

Photography 30

Photojournalism – Visual Reportage

Instructor - Thom Halls – Office T401M

Visual Media Technology Department

Fall 2018 –Section number - 41714

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Photo 442-8200 ext. 8718 - www.thomhalls.com or www.fresnocitycollege.edu

Course duration – August 13th to December 12th, 2018 – Room T403

Office Hours Monday & Wednesday Noon to 1 pm – Fri 8:30 to 9:30 (Virtual Online)

Course Description:

Photography 30 is a 3-unit non-lab course consisting of 3 hours of lecture and a minimum of 4 hours of homework weekly.

Prerequisite for the course is Photography 6 or equivalent. Advisory of Photo 12 & 15

This class is designed with using a camera to communicate in a different way than any other course here at Fresno City College. Every time you take a picture you communicate. You tell your viewer something about yourself in each ‘expression’ of a picture you choose to display, publish or share. In this course you will discover the art of pushing those communicative talents to the limit. To not only put something of yourself in each picture but convey something of the subject to the reader forming a distinctive point of view or subjective statement. The goal is to give the picture life beyond the immediate time and place.

To do this we’ll employ many different techniques. From extreme methods for obtaining an image in low light to handling the various types of portraiture lighting on location using only what is in your camera bag. You will learn how to work a subject, situation, maneuver into position and deal with adverse subjects to your advantage.

Photojournalism surrounds us. It’s not just having pictures published in magazines, newspapers or websites any more. Today the Internet, video production and desktop self-publishing all are methods used by photojournalists.

You will need to be able to write in this course. You will not do a great deal of writing but you will need to create captions and story proposal outlines. Therefore, eligibility to English A, 53 or 54D is highly recommended for you to be successful in this course.

SUBJECT AREAS MAY INCLUDE:

- I. Documenting our Nation’s history.
 - A. Where photojournalism fits into society
 - B. How it came about
 - C. How what happened long ago effects today

- D. The need for visual communication
- II. Using photography to express moods
 - A. The showcase of the human emotions
 - B. Masters of that showcase
 - C. Separating yourself from the scene, practicing detachment
- III. Equipment needs
 - A. How to travel complete, but travel light
 - B. Ready for anything that comes along
 - C. Understanding a scene and the players in that scene
 - D. Dealing with non-cooperative subjects
- IV. The portrait
 - A. The essential ingredient in every photographers visual bag
 - B. How much manipulation of the subject is acceptable
 - C. Ethics – the do's and don'ts
- V. Visual story telling, ethics and dealing with content.
 - A. The who, what, when, where and how of any visual story
 - B. Editing for content instead of what you like
 - C. Captions – dealing with the words to reinforce the pictures
- VI. Picture editing and the art of teamwork
 - A. Know your subject, know your editor
 - B. Understand your story and your aim
- VII. The long-term project
 - A. Doing something for yourself
 - B. Telling a story for the sake of capturing something unique
 - C. Exploring a single topic thoroughly, exhausting all possibilities.

Textbook – *We will consult webpages and blogs regarding journalism and visual reporting trends*

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

1. Describe and utilize veracious applications and combinations of cameras and lens technologies for visual storytelling.

Specific Instructional Objectives: Upon successful completion, the student will be able to:

1. Use visual communication with self-generated photography to illustrate a story line.
2. Use various camera and lens techniques for visual storytelling.
3. Explain photojournalism's role in our multicultural society.
4. Use the visual language elements and techniques for enhanced visual storytelling.
5. Select appropriate reporting approaches for different storytelling situations.
6. Explain the role of the picture editor and designer in the communication process.
7. Present photographs in a professional manner

MATERIALS NECESSARY FOR THE COURSE:

When Needed

Notebook for lectures, presentations and fieldwork, Reporters notebook	First week
Camera - DSLR adjustable shutter & f/stops, light meter	First week
Focusing (Cameras are not required - the school has a limited number digital cameras for student use)	
Flash unit for your camera. (We have some available)	First week
Your camera must be available during all lecture and lab hours.	First week
Flash drive for storage of all your files	First week
Either Digital DSLR or manual film camera is acceptable for this course. (no point and shoots, cell phone or tablet cameras!!!!)	

