

Wheeling Jesuit University
Department of Fine Arts
ARTS 142, section 01 – Digital Photography, (3 crs)
Spring 2019

Professor: Hans Westman
Office: CET 209
Phone: 304-243-2484
Email: hwestman@wju.edu

01/07/2019 - 05/02/2019

Days: Tuesday and Thursday 1:30PM - 2:45PM

Room: CET 210

Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:00pm - 2:00pm

Catalog Course Description:

This course introduces students to the history, aesthetics, and principles of photography with an emphasis on the rhetoric of digital photography. Students will explore the history and development of photography and learn the principles of composition, lighting, exposure, and special effects. This course has no prerequisites but requires the use of a digital camera with manual settings.

Textbooks (recommended):

Sheppard, R. (2011). *Digital photography simplified, 2nd Edition* (ISBN: 978-1118029343)
Dickman, J. & Kinghorn, J. (2009). *Perfect digital photography, 2nd Edition* (ISBN: 978-0071601665)

Materials (required): access to a digital camera or a digital camera devise with pro setting capabilities and Internet access

Student Learning Objectives:

Students will understand elements of composition choices that communicate meaning within a photograph

Students will apply these elements to analyze the creative work of their peers and different photographers

Students will create and evaluate a series of original (digital) photographic works over the duration of the semester

Evaluation Methods:

Assignments = 100 (each)
Reflection Papers = 100 (each)
Photograph Presentations = 100 (each)
Final Project / Presentation = 100 (each)
In-class / On-line Activities = 100 (each)

Assignment and Final Grade Scale

| | |
|----|----------------|
| A | = 100 - 93 |
| A- | = 92 - 90 |
| B+ | = 89 - 87 |
| B | = 86 - 83 |
| B- | = 82 - 80 |
| C+ | = 79 - 77 |
| C | = 76 - 73 |
| C- | = 72 - 70 |
| D+ | = 69 - 67 |
| D | = 66 - 60 |
| F | = 59 and below |

Grading Rubric

A to A- The student's course work *demonstrates superior quality*, incorporating all of the assignment criteria, is properly executed and displays a superior quality in skills appropriate and necessary for the course level. The student's course work *is visually professional in quality, requiring little or no improvement*.

B+ to B- The student's course work *demonstrates a solid understanding and application*, incorporating all of the assignment criteria, is properly executed and displays solid skills appropriate and necessary for the course level. The student's course work *is visually solid in quality though it may require additional improvement*.

C+ to C- The student's course work *demonstrates an acceptable level of understanding and an adequate level and application*, incorporating all of the assignment criteria, is properly executed and displays adequate skills appropriate and necessary for the course level. The student's course work *is visually acceptable in quality, though requiring additional improvement*.

D+ to D The student's course work *does not demonstrate an adequate level of understanding and/or level and application*, does not incorporate all of the assignment criteria, is not properly executed and/or does not display adequate skills appropriate and necessary for the course level. The student's course work *is visually inadequate in quality, requiring additional improvement*.

F*The student's course work *does not demonstrate an acceptable level of understanding and/or level and application*, does not incorporate all of the assignment criteria, is not properly executed and does not display an acceptable execution of skills appropriate and necessary for the course level. The student's course work *is visually unacceptable in quality, requiring improvement*.

**Assignments with no student course work submitted will receive an evaluation equal to a failing grade.*

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is required in this class. Students may miss up to three (3) classes without any grade penalty. After the 3rd absence, the overall course grade will be reduced by **15 points** for each additional absence on a regular class period. If five (5) classes or more are missed, the student will receive an "FA" and fail the course.

WJU does not differentiate between "excused" and "unexcused" absences. If you are not in class, you are considered absent. **THIS INCLUDES MISSING CLASS FOR SCHOOL EVENTS (Athletics, Club events, etc).** If class is missed because of a school approved event, the professor must receive written documentation of the impending absence at least one (1) class period before the event and the student will be allowed to make up the work missed; however, it still counts as one of the allowed absences. In the event of extreme extenuating circumstances (such as hospitalization, death of an immediate family member, etc.), this policy may be amended on a case-by-case basis. However, written documentation must accompany all requests.

Students are expected to be in attendance for presentations (days when classmates or invited presenters are speaking) and you are expected to be an engaged. If you are absent on a speech day, your overall course grade will drop by 10 points for each incident. If you are late or need to leave early during a speech day, your overall course grade will drop by 5 points for each incident. Do not enter or exit the classroom while another student is speaking - wait until you hear applause. Cell phones and laptops must be turned off and left in your bags or at home on speech days – failure to adhere to this technology policy will result in an overall course grade deduction of 30 points.

Make up exams and/or presentations CANNOT be made up unless there is an extreme circumstance that occurs. The day you are scheduled to present is the day you need to present your speech. If you are unable to complete your speech on that day, it is recommend that you contact your fellow classmates and see if someone will switch days with you. If a fellow student is willing to switch with you, the professor must receive a separate email from BOTH students acknowledging and agreeing to the change. Otherwise, the student will receive a 0 for the speech.

