera with allows RAW capture. The primary materials you need to purchase for this class include your textbook (detailed below), media to store your files on, a print storage box, Epson branded paper (*not* Enhanced Matte), and (if you choose to use the schools printers) at least a \$50 print coupon from the Cashier's Office to cover ink costs. If you wish/need to purchase a digital camera, I've included some suggestions

later in this document and I'd be happy to discuss other options with you.

REQUIRED TEXT: *Adobe Photoshop CS5 for Photographers [Paperback]*, by Martin Evening. ISBN: 0240522001. (Amazon price: \$35)

OPTIONAL TEXT: *Photoshop CS5 Bible [Paperback]*, by Lisa DaNae & Brad Dayley. ISBN: 0470584742. (Amazon price: \$29)



STORAGE: Do NOT store your files on the lab computers (personal files are removed regularly). Consider buying a terabyte (or larger) external drive (about \$65). Jump-drives are handy ... but are prone to failure and pricey for their relatively small storage capacity (don't use them for long-term storage). Make sure to backup ALL of your important files in a minimum of two places!

Note: Late assignments will not be accepted.

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION: This class is pretty dense, as we will be cramming a rather complex topic into just a semester. Due to the fast pace of the course and how new material builds upon previously learned material, attendance is mandatory. As such, more than three absences (excused or unexcused) will affect your grade - each additional absence will subtract ten percentage points (a full letter) off of your final grade. Additionally, every two times that you are tardy, leave early, or don't have work for lab days will count as an absence. If you are absent on the final scheduled day you will fail.

It is not enough to merely be present in class - you must be an active participant in discussions, and assigned readings must be done before class. Following this, other activities that will not be tolerated include texting, checking e-mail, social networking, homework for other classes, etc, while class is in session. In short, don't work on any item not related to this course during the class period.

The lab days are for you to work on assignments related to THIS class. If you do not have anything to work on during these times, it is equivalent to saying "Mark me absent today."

If you know you are going to have an excused late or absence on a specific date, please let me know the week before (at the very least). Demos and lectures will not be repeated, therefore if you miss a class it is your responsibility to find out from your peers what was covered. University closings due to weather or other emergencies are announced on WYSU, 85.5 FM.

EVALUATION AND GRADING: The grading criteria and rubric used for each assignment can be found at the bottom of each handout. To determine your percentage, simply divide your earned points by the points possible. Grading is in line with the YSU Catalog:

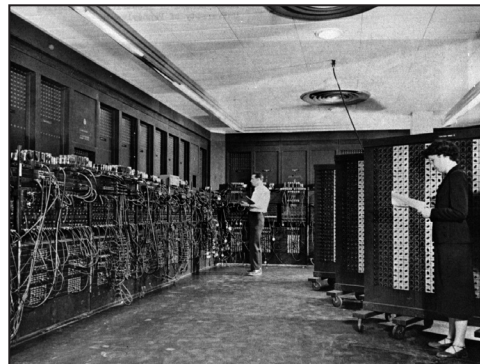
- » "A represents exceptional work in which the student shows that he or she has firmly grasped and achieved the objectives of the course" (90-100% = exceptional).
- » "B indicates very good work and considerable grasp of the essentials of the course" (80-89.9% = superior/above average).
- » "C indicates good work and a usable grasp of the essentials of the course" (70-79.9% = average).
- » "D indicates a definite, but not necessarily coherent, knowledge of the course" (60-69.9% = below average).
- » "F indicates student has not achieved even a minimum grasp of the essentials of the course or failure to withdraw officially from the course" (0-59.9% = failure).

Project grades will be distributed approximately a week after the assignment is collected and your grade will typically be determined from points in the following categories (if not expressly listed on the assignment handout):

1. Assignment completed according to instructions listed for the assignment.
 2. Attention to craft and development of technical ability.
 3. Ability to understand and apply concepts presented in class.
 4. Appropriateness of quantity of work.
 5. Effort and motivation invested in project.
 6. Willingness to explore and take risks.
 7. Overall effectiveness, success and quality of project both visually and conceptually.
- Extra effort will help your grade!*



High school friends Steve Wozniak & Steve Jobs made their first computer, the single-board do-it-yourself kit Apple I (without the wood case), in a garage workshop in Cupertino in 1976. They sold ~200 of the computers, before attracting investors and introducing the Apple II in 1977. A manual for the Apple-I can be found on the class website.