If you are going to use traditional darkroom methods for this class then you need to get all your materials as soon as possible including your photographic paper, what chemicals you will need.

If necessary digital printing capability will be available on a limited basis	Tenth week
Ability to pay for publishing costs of your term project (credit card)	Fifteenth week

All assignments for this course will be turned in digitally via and Internet Link. No printed material will be accepted. If you are printing with film, then you will need to scan your images for digital transmission.

Students who have a verified need for an academic accommodation for materials in alternate media (i.e. Braille, large print, electronic text, etc), as per the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a letter from the DSP&S and discuss specific needs with the professor, preferably during the first two weeks of class. DSP&S determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Missing three class meetings before the drop deadline or two lectures in a row will result in your being dropped from the class. Partial attendance, either arriving late or leaving early without prior authorization will not be allowed.

Attendance is taken at the beginning of each lecture. If you are late it is **YOUR** responsibility to get on the roll.

Students will be dropped from class if they fail to attend the first class session of the semester. There are no institutionally approved excused absences for any reason. Only your instructor may excuse an absence. Absences caused by personal engagements, transportation delays and business affairs will not be excused, nor will absences from class to complete registration or add/drop activities. The faculty places strong emphasis on attendance in all classes.

Students are expected to be in the classroom at the time the class begins. Instructors are required to take attendance at each class session and unless there are extenuating circumstances, the student who is absent for two successive weeks of instruction may be dropped from class if absences are within the 50 percent drop deadline (50 percent of the class term).

Lack of regular attendance after the 50 percent drop deadline may result in an unsatisfactory grade. Once dropped, should a student believe there is just cause for reinstatement, the student may petition through the office of Admissions and Records. Reinstatement is at the discretion of the faculty member.

You are responsible for all class notes and assignments given in your absences. Since lectures and certain announcements will not be repeated, it is advisable to confer with fellow classmates after a missed class.

GRADING POLICY:

Each project will have a point value assigned to it and graded on how well you meet the project assignment. If there are insufficiencies in technical quality, presentation, creative effort and communication, there will be a subtraction of points from the total score.

Each project will have an assigned due date. **NO LATE PROJECTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** It is imperative that you turn in assignments on the assigned due date. Deadlines are a real BUMMER!

There will be no quizzes in this class

The five individual projects, the long-term portfolio (book) and the optional project six, along with the mid-term and final, will make up the 2,500-point total for the course.

You can compute your grade by point total at any time during the course:

90% += **A** 80% += **B** 70% += **C** 60% += **D** 59% and below = **F**

Mid-term and final exam will cover lecture notes and assigned text materials. The final will be a comprehensive test covering the entire semester.

Extra credit, if any, will be given at the discretion of the instructor.

Total semester grade will be computed from:

1. Projects	1 through 5 - 200 pts each	1,000 points	44%
2. Project Six (Optional replacement)		(200 points)	
3. Long term book project	(portfolio)	1,000 points	44%
4. Mid-term exam		100 points	4%
5. Final exam		100 points	4%
5. Participation Bonus		75 points	3%
	total	2,275 points	100%

The mid term and final exams **CANNOT** be made up.

Failure to do the lab projects or take the final exam will result in your not passing the course. There may be some opportunities for extra credit.

GRAPHIC STANDARDS:

All of Visual Media is a form of communication and certain boundaries must be respected in the Fresno City College class environment. The following types of imagery is deemed not acceptable

1. Nudity of any kind.
2. Photographs depicting a crime whether real or faked. This includes (but is not limited to) drug use, violence, cruelty to animals, etc.

3. Photographs that could be considered demeaning or embarrassing to any individual person or group of people.
4. The instructor, at their sole discretion, reserves the right to reject any photography that he deems inappropriate. The best policy is to make sure your images are “G” rated. If you have any doubts about what you want to submit for an assignment, it is best to seek approval from the instructor first.

