

# Lassen Community College Course Outline

## ART-19A Beginning Digital Photography

3.0 Units

### I. Catalog Description

An introductory course in digital photography digital image capture. Basic photographic composition and subject matter, basic digital camera operation, and beginning image manipulation using Adobe Photoshop and/or Photoshop Elements will be covered. Photography as a fine art and as a commercial application will be explored. Technical, aesthetic, cultural, and historic points of view will be considered. To cover the costs of printing, a \$10.00 lab fee will be charged at the time of enrollment.

**Recommended Preparation:** Successful completion of ENGL105 or equivalent multiple measures placement.

Transfers to both UC/CSU  
General Education Area: C  
34 Hours Lecture, 51 Hours Lab  
Scheduled: Fall, Spring

### II. Coding Information

Repeatability: Not Repeatable, Take 1 Time  
Grading Option: Graded or Pass/No Pass  
Credit Type: Credit - Degree Applicable  
TOP Code: 101100

### III. Course Objectives

#### A. Course Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Capture images with correct exposure, using basic digital photographic tools.
2. Manipulate images, using basic Adobe software techniques.
3. Discuss/critique digital photographs using appropriate terminology.

#### B. Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Regarding camera technique:
  - a. Effectively use camera controls (shutter speed, f/stop, focus, white balance and ISO to control motion, depth of field, sharpness, color cast, and noise).
  - b. Correctly expose images in different lighting situations.
  - c. Employ the basic rules of photographic composition.
  - d. Select photographic equipment and software that is available on the market for basic digital techniques.
  - e. Use basic RAW capture
  - f. Use panoramic stitching
  - g. Use basic high dynamic range techniques
  - h. Use basic artificial lighting techniques
2. Regarding Photoshop technique, at basic levels:
  - a. Open an image into Photoshop and use the lasso tools, magic wand, quick mask tool (or selection brush) to select areas of the image.
  - b. Crop and straighten an image.

- c. Correct camera distortion.
  - d. Use levels to correct brightness, contrast and color casts.
  - e. Use hue and saturation to correct and alter colors.
  - f. Use the unsharp mask filter, image size and resolution to prepare an image for printing.
  - g. Decrease depth of field and add a sense of motion using layers and filters.
  - h. Soften portraits and remove blemishes and wrinkles.
  - i. Replace a sky.
  - j. Remove unwanted objects from an image.
3. Use Adobe Bridge to navigate among and manage (organize) files
  4. Use Adobe Lightroom for adjusting and converting RAW files
  5. Use basic techniques to prepare prints for presentation
  6. Use appropriate terminology to describe their work.

#### **IV. Course Content**

- A. Camera technique
  1. Camera controls
  2. Image exposure
  3. Composition
  4. Equipment selection
- B. Image Manipulation using Adobe Photoshop/Elements
  1. Tools and techniques to select areas of an image
  2. Cropping and straightening
  3. Correcting for distortion
  4. Using levels
  5. Using hue and saturation
  6. Using unsharp mask filter, image size and resolution
  7. Altering depth of field
  8. Manipulating portraits
  9. Replacing areas of an image
  10. Removing unwanted areas
- C. Use Adobe Bridge to navigate among and manage (organize) files
- D. Use Adobe Lightroom for adjusting and converting RAW files
- E. Basic presentation techniques
  1. Printing papers
  2. Matting
  3. Framing
- F. Critiques

#### **V. Assignments**

##### **A. Appropriate Readings**

Students will be assigned weekly reading assignments from the representative texts as well as readings from various technical manuals relative to subject areas being covered.

##### **B. Writing Assignments**

Written critiques will be required on how to:

1. Choose the best method and select portions of an image, placing it/them into another image
2. Correct defects in composition, distortion, brightness, contrast, and color cast

3. Achieve basic improvements in portraits
4. Prepare images for printing
5. Produce prints for display

**C. Expected Outside Assignments**

Do basic research on currently available digital equipment.

**D. Specific Assignments that Demonstrate Critical Thinking**

Prepare a print for presentation using basic techniques which demonstrates:

1. The difference large and small f/stops make on depth of field
2. The difference fast and slow shutter speeds make on stopping motion
3. The effect of the different white balance settings
4. The effect of different ISO settings
5. The impact of various compositional techniques

**VI. Methods of Evaluation**

The first day of class the instructor will provide each student with written course syllabus indicating the evaluation procedures to be used. The formulation of a student grade will be based upon:

1. Quizzes
2. Critiques
3. Reports
4. Portfolio

**VII. Methods of Delivery**

Check those delivery methods for which, this course has been separately approved by the Curriculum/Academic Standards Committee.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Traditional Classroom Delivery | <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence Delivery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interactive Television Delivery           | <input type="checkbox"/> Online Delivery         |

Methods of instruction may include, but are not limited to:

1. Lecture (including guest speakers)
2. Discussions
3. Demonstration
4. Critiques

**VIII. Representative Texts and Supplies**

Required:

Long, Ben, *Complete Digital Photography*, 9<sup>th</sup> edition, 2018, Course Technology ISBN-9781732636927

**IX. Discipline/s Assignment**

Art, Photo Tech/Commercial Photo, Photography

**X. Course Status**

Current Status: Active

Original Approval Date: 3/2/2004

Revised By: James Kleckner

Curriculum/Academic Standards Committee Revision Date: 04/20/2021