

Introduction to Digital Photography

ARTS 116301, 3 credits

Boston College Summer Session, 2019

Summer 2, June 25th- August 1st, 2019

TUESDAY and THURSDAY 2-5:15PM . • Devlin 401F

Professor Greer Muldowney

Greer.Muldowney@bc.edu

609-658-4265

Office hours: By appointment.

Boston College Mission Statement

Strengthened by more than a century and a half of dedication to academic excellence, Boston College commits itself to the highest standards of teaching and research in undergraduate, graduate and professional programs and to the pursuit of a just society through its own accomplishments, the work of its faculty and staff, and the achievements of its graduates. It seeks both to advance its place among the nation's finest universities and to bring to the company of its distinguished peers and to contemporary society the richness of the Catholic intellectual ideal of a mutually illuminating relationship between religious faith and free intellectual inquiry.

Boston College draws inspiration for its academic societal mission from its distinctive religious tradition. As a Catholic and Jesuit university, it is rooted in a world view that encounters God in all creation and through all human activity, especially in the search for truth in every discipline, in the desire to learn, and in the call to live justly together. In this spirit, the University regards the contribution of different religious traditions and value systems as essential to the fullness of its intellectual life and to the continuous development of its distinctive intellectual heritage.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will become familiar with how to create a photograph with a digital camera, and how to use photographic techniques to control the look of an image. Students will develop good digital asset management practices by using Adobe Photoshop. Students will also learn an introduction to photographic history and visual literacy. This course introduces the fundamental principals of photography and its history for universal applications and is available to all majors. Students will need to have a DSLR that shoots in RAW and is at least 10 megapixels to take this course.

Equipment list:

1. Digital Single Lens Reflex Camera (DSLR) or Mirror-less Digital Camera that has RAW capabilities, full manual controls and a minimum of 10 megapixels.
2. Portable Hard drive (at least 100GB preferable).
3. Card Reader if not an SD card.

4. Notebook
5. Box of 8.5x11 premium luster paper. 50-100 sheets can be shared.

Grading Policy:

This is an introductory course in all sense of the term. Students are acquiring both a new technical skill set, vocabulary and new abilities to evaluate aesthetics. Therefore, I grade on the above-mentioned criteria and how much effort you put into learning these new skills, as I do not expect everyone to master the art of editing or digital production by the end of one semester.

That being said, it is my policy that no more than 30% of the class receive above an A- average to curb grade inflation. Meaning that I grade you on all assignments, the skill level acquired, participation and effort, but ultimately award grades based on excelling in all 4 of these areas. Grade manipulation will not be tolerated at any time during or following the release of your final grade.

Grading –

Studio Assignments, Portfolio and Technical skills- 50%

Participation and Attendance-50%

The undergraduate grading system for Summer Session is as follows:

A (4.00), A- (3.67)

B+ (3.33), B (3.00), B- (2.67)

C+ (2.33), C (2.00), C- (1.67)

D+ (1.33), D (1.00), D- (.67)

F (.00)

The graduate grading system for Summer Session is as follows:

A (4.00), A- (3.67)

B+ (3.33), B (3.00)

B- (2.67), passing but does not count toward degree

C (2.00), passing but not for degree credit

F (.00)

All students can access final grades through Agora after the grading deadline each semester. Transcripts are available through the [Office of Student Services](#).

Deadlines and Late Work

Late work will not be accepted unless pre-arranged with the professor.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK & MATERIALS

USB Flash Drive or Harddrive

OPTIONAL MATERIALS

Adobe Suite

Digital camera (8 Megapixel or higher point & shoot/cell phone will suffice)

Specialty papers

Portfolio

Print sleeves

LAB ACCESS:

There will be computer availability to all students in O'Neill 205 and some hours in 401f.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Regular attendance is required. You must notify your instructor beforehand if you will not be attending class.

Each unexcused absence will result in half a letter grade dropped from your final grade for the course. If you have five (5) unexcused absences you will fail the course. Excused absences must have proper written documentation and be cleared with the instructor

– using class time to shoot/edit an assignment is not allowed. If you are late three (3) times to class during the term it will count as one (1) absence. You must also be prepared for each class with any materials required for that day (i.e. flash drive, images, prints, etc.). If you are not prepared for class it will count as an absence.

COURSE CALENDAR

Week 1

6/25

Review the syllabus:

Camera Requirements/Tutorials

Where to buy a camera and supplies

Lecture: Camera Functions

Functions of DSLR Camera:

How to set your aperture and shutter speed

Assignment 1:

Download a copy of your camera's manual

Discuss supplies needed

Camera Functions-

Will need images that express blurred motion, frozen motion, shallow depth of field and sharp depth of field.

BRING IN CAMERA, CARD READER AND HARD DRIVE.

6/27

Review: Will go over camera functions assignment, any questions or concerns about cameras, etc.

Demonstration: Downloading Files, organizing and raw editing. Go over file formats. Will discuss file storage and how to save working files and web ready images.

Critique: CAMERA FUNCTIONS- if time.

Assignment: Camera Functions work will be handed in week 2 whether critiqued or not.

Week 2

7/2

CRIT: Camera Functions- if time.

Photo History- Portraiture and the Self-Portrait: Destroy the Selfie.

Demonstration: Raw editing and it's translation into photoshop. The art of digital versus film.

Assignment: Portraiture- Use the examples that we used in class to design your own unique self-portrait or portrait series. *Can work in pairs. Will edit in class.

Reading: To be distributed

7/4 NO CLASS

Week 3

7/9

Lecture: Review portraiture work. Lab time.

Demonstration: How to edit down into a coherent body of work. Exposure control through levels and curves. Bridge Labeling.

Quiz on Camera Functions

Critique Portrait Group A

Film: Part of Vivian Maier

Assignment: Complete Self-Portraiture.

7/11

Critique: Self-Portrait/Portrait Group B

Photo History: Color Photography- using color as purpose, metaphor and meaning.

Assignment: Shoot 5 to 10 images based on your idea of color as dominance in imagery.

Week 4

7/16

Demonstration: Color correction and printing

Demonstration: Printing test prints

Lab: Will meet second half of class in Devlin 011 to print

Assignment: Continue to shoot towards 5 to 10 images based on your idea of color as dominance in imagery.

Critique of Color will be 7/23

7/18

Meet in Devlin 011. Lab day first half of class.

Proposal of final projects discussed. Due 7/23

Reading to be distributed.

Week 5

7/23

Critique: Group on color

Photo History: Still Life

Assignment: Start shooting towards your final projects. These will be critiques August 1st.

7/25

LAB DAY

Discuss Final Ideas.

Assignment: Start shooting towards final idea. Working critique on digital files next class.

7/30

Working Critique: Look at digital files for final projects.

LAB DAY/print for final.

8/1

Final Critique.