USE OF YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS

Occasionally we post student work on our website or other social media like Facebook, Instagram etc. To do this you must agree to the following statement. If for any reason you cannot agree, then you must specify to the instructor in writing you do **NOT** want your work considered for online publishing. Otherwise by continuing without written exception you are agreeing to the following statement:

PERMISSION TO USE PHOTOGRAPHS

I authorize the Fresno City College Photography Department to display photographs made by me and of me for educational and promotion purposes in any type of media including electronic media, Internet blogs, social media or websites.

The photographs may not be used for profit without my express permission. I understand I will not be paid or rewarded for my authorization and I retain copyright of my own photographic images.

I also verify I hold appropriate model releases for any image I have created which shows an identifiable person or persons and hold Fresno City College harmless in any claims.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

All projects, handouts and will be made accessible only through my website (www.thomhalls.com) All project work must be completed by you and be your own. This includes all lab functions, developing and processing. Using work other than your own will result in you're being dropped from the class. If you work for the Rampage, you may use some of the material from those assignments for this course if they fit the criteria for a class assignment.

I will maintain regular offices hours as posted. On Friday's from 8:30 am to 9:30 am, I will have a virtual Office hour where I will respond directly to email. I will not be in my school office at this time. Use info@Thomhalls.com for communication. I will be at my computer ready to respond to any and all questions. I will answer questions in the order received.

All projects must be turned in for grading via the Internet through my website www.thomhalls.com. (Instructions on this procedure will be given the second week)

1. Folders for your images will be on the server and you need to place your files into the specific folders. Images must be labeled correctly (i.e. Thalls). **Example- thalls_photo30_prjt 1,2,3 etc.**
2. If you are turning in multiple images they must be labeled individually as inside the folder **Pjct (1,2,3 etc.) your name (i.e.Thalls) and the image name (a,b,c etc)**
Example Prjt1_Thalls_A.

Failure to label your images correctly will result in a loss of points for the first project, and then rejection of subsequent projects with no points awarded at all later in the course.

No files or negatives made prior to the date assigned will be accepted

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Your Long-Term Book project will be just that. A hardbound (or softbound if you prefer) book that you will organize, layout, and publish using a Populist press publisher. You can either print your final book as an Ebook (cheapest) or as a hardbound or softbound book.. The software is very simple and easy. You must have this book published and in hand by the due date. No digital files or compositional copies will be accepted. You must have access to a credit card to charge the cost of the publishing, there is no other way to do it. (you must publish with Blurb Press for this project)

Assignments are to be uploaded via and Internet link to my server with a separate Login and Password for this class.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Effort plays a major role in the success of this class. Photojournalism is an exercise in living and it can be a lot of fun. However, you must participate fully in the experience. You must utilize all visual reading material and find examples of photojournalism and bring them to class for discussion, take notes on lectures, on demonstrations and in the field when you are doing an assignment. I encourage you to seek feedback and ask questions on any topic.

Be courteous in class. Talking out of turn, reading, writing or passing notes in class other than the lecture material will not be tolerated and will handled as a disruption to the instruction.

Cell phones, tablets and pagers must be turned off before you enter class. Lab tops are not permitted to be used in class during lecture time and no texting will be permitted at any time. Playing video games on your phone while in class will be considered a disruption and handled accordingly. Basically all electronic devices will be turned off upon entering the class.

Incompletes are given only in extreme hardship cases due to circumstances beyond the control of the student. Not completing or passing the course is not a hardship. If you must drop the class it is **YOUR** responsibility to do so before the drop deadline. If you fail to do so the grade you earn will appear on your record.

Keep all tests and projects returned to you in the event there is a conflict in the grading process or a loss of records so you can document your grade. If you are called upon to produce the work and are unable to do so, you will receive no credit.

All camera gear necessary for completing any assignment must be brought to each class session. If you do not have a camera, arrangements will be made for you to check one out prior to class.

Failure to comply with the above guidelines may result in your being dropped from the class.