

October 20, 2023

Dear (Chair of ASCC and Chair of panel that assessed the change),

Thank you for meeting with me about the course number change from Art 5335 to Art 3335. The questions from the committee were helpful and supportive, and I'm writing to follow up on one of the questions: *the change from a 5000 to 3000 level course means it will no longer be available to graduate students. How will the course content change now that it is only offered to undergraduates?*

After some discussion with my colleagues in the Department of Art Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, I'd like to approach the question from a different angle that I hope will be satisfactory to the committee. In short, the course content is not changing, just the student population. Even in a field as technically demanding as photography, we sometimes have MFA students that approach their work more conceptually, and, at times, find they need to hone (or even learn) the skills this course offers: post-production, printing, etc. In the past, the department found it necessary to ensure that grads could take Art 5335, and so numbered it accordingly, but this created one of the issues we are now remedying—that it really is an intermediate course, and our undergraduates need to take it earlier in their education.

We have decided that this is a more important issue that affects more students than making it available to one or two graduate students a year, at most. To address the needs of those graduate students, we will use ART 669X/779X/889X: independent studio hours taken with faculty in a student's major area (directed study).

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,  
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