

Photography 5 - Introduction to Photography

Instructor - Thom Halls

Visual Media Technology Department

Fall 2017 – Office T401M

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Photo 442-8200 ext. 8718 - www.thomhalls.com

Course duration – January 9th to May 17th, 2018 – Course Code Number # 37115

Office Hours Tues & Thurs 2:30 to 3:30 pm – Fri 8:30 to 9:30 Virtual Online

Course Description: -

Photography 5 is a three-unit course comprised of lectures, PDF presentations, research, videos and tests regarding photography.

The course is designed for the student with little or no photographic experience. It is for those who are interested in the basic principles and techniques of the craft.

Photography is a technical and artistic endeavor that can open new doors. It is the blending of science, math, art and communication. If you utilize these elements well and develop the necessary skills, they will help in understanding other processes of life from a different perspective. Photography can be a life-long course in understanding the world around you. Though there are many technical avenues in photography, these aspects of the craft will be shared, but not stressed. Therefore, the emphasis will be on the making of a great photograph esthetically and to some degree technically. I will not bombard you with technical information.

Without a doubt, Photography has proven in a most dramatic way it's ability to illustrate the human condition of the 20th Century. With digital advances, it promises to be even more dramatic in the 21st Century.

This course is the first in a series that make up the Vocational Photography Certificate Program here at FCC. Whether you continue in our program or not, this course will provide you with the knowledge and experience to make better photographs by stressing fundamentals, creativity, awareness, problem solving and professionalism. The teaching method uses hands-on experience, information from text, online lecture, PDF postings and group learning via discussion boards to improve understanding.

To be successful in the class you will need to spend two to four hours per week with your text and taking pictures.

Text – *Extraordinary Everyday Photography* – by Brenda Tharp and Jed Manwaring – Published by *Amphoto*

Subjects covered will include:

- I. The Language of Photography –
 - A. Photograph as a visual communicator of ideas and emotions. (i.e. gesture, motion, humor, storytelling)
 - B. Historical and contemporary role of photography in our multicultural society. (i.e. documentary, fine art, etc.)

- C. History and contemporary styles and methods (i.e. sports fashion landscape photojournalism, editorial portrait photography etc.)
- D. Personal expression using visual grammar and compositional elements (i.e. Rule of Thirds, balance, leading line, symmetry, pattern, viewpoint, framing space foreground and background etc.)
- E. Aesthetics of Light and Perspective
- F. Quality of Light.
- G. Legal and ethical concerns in the digital age, (i.e. copyright social media, privacy rights future of photography)

II. Equipment and exposure control -

- A. Types of cameras – advantages and disadvantages.
- B. Aperture and shutter speed relationships and metering
- C. Technical use of camera controls
- D. Digital capture and workflow.

III. Light and Optics -

- A. The role of lenses, perspective and interpretations
- B. Various types of lenses – advantages and disadvantages.
- C. Technical response to light.

Student Learning Outcomes of this Course

- 1. Identify, create and compose creative images effectively using digital photography and a variety of subjects.

Materials needed for the course:

	When Needed
Textbook	First week
Camera - Digital Camera (Single Lens Reflex (DSLR)), point and shoot style or Smart Phone/Iphone: Preferred to have a camera where you can adjust f/stops and shutter speeds, but not mandatory	
Storage space for you photographs like an 8 GB flash drive	Second week
Internet Connection and computer capable of handling photographs, sending and receiving large photographic files. (preferable not be sending over a WIFI network)	Second week
Activated student email for receiving information.	First week
Audio speakers and compatible software to receive your audio critiques of your work.	Second week
Projects, support documents and links will be on my website at www.thomhalls.com/photo5.html	
Test photo self-portrait of delivered to the server as a test	Second week
Anti- virus software installed on your computer	Second week

The final drop deadline is – Friday March 9th, 2018

Date of the final exam will be Wednesday May 16th, 2018

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:

Any absence on your part must be explained in an email to the instructor on the day or before. Some absences can be excused, but I must be notified before, not after the fact.

You are responsible for all class notes and assignments given. Projects and lecture material will be time sensitive and will expire. They will not be repeated or reposted. You are expected to keep up with the course and complete all work on time on the assigned deadline.

Grading Policy:

You start the course with a perfect grade. Each project will have a point value assigned to it and graded on how well you meet the project goals. If there are insufficiencies in technical quality, presentation, effort, communication or ability to follow directions, there will be a subtraction of points from the total score. Your progress is evaluated during each class session.

Late projects will not be accepted.

You are encouraged to discuss your work and its grade at any time via email. I will not answer twitter messages, Facebook messages or text messages.

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

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

Mid-term and final exam will cover lecture notes and assigned text materials.

Total semester grade will be computed from:

1. Projects	1 and 6 -100 pts each	600 points	56% of grade
2. Mid-term exam – 100 points test		100 points	10%
3. Gallery visit and critique paper		130 points	12%
4. Written report on a photographer		130 points	12%
5. Final Exam 100 points test	100 points	100 points	10%
	Total	1,060 points	100%

Tests and handout materials will be handled as PDF files from my website www.thomhalls.com. And will be available on the Canvas page.

Mid Term and Final, exams **cannot** be made up.

All project work must be completed by you and be your own. All course work must be taken during the period of the course and no previous images outside of the course time period will be accepted. Using work other than your own will result in no project points. No files made prior to the date assigned will be accepted.

All projects must be turned in for grading via the Internet through my website www.thomhalls.com. No Email, file sharing sites, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or other methods will be accepted.

Turning in your projects and assigning a Naming Convention

All projects must be turned in for grading via the Internet through my website www.thomhalls.com. Please see the separate instructions at www.thomhalls.com/contact.html for further instructions on delivery of your assignments and setting up your computer. This is very important!

- You must submit all materials under the same name and folders labeled the same way each time an assignment is due – this will go for you Project work and for your weekly assignments as well (**i.e Student Sam Jones, must label his work S_Jones_Prjct1**). There are to be **NO** periods, /, -, (), #, *, spaces or any other character of any kind in your file names. All files sent to me, pictures, PDF files and word documents must use this naming convention.
- All image files for projects must be labeled appropriately. Images must have first initial and last name on them. (I.E. THalls) and all your assignments must be in separate folders labeled correctly: **Your name (i.e. thalls_prjt1,2,3 etc). The are to placed in the folder on the server with your name on it!**
- If you are turning in multiple images for an assignment then the individual files must labeled individually - **In the image name please designate (a,b,c etc) – (Example Thalls_Prjct1_A.jpeg). Make sure you do not erase the file extension JPEG from the file name. Very Important!!!!**
- Feedback from me on your images will be delivered in short audio files posted along with your grade on Canvas. Please be sure your computer has the proper settings to listen to these critiques.
- Failure to label your folders and or images correctly will result in a loss of points for the first project, and then possible rejection of subsequent projects with no points awarded.

No work, other than the final, will be accepted during finals week.

Holiday's observed during the semester

Martin Luther King Day – Monday January 15th

President's day(s) – Friday, February 16th and Monday February 19th, 2018

Easter Break – Monday March 26th through March 30th, 2018

Final Thoughts

Effort plays a major role in the success of this class. Photography is fun and can be an incredible learning experience. However, you must participate fully in the experience. You must read and text, 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.

During lectures there are to be no cell phones, laptops or other electronic devices turned on unless specifically requested or allowed by the instructor. Failure on this point, and your phone goes off you will be asked to leave the first time. Further infraction of this rule may cause you to be dropped from the class for disruptive behavior.

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 your tests and papers 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.

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

Revised 1/3/2018