The Electronic Numerical Integrator and Computer (ENIAC), unveiled in 1946, was the first large-scale, electronic, digital computer capable of being reprogrammed to solve a full range of computing problems. Originally designed to calculate artillery firing tables for the U.S. Army's Ballistics Research Laboratory, the first problems run on the ENIAC were related to the design of the hydrogen bomb.

TUTORING ASSISTANCE: "The Marion G. Resch Center for Student Progress is a resource on Campus established to help students successfully complete their university experience. Please phone (330) 941-3538 or visit the Center for assistance in tutoring or for individualized assistance with social and academic success. The main Center is located in Kilcawley West below the bookstore. CSP Disability Services is located at 275 Fifth Ave."

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: "In accordance with University

procedures, if you have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course, please contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. You must be registered with the Center for Student Progress Disability Services, located at 275 Fifth Avenue, and provide a letter of accommodation to verify your eligibility. You can reach CSP Disability Services at 330-941-1372."

MORE ON SUPPLIES (SEE WEBSITE FOR SUPPLIERS LINKS):

PAPER: The images you will turn in will all be printed on 8.5"x11" or larger Epson branded paper (with either luster or semi-matte recommended) - do not purchase a matt surface paper.

STORAGE BOX: Pick up a "drop-front" box - about 1" tall at the largest print size you expect to make this quarter (an 8.5x11 box will be ~\$12). Check B&H Photo and Light Impressions (item# 20134 or 20144). Order with classmates to save shipping.

www.lightimpressionsdirect.com and www.bhphotovideo.com

CAMERA: You need to have a digital camera with a resolution of at least 10MP, that has adjustable f-stops and shutter speeds and that can also create RAW files (not just JPGs). YM Camera in Boardman will have a Fuji F77EXR point and shoot (for approx \$360) and in terms of DSLRs, they will stock both the Nikon D3100 and also the Canon Rebel T3i (for about \$500/ea). If you plan on taking other photography courses or wish to have a better quality camera, I would recommend a DSLR (either the ones listed above, or higher end).

Some camera suggestions for photo majors might include: Canon EOS 60D or 70D, Canon EOS 7D, Nikon D7000, Nikon D90, Nikon D3100, Canon EOS 5D (Mark II or III), Nikon D300S, Nikon D600 or D800 (or newer versions of these models).

Some camera suggestions for non-majors might include: Canon EOS XTi/400D and above, Nikon D40 and above. Recommended compact cameras include the Canon Powershot G12, Canon Powershot S100, Nikon Coolpix P7100, Sony NEX-5N, Olympus PEN E-P3, Panasonic Lumix G-series, Panasonic Lumix DMX-LX5 (or newer versions of these models).

MEDIA: You need to store you files somehow. Consider an external harddrive (about \$65 for 1T) and you may need to buy a few DVDs.

INK: If you wish to use the department's printers, you will need to purchase at least a \$50 card from the cashier's office to offset the cost of ink. More about this when we start printing your files.

NAMING CONVENTION: Unless specified differently on the assignment handout, each image/catalog you submit for grading should be uploaded to the course dropbox and must follow the following naming convention: `coursenumber_assignment*_yourlastname_twodigitnumber.extension`

**an abbreviated name will be given on the assignment handout or in class*

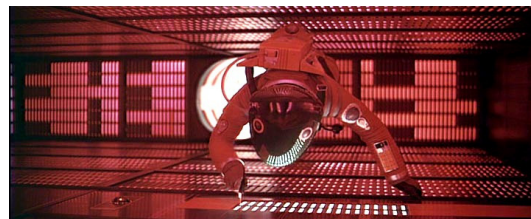
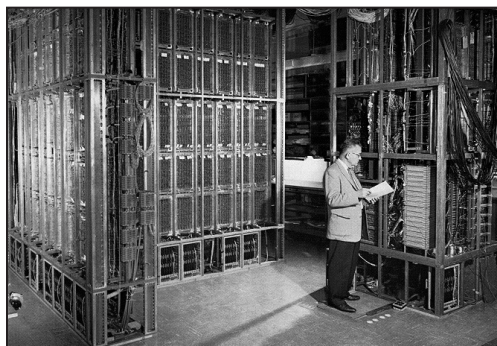
for example: "2673_cc_chalmers_01.psd"

Emailed images will NOT be accepted.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: The theft of intellectual property is taken very seriously in this class. All student work must be original and made solely for this course. Plagiarism, including self-plagiarism (defined as submitting work that was previously created by you but not expressly for this course) will be dealt with in the strictest manner according to



Left to right: Patsy Simmers, holding ENIAC board; Mrs. Gail Taylor, holding EDVAC board; Mrs. Milly Beck, holding ORDVAC board; Mrs. Norma Stec, holding BRLESC-I board.



