



Photo by Maria Harper

Alternative Photographic Processes

Alternative Photographic Processes is a darkroom based course all about experimentation with alternative materials and the exploration of ideas. Add to your creative options and technical abilities exploring unconventional and historical processes. Students create photographs using, solarization, photomontage, photograms, copy film, pinhole photography, digital negatives and hand-coated photographic paper. Students are encouraged to experiment and challenged to use these techniques to create contemporary photographic art.

Instructor: Maria Harper is a photo-based artist and has studied art history extensively with an emphasis on contemporary art theory and criticism. As a photo-based artist, she works with traditional and alternative processes in photography as well as digital imaging, video, and book art. She earned her Master of Fine Arts in photography in 2000 from the University of Arizona in Tucson. She was awarded the Medici Scholar Award, the George Grant Award, and the Mistro-Ertz Award. Her work has been exhibited throughout the U.S, including the Museum of Contemporary Art, Tucson, Arizona

WEEK BY WEEK SESSIONAL OUTLINE

1	Photogram: A process favored by many modernist photographers. A photographic image made without a camera by placing objects directly onto photographic paper and then exposing it to light. The result is a negative shadow image varying in tone, depending on the transparency of the objects used. Areas of the paper that have received no light appear white; those exposed through transparent or semi-transparent objects appear grey.
2	Solarization/Sabattier: A process discovered by modernist photographers, where the development of negatives or photographic prints is interrupted by light creating a partial or complete reversal of image tones.
3	Pinhole Camera: Make a hand-made, lens-less camera that creates images with near infinite depth of field.
4	Digital Negative
5	Work on projects
6	Van Dyke Brown and/or Cyanotype: Historical photographic process that is used in a contemporary context. A large format negative or a series of small negatives is contact printed onto paper that the student has hand-coated with emulsion then exposed in the sun, creating an image.
7	Van Dyke Brown and/or Cyanotype - continued
8	Van Dyke Brown and/or Cyanotype - continued
9	Final - Presentation of final class project



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