



Course Title: Pens and the Lens: A Dual Path to Visual Creativity

Course Code: PHOTO 05

Instructor Name and Bio: Joel Simon, *Documentary and Fine Art Photographer* and Jane Kriss, *Artist*

Joel Simon studied with Leo Holub and has worked as an editorial and fine art photographer for four decades. He has lectured on more than 65 trips with Stanford's Travel/Study program. His work has been published in Vanity Fair, Time, GEO, Condé Nast Traveler, STANFORD magazine, and Sunset. His work can be viewed at joelsimonimages.com.

Jane Kriss has over 40 years of experience in the visual arts, with a career spanning graphic design, fabric design, fine art, and illustration. Her work can be viewed at janekriss.com.

Class Sessions and Recording

Meeting days and times: Thursdays 6:30PM - 9:00PM PT April 13 - June 1

Meeting location: On-Campus

The class sessions will not be recorded.

Course Features:

Live session

- Lecture, discussions, and Q&A
- Lecture, demonstration, practice time for students
- Requires interaction and active participation
- Guest speaker planned

- Assignments & Coursework
 - Assignments and course materials posted in Canvas
 - Encouraged discussions in Canvas

 - Instructor will provide feedback on assignments
 - Students will give optional presentation (live)

Course Summary

This unique course is for anyone curious about the symbiotic relationship between photography and art. Richly illustrated lectures include historical context, how one practice informs the other, and specific techniques for exploring your artistic vision. Are you ready to jump in and try your hand at being photo/art ambidextrous? Each class will include limited time for “hands-on” activities in photography and drawing with charcoal or pen and ink, with occasional color. Photo and drawing assignments will be done outside of class and submitted to Canvas for course participants and instructors to view and discuss. Plan to spend 2 - 3 hours a week on these explorations. Upon completion of the course, participants will have a collection of their own drawings and photos documenting their progress.

**Please see course page for full description and additional details.*

Grade Options and Requirements

- No Grade Requested (NGR)
 - This is the default option. No work will be required; no credit shall be received; no proof of attendance can be provided.
- Credit/No Credit (CR/NC)
 - Students must attend at least 5 class sessions.
- No Letter Grade (NGR, CR/NCR)

**Please Note: If you require proof that you completed a Continuing Studies course for any reason (for example, employer reimbursement), you must choose either the Letter Grade or Credit/No Credit option. Courses taken for NGR will not appear on official transcripts or grade reports.*

Required Materials

Digital Camera Required: Any digital camera including mobile device cameras are welcome.

Art materials list: cost should be under \$100 if ordered online from Jerry's Artarama. Links are provided just so you can see the products - feel free to purchase anywhere you like, or bring similar supplies you may already have at home (*exception: sketchbook needs to be specific one listed*).

- Strathmore 500 Series charcoal paper pad, assorted colors 12" x 18"
<https://www.jerrysartarama.com/strathmore-500-series-premium-charcoal-paper-pads-12x18in-assorted-24-sheets-17235>
- Stillman & Birn Alpha Softbound Portrait Sketchbook, size: 5.5 X 8.5.
<https://www.jerrysartarama.com/alpha-5-5x8-5-sb-port-sketch>
- Black Tombow pen <https://www.jerrysartarama.com/tombow-dual-brush-pen-n15-black-p11915>
- Black Micron pen 05mm or an equivalent permanent technical pen (this site only has sets of 5, but if you're purchasing your supplies in a retail store, just buy 1) <https://www.jerrysartarama.com/sakura-pigma-micron-pens-0-45-mm-05-assorted-colors-set-of-6-46457>
- Faber Castel Water Brush (or equivalent brand)
<https://www.jerrysartarama.com/faber-castell-art-graphic-water-brush>
- Conte Crayons: **black 2B** <https://www.jerrysartarama.com/conte-a-paris-crayon-black-2b-set-of-2-51813> and **white 2B**
<https://www.jerrysartarama.com/conte-a-paris-crayon-white-2b-set-of-2-51810>
- Caran d'Ache Neocolor II water-soluble crayons (set of 10)
<https://www.jerrysartarama.com/caran-dache-neocolor-ii-crayons-tin-case-assorted-colors-set-of-10-11533>
- Kneaded eraser, any size <https://www.jerrysartarama.com/prismacolor-kneaded-eraser-large-08884>
- Scissors - any kind you happen to have

First Assignment

None

Tentative Weekly Outline

Week 1

- The photography/art relationship (with a mention of how AI art fits into the picture) and the inspiration behind this course
- Review of the scope of the course; logistics, goals and expectations
- Instructor introductions
- *Hands-on:* Experiencing the picture plane by drawing from life on plexiglass

Week 2

Please contact the Stanford Continuing Studies office with any questions
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650-725-2650

- Evolution of modern photography from origins of optics and its artistic uses along the way
- Origins of linear perspective, the picture plane, and the transition from iconography to narrative in painting
- The art of the sketchbook
- *Hands-on:* Freehand exercises on paper and projected images.

Week 3

- Five ways to create the illusion of space on a picture plane
- Demystifying linear perspective; analyzing perspective schemes in photos and paintings
- *Hands-on:* drawing and photographing basic shapes in perspective – mutually informative ways of learning to depict three-dimensional space

Week 4

- The power of composition in both photography and art
- Where do our eyes go, and why?
- *Hands-on:* Thumbnail sketching as an effective composition-planning tool

Week 5

- Telling a compelling visual story with photos, artwork, and the imaginative combination of the two
- Post-production pros and cons; creative license controversies
- *Hands-on:* exploring positive and negative space in a large-scale collaborative piece

Week 6

- How cameras think: the exposure triangle
- The interpretation of time and space –motion, depth of field
- What the camera can see that we can't
- *Hands-on:* “Painting” with light – a photographic exploration of line drawing

Week 7

- Adding value to drawing
- The drama of light and shadow: types of light, the Zone System, histograms, exposure compensation, high and low-key
- *Hands-on:* ways of creating a range of values in tone and line; depicting images using values only (no line)

Week 8

- Light & color
- Your turn! Student presentations (optional)
- Where to go from here: possible paths toward an art/photography practice