The ILLIAC-II (left), built by the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana, was the first transistorized and pipelined super computer. It was designed to be 100 times faster than competing computers of the time and the

ILLIAC-II became fully operational in 1962. The ILLIAC-II inspired author Arthur C. Clarke to have Champaign-Urbana as the birthplace of the HAL 9000 computer in his 1968 book and movie (above) "2001: A Space Odyssey" - note the visual similarities between HAL and the ILLIAC-II. Also note that the acronym "HAL" shifted one letter from the acronym "IBM".

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the university policies outlined in the Bulletin.

OTHER: The assignments on the schedule are in addition to in class work. Due to unforeseen issues, and in order to accommodate everyone's questions and problem areas, the class schedule should be considered flexible. Please bring any concerns relating to matters such as expectations, deadlines and meeting times to my attention so that clarifications or adjustments can be made. If we must vary significantly from this schedule you will be given a supplemental calendar and revised list of assignments.

You are required to assist in the maintenance of the facility. You must clean up after yourself – this is not the lab assistants' job. Every piece of equipment provided for you to use must be treated as if it were your own – rough handling of this equipment will not be tolerated. You are sharing the facility with many other students – so please be friendly and conscientious. Your use of the facility must not disadvantage or interfere with any other student enrolled in another course.

Please note that some of the photographs we might look at during this course may include nudity, be graphically violent or be politically provocative. Some individuals may find these images disturbing or even offensive. Such works are included because they presented important challenges to artistic traditions and conventions, to social mores, to standards of beauty and taste, and ultimately, to the definition and history of photography itself. Students will not be required to subscribe to any particular theory of the purpose and meaning of photography, nor will they be required to like all of the images shown. However, if you choose to take this course, you will be expected to understand the issues involved and why they are important. If you have any special concerns, please discuss them with me during the first week of class.

FINALLY: If you apply yourself, work hard, develop your skills and exhibit individual growth you will do well in this class. We are here to help you succeed -- so do not be afraid to ask questions. Have fun, keep positive and be creative!

CLASSMATE CONTACTS:

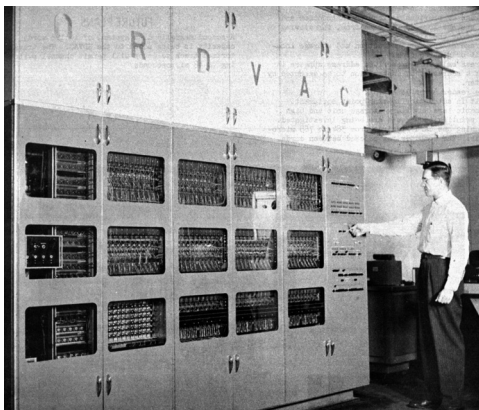
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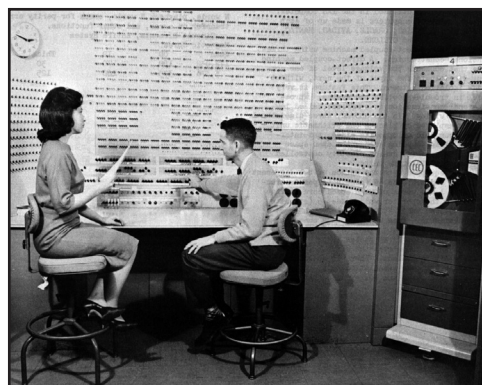
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Ordinance Variable Automatic Computer (ORDVAC), installed in 1952. Built by the University of Illinois for the Ballistics Research Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Ground, the ORDVAC was the first computer to have a compiler.



A front view of the console of the BRLESC I (Ballistic Research Laboratories Electronic Scientific Computer). BRLESC, operational in 1962, was a first-generation electronic computer built by the United States Army's Ballistics Research Laboratory (BRL) with assistance from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NBS), and was designed to take over the computational workload of the

ORDVAC, which in turn was a successor of ENIAC. All of the computers shown on this syllabus were designed for scientific and military tasks requiring high precision and high computational speed, such as ballistics and military logistical problems, and evaluations of weapons.