If an extenuating circumstance happens (hospitalization, death of an immediate family member), the following procedure must be followed. **Failure to follow this procedure will result in a score of zero for the missed exam or presentation.**

1. Contact the professor within 24 hours prior to potentially missing a scheduled exam or making a scheduled presentation. If the reason is due to a University scheduled event or religious holiday, the professor MUST be notified in advance for approval of a rescheduling.
2. If an absence is due to an emergency or extenuating circumstance, official documentation must be provided by the next class session attended (see below for criteria for acceptable documentation).
3. The professor will make the final decision as to whether or not the student is permitted to make up a presentation or exam. The professor's decision is final.
4. The only absences from exams and/or presentations that will be considered as extreme circumstances are death in the family, severe documentable illness, religious holidays, and participation in a university sponsored event such as intercollegiate athletics. In any case, the student must provide documentation of their absence in order for a make up to be considered.

Students must be present at the final exam time and present their final project to receive credit in the course.

Last Date to Drop the Course: The last day of the Add/Drop Period for this semester is Friday, January 11, 2019. The last day to withdraw from this course with a grade of a W is Tuesday, February 1, 2019.

Disability Statement:

Wheeling Jesuit University offers students with documented disabilities individual accommodations on a case-by case basis with confidentiality in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

In order to receive academic or physical accommodations, students with disabilities must provide current (within three years) and comprehensive documentation concerning the nature and extent of the disability and communicate their needs to the Disability Services Director, located in Ignatius Hall Room G 24 or call 304-243-4484. Students are required to meet with the director to develop accommodation plans that they will present to their course instructors at the beginning of each semester. Students with disabilities that require specific housing accommodations must contact both the Director of Residence Life and the Disability Services Director.

Ultimately, all students with disabilities are responsible for their own academic achievement. They must attend classes, complete course assignments, and fulfill all university requirements for their chosen field of study. It is up to students with disabilities to seek out available assistance on campus and to utilize individualized accommodations that promote academic success.

Academic Integrity Statement:

Students are advised that WJU's Academic Integrity Policy will strictly be enforced in this course (see www.wju.edu/studenthandbook). Questions regarding the policy may be directed to the Office of the Academic Vice-President

Official E-mail: An official WJU e-mail is established for each registered student, each faculty member, and each staff member. All university communications sent via e-mail will be sent to this WJU e-mail address.

The Academic Resource Center:

The Academic Resource Center (ARC) is a totally free academic-support service available to all enrolled Wheeling Jesuit University students and staffed almost exclusively by WJU students recommended for employment by WJU faculty. The ARC is located in Bishop Hodges Library and is open five days a week:

Sundays 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Mondays-Thursdays 1:00-9:00 p.m.

Please visit the ARC's website (readily accessible on the Cardinal homepage under "Quick Links" or as the first listing under "Student Services") to learn about the ARC's services (emphasizing writing, math, and the sciences) and to schedule appointments.

Title IX Statement:

Wheeling Jesuit University seeks to provide an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have been the victim of sexual harassment, misconduct, or assault we encourage you to report this. If you report this to a faculty member, she or he must notify our college's Title IX coordinator about the basic facts of the incident (you may choose whether you or anyone involved is identified by name). For more information about your options at WJU, please go to <http://wju.edu/titleix/>.

Course Outline:

Week 1 – January 7 and 9: Introduction and Overview of Digital Photography

- **Introduction**
- **Syllabus**
- **Discussion: Getting ready to take photos**

Week 2 – January 15 and 17: Composition

- **Discussion: Taking a better photos through composition**
- **In-class exercise(s)**

Week 3 – January 22 and 24: Composition

- **Discussion: The power of the photographic image**
- **Field exercise(s)**

Week 4 – January 29 and 31: Lighting Exposure and Aperture

- **Discussion: Understanding light, exposure and white balance**
- **In-class exercise(s)**

Week 5 – February 5 and 7: Workshop Days

- **Workshop Days**
- **September 21 Due: #1 Photograph and reflection paper**

Week 6 – February 12 and 14: Photograph Presentations

- **Presentations**

Week 7 – February 19 and 21: Exam 1

- **Discussion: Creative Exposures**
- **In-class exercise(s)**

Week 8 – February 26 and 28: Shutter Speed and F-stop

- **Discussion: Taking a better picture through composition**
- **Discussion: Getting Maximum Sharpness**
- **In-class exercise(s)**

Week 9 March 5 and 6

Spring Break – March 4 - 8

Week 10 - March 12 and 14: Storytelling through Photographs

- Discussion: Telling the story
- Discussion: Getting the most from the lens
- Field and/or in-class exercises

Week 11 - March 19 and 21: Workshop Days

- Workshop Days
- October 26 Due: #2 Photograph and reflection paper

Week 12 - March 26 and 28: Photograph Presentations

- Presentation Days

Week 13 - April 2 and 4: Geometrical Design and Exam

- April 2: Research day
- Discussion: Geometric shapes and repetition Field exercise

Week 14 - April 9 and 11: Introduction to photo manipulation

- Discussion: Basics in editing photographs using a digital paint program (Photoshop)
- In-class exercise
- Discussion: Final Assignment

Week 15 - April 16 and 18:

- April 18 - Easter Break
- Workshop Days

Week 16 April 23 and 26: Photoshop Workshop Days

- Due: Photograph and reflection paper
- Final Project: Workshop Days

Week 17 - April 29 - May 5

- Final's week