

Salem Community College

Course Title: Basic Digital Photography

Course Code: ART205

Lecture Hours: 2

Laboratory Hours: 2

Credits: 3

Course Description: Basic Digital Photography is an introduction to photography utilizing the digital camera. All concepts learned will be directly applied through classroom exercises and critique. The student will study basic digital technology in a historical context, as well as digital camera functions and use. Photographic aesthetics as an art form and a means of self-expression and self-examination with this new technology will be approached through the critiquing process. This basic course in digital photography assumes no previous technical experience and begins on an introductory level. The larger part of the course is devoted to application of technical knowledge learned in the lecture theory part of the course. Some basic computer applications may be introduced.

Student will be given the use of a state-of-the-art digital camera but supplies such as printer paper, batteries and memory cards may be required.

Prerequisite:

Completion of ENG098, if required.

Place in College Curriculum:

This course will function as an open elective for students pursuing either a certificate or degree program. This course is required for the Associate in Science in Visual Arts degree, Computer Graphic Art option, Associate in Fine Arts with an option in Glass: Applied Craft & Design program, and the AFA in Digital Media.

Last Revision: October 2011

Course Content Outline:

- I. History of Photography
 - A. Early Techniques
 - B. The Film Camera
 - 1. camera parts
 - 2. camera functions

- II. The Digital Camera
 - A. Camera Parts
 - 1. the lens
 - 2. the aperture
 - 3. the shutter
 - 4. the light sensor
 - 5. other parts
 - B. Camera Functions
 - 1. setting the compression
 - 2. setting the ISO
 - 3. setting white balance and exposure priority
 - 4. installing memory
 - 5. installing and charging batteries
 - 6. reviewing/deleting images
 - 7. macro focus setting
 - C. Shooting modes
 - 1. Aperture priority - controlling depth of field
 - 2. Shutter priority - controlling motion
 - 3. Manual
 - D. Image Capture
 - 1. image sensors and pixels
 - 2. image size
 - 3. resolution of digital devices
 - 4. image compression

- III. Importing, Organizing, and Correcting Digital Images
 - A. Adobe Bridge
 - 1. Downloading and viewing images
 - 2. Image organization
 - 3. Printing index sheets via PDF
 - 4. Slideshows
 - B. Adobe Photoshop
 - 1. Exposure correction
 - 2. Color correction
 - 3. Cropping to improve composition
 - 4. Resizing for printing
 - 5. Resizing for web
 - 6. Adding borders and preparing to print

- IV. Photo Printers
 - A. Selection Criteria
 - 1. papers
 - 2. inks and longevity
 - B. Printer Resolutions
 - C. How Color Images are Printed

D. Evaluating your Prints

V. Photography for the Web

A. Protecting your Work

1. digital watermarks
2. copyright issues

B. Preparing Images for the Web

1. photo editing
2. emailing images
3. Adobe Bridge - web photo gallery

VI. Aesthetic Values

A. Seeing/visual perception

B. Composing Images

C. Selectively Editing

VII. The Critique

A. Technical

B. Emotional

C. Composition

Course Performance Objective #1

The student will explain the evolution of Photography.

Learning Outcomes:

- The student will recognize and be able to describe the early photographic processes of Daguerreotype, Ambrotype and Tintype.
- The student will explain when these processes were first introduced.
- The student will explain how photography is used today as an art form and how this use has changed from when it was first introduced.

Course Performance Objective #2

The student will load a memory card into a camera, correctly operate the camera, and make an exposure

Learning Outcomes:

- The student will describe the relationship between various camera parts and their functions and apply their use while making an exposure.
- The student will load memory cards and batteries.
- The student will demonstrate the image focus system of the camera.
- The student will describe and use the f-stop correctly as a controller of the amount of light.
- The student will apply the concept of depth of field while making an image.
- The student will utilize the shutter correctly as a controller of light and time.
- The student will utilize the shutter to control motion.
- The student will utilize the different camera parts to control exposure.
- The student will utilize equivalent exposure to control motion and manipulate depth of field.
- The student will set the correct white balance for the light source.
- The student will set the correct ISO for the light source.

Course Performance Objective #3

The student will demonstrate proper care procedures for digital cameras

Learning Outcomes:

- The student will describe proper cleaning procedures for digital cameras.
- The student will know and be able to describe appropriate precautions for protecting digital cameras when traveling.
- The student will recall proper storage procedures for digital cameras.

Course Performance Objective #4

The student will understand the image capturing technology of a digital camera.

Learning Outcomes:

- The student will explain image sensor technology and how it relates to resolution and pixels.
- The student will describe the relationship between digital sensors and image color and file size.
- The student will describe the function of pixels in an image.

