Syllabus:

Art 161, Photography in the Field, is a class that alternates field trips (sometimes out of town) with classroom labs and critiques on a weekly basis. The class is for intermediate and advanced photography students who are interested in developing their personal vision in a self-directed way. Very few assignments will be given. The students are expected to go on all the field trips and decide for themselves what they want to shoot and how they want to shoot. It is essential that you are able to travel on weekends!

The class will meet on Saturdays—one Saturday to shoot, the next for a critique.

Students will provide their own transportation to and from the field trip sites. Students MUST check in with professor upon arrival at the site. All student drivers must be insured for liability and injury damages. Students must stay and shoot for 6 hours minimum.

The prints must be 8x10 or larger, and well-printed. Students are required to shoot 200+ frames on each field trip. Students who wish to work in non-digital media need to make arrangements with the instructor to establish the number of required shots.

At the end of the semester, students are required to submit a notebook/portfolio with all their critique prints and contact sheets organized by field trip.

There is also a final photographic exhibition in the community and students are required to provide a framed matted exhibition quality print for the show. The show will be part of the Second Saturday activities in December. Students will be on committees to handle every aspect of the show: publicity (poster and placement in community event listings), hanging, tear down, sales. There will be a Second Saturday Reception that students are required to attend.

A student's grade is based on completing the large amount of shooting and printing required from each field trip. If this is done impeccably, and a good effort has been clearly made, the student will get at least a B regardless of the aesthetic quality of the photographs. To merit an A, the student also needs to demonstrate a high degree of originality, aesthetic skill, and technical proficiency in making their weekly photographs. I will also take into consideration willingness to participate in the critiques.

If a student misses one critique and/or one field trip they can make them up (1 each), without a reduction in grade. The makeup for missing a critique is to write a report comparing the work of a photographer of my choice to your own work. The paper must be at least 5 pages, double spaced 12pt type. The paper is due the following week. The makeup for missing a field trip is to go to the location and make up the time and pictures and hand in all work at the next critique.

If a student misses more than one critique and/or one field trip, each miss lowers their grade by ½ a point. The paper and reshoot must still be done.