F13D050 - Beginner's Black and White Film Photography

Instructor: André Coutu Thursday, 6:30 – 9:30 October 3 to November 21

This course was designed for people interested in traditional black and white photography. As we go through the steps, we'll cover camera manipulation, black and white film differences, exposure, film development and printing. You'll understand the exposure basics using your own 35mm single lens reflex or medium format camera. Composition plays a huge role in photography; we'll demonstrate and explain the six major rules of composition. Once we're able to create amazing photos, we will then proceed to hand processing your black and white film all the way to make a final print in the darkroom.

Week 1: darkroom safety and procedures handling chemicals in the darkroom, weekly assignments, different types of film, darkroom paper and darkroom tour (basement and fourth floor). List of materials required.

Week 2: composition, colour filters for black and white photography, camera formats, shutter speeds, apertures, ISO and camera exposures.

Week 3: run through film processing

Week 4: film processing

Week 5: contact print, re-cropping, possible first print

Week 6: darkroom printing (open lab) and test for printing on their own time, dodging and burning a print and contrast filters.

Week 7: photo discussion on how photos are important and how we interpret them and open lab

Week 8: open lab and toning a print.

Materials for the first class:

2 rolls of 35mm true black and white film (ISO 100, 125 or 400)
Note pad
Protective eye wear
Rubber gloves (either latex or rubber cleaning gloves)
A working 35mm film camera or medium format