Course Performance Objective #5

The student will perform color correction, exposure correction and image cropping to prepare images for final presentation

Learning Outcomes:

- The student will utilize Adobe Photoshop to perform color corrections to images as necessary.
- The student will utilize Adobe Photoshop to perform exposure corrections to images as necessary.
- The student will utilize Adobe Photoshop to crop images to improve the overall image composition.

Course Performance Objective #6

The student will produce hard copies of final portfolio prints by sending images to an inkjet printer.

Learning Outcomes:

- The student will demonstrate knowledge of various photo quality printers and printer support materials.
- The student will utilize knowledge of printer resolution and color management to create quality printouts.
- The student will evaluate a print by using criteria such as color, resolution, contrast, and saturation.
- The student will utilize a photo quality inkjet printer to produce images for the final portfolio presentation.

Course Performance Objective #7

The student will capture, prepare and upload images to a Web Photo Gallery.

Learning Outcomes:

- The student will describe copyright issues and may utilize watermark procedures for image protection.
- The student will utilize Adobe Bridge to prepare images for a Web Photo Gallery
- The student will recall demonstrations of photo editing software such as Adobe Photoshop.
- The student will demonstrate the procedure for preparing images for email attachment.

Course Performance Objective #8

The student will present a portfolio of images that reflect a mastery of visual perception and composition.

Learning Outcomes:

- The student will employ knowledge of print evaluation to select final portfolio images
- The student will apply a thin black border to each image in preparation for printing on inkjet paper.
- The student will correctly position the image on the inkjet photo paper including sufficient white space for a matte border.
- The student will present final printed images selected from the semester's work in a bound portfolio.

Course Performance Objective #9

The student will participate in group critiques of photographic images in order to analyze and discuss qualities of those images.

Learning Outcomes:

- The student will assess the image from a technical viewpoint.
- The student will judge the image from an emotional viewpoint.
- The student will evaluate the image from a compositional viewpoint.
- The student will compare his/her work to contemporary photographers' work discussed in class.

Course Performance Objective #10

The student will gain further insight into the work of two or more contemporary photographers through online research

Learning Outcomes:

- The student will perform online research from a list of contemporary photographers.
- The student will present and discuss the work of two or more photographers during class.
- The student will choose two or more photographers and write about them following class discussions.
- The student will complete an 800 – 1200 word paper.
- The student will perform formal analysis of three works of art by each photographer.
- The student will discuss why they chose those particular photographers.
- The student will discuss the type of subject matter that each photographer is known for.

General Education Requirements:

The general education goals covered in '*Basic Digital Photography*' are communication, critical thinking & problem solving, aesthetic perspective, historical perspective and information literacy. See student handbook for additional details.

General Outcomes Assessment:

A college-wide outcomes assessment program has been put into place to enhance the quality and effectiveness of the curriculum and programs at Salem Community College. As part of this assessment program, the learning outcomes for this course will be assessed. Assessment methods may include tests, quizzes, papers, reports, projects and other instruments. Copies of all outcomes assessments are available in an electronic assessment bank maintained by the Institutional Research and Planning Office.

Course Activities:

Classroom activities will include PowerPoint lectures and demonstrations introducing new course material, participation in class discussions and image critiques, and an oral review on one or two contemporary photographers. Weekly shooting assignments will provide subjects for class discussion and critiques. Students will also do further research on two photographers of their choosing and produce a 3 to 5 page comparative analysis paper on the work of those photographers. Final class presentations will be in the form of a printed portfolio of images and an online web image gallery.

Course Requirements and Means of Evaluation:

Please refer to the instructor's syllabus addendum (to be distributed in class) for specific information regarding the course requirements and means of evaluation.

Academic Honesty Policy:

Students found to have committed an act of academic dishonesty may be subject to failure in this course, academic probation, and/or suspension from the college. See the Student Handbook for additional details.

Attendance Policy:

Regular and prompt attendance in all classes is expected of students. Students absent from class for any reason are responsible for making up any missed work. Faculty members establish an attendance policy for each course and it is the student's responsibility to honor and comply with that policy.

ADA Statement:

If you have a 504 Accommodation Plan, please discuss it with your instructor. If you have any disability but have not documented it with the Disability Support coordinator at Salem Community college, you must do so to be eligible for accommodations. To contact the Disability Support Coordinator, call 856-351-2773, or email disabilitysupport@salemcc.edu to set up an appointment. To find out more information about disability support services at Salem Community College, visit www.salemcc.edu/students/student-success-programs/disability-support.

Instructor Information:

(See course handout)

Supplies:

Memory card with at least 256 MB available (buy the type to fit your camera), note book, pen/pencil, portfolio. For textbook information, please see the [Salem Community College Bookstore Website](#).

Additional Costs:

As necessitated by the required supplies.

