



Course Syllabus

COMM 1318 – Photography I (journalism emphasis)

Revision Date: **8/22/2016**

Catalog Description: Introduction to the basics of photography. Includes camera operation, techniques, knowledge of chemistry, and presentation skills. Emphasis on design, history, and contemporary trends as a means of developing an understanding of photographic aesthetics.

Lecture hours = 3, Lab hours = 3

Prerequisites: None

Semester Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours per Week: 3

Lab Hours per Week: 3

Contact Hours per Semester: 96

State Approval Code: 50.0605.51 26

Core Components and Related College Student Learning Outcomes

This course counts as part of the academic requirements of the Panola College Core Curriculum and an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree. Yes No: If no, skip to Instructional Goals.

The items below marked with an X reflect the state-mandated outcomes for this course **IF this is a CORE course:**

- Critical Thinking Skills – to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and syntheses of information
 - CT1: Generate and communicate ideas by combining, changing, or reapplying existing information
 - CT2: Gather and assess information relevant to a question
 - CT3: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information
- Communication Skills – to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
 - CS1: Develop, interpret, and express ideas through written communication
 - CS2: Develop, interpret, and express ideas through oral communication
 - CS3: Develop, interpret, and express ideas through visual communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills – to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
 - EQS1: Manipulate and analyze numerical data and arrive at an informed conclusion
 - EQS2: Manipulate and analyze observable facts and arrive at an informed conclusion
- Teamwork – to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

- TW1: Integrate different viewpoints as a member of a team
- TW2: Work with others to support and accomplish a shared goal
- Personal Responsibility – to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making
 - PR1: Evaluate choices and actions and relate consequences to decision-making
- Social Responsibility – to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
 - SR1: Demonstrate intercultural competence
 - SR2: Identify civic responsibility
 - SR3: Engage in regional, national, and global communities

Instructional Goals and Purposes:

The purpose of this course is to fulfill the academic requirements necessary to earn an associate degree or transfer degree, or to provide personal enrichment opportunities for Panola College students seeking an interdisciplinary course emphasizing communication or converging media.

Learning Outcomes:

After studying all materials and resources presented in the course, the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate ability to operate equipment used to capture and edit photographic images.
- Demonstrate understanding of composition, framing, and perspective in photography.
- Analyze and discuss aesthetic considerations of visual storytelling.
- Discuss ethical implications of photographic manipulation.

Course Content:

A general description of lecture/discussion topics included in this course are listed in the Learning Objectives section of this syllabus.

Students in all sections of this course will learn the following content:

1. Understand a camera to achieve high quality photographs.
2. Understand the rules of effective photographic composition.
3. Understand light and how to manipulate it to achieve high quality photographs.
4. Understand exposure and white balance in photography.
5. Recognize the importance of shutter speed and f-stops in photography.
6. Understand the importance of sharpness.
7. Understand types of lenses and their purpose in photography.
8. Understand when to use flash and how to achieve high quality photographs with flash.
9. Recognize the historical significance of photography as an element for social change, and documenting historical events.
10. Recognize the technological advances that have impacted photography over the years.
11. Recognize the importance of ethical considerations in photography and its use in media.

Methods of Instruction/Course Format/Delivery The course is offered in the traditional classroom and on the LMS Canvas platform for lectures, discussions and audiovisual presentations. Students are required to submit photos in various subject areas, and to compile an end-of-semester portfolio.

Major Assignments / Assessments:

The following items will be assigned and assessed during the semester and used to calculate the student's final grade.

Assignments

1. Photographs in several categories: campus, action, portrait, landscape-scenic, architecture, macro, creative expression
2. Discussions.
3. End of semester portfolio or photo essay in multimedia format

Assessment(s):

1. Grades for photo submissions.
2. Quiz grades.
3. Discussion grade.
4. Final exhibit photo grade.
5. Portfolio grade.

Course Grade:

The grading scale for this course is as follows:

- Discussions - 15%
- Quizzes - 25%
- Assignments – 40%
- Exams - 20%

Texts, Materials, and Supplies:

- **Textbook:** Mastering Digital Photography, by David Busch. (Muska & Lipman Publishing, a division of Course Technology)
- Digital camera

Required Readings:

- Textbook (See above)
- Online readings as assigned by instructor.

Recommended Readings:

- N/A
- N/A

Other:

- For current texts and materials, use the following link to access bookstore listings: <http://www.panolacollegestore.com>
- For testing services, use the following link: <http://www.panola.edu/elearning/testing.html>
- If any student in this class has special classroom or testing needs because of a physical learning or emotional condition, please contact the ADA Student Coordinator in Support Services located in the Administration Building or go to <http://www.panola.edu/student-success/disability-support-services/> for more information.
- Withdrawing from a course is the student's responsibility. Students who do not attend class and who do not withdraw will receive the grade earned for the course.

- Student Handbook, *The Pathfinder*: <http://www.panola.edu/student-success/documents/pathfinder.pdf>