

Photography 5 - Introduction to Photography

Instructor - Thom Halls – Office T401M

Visual Media Technology Department

Fall 2018 – Online Course – Section number - 41770

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Photo 442-8200 ext. 8718 - www.thomhalls.com – College website – www.fresnocitycollege.edu

Course duration – August to December – Taught totally Online

Office Hours Monday & Wednesday 11 am to 12:30 pm – Fri 8:30 to 9:30 Virtual Online

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Photography 5 is a three-unit course comprised of online lectures, PDF presentations, research, videos, quizzes and tests regarding photography. There are no pre-requisites for this course.

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.

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

COURSE OUTLINE:

- I. The Language of Photography –
 - A. Photography 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.

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

1. Produce visually organized and expressive images using color, design, and style principles in the successful completion of projects.
2. Produce properly exposed and focused images in a variety of situations that challenge basic automatic cameras.
3. Analyze and respond to the historical and contemporary role of photography in our multicultural society.

MATERIALS NEEDED FOR THE COURSE:

Textbook	When Needed
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	First week
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 and listed on Canvas by the current week

Test photo self-portrait of delivered to the server as a test
Anti- virus software installed on your computer

Second week
Second week

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:

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 expected to interact in the class each week. Course assignments each week are how attendance will be monitored. Failure to complete assigned quizzes, shooting assignments, discussion posts or projects, will cause you to be marked absent.

Any absence on your part must be explained in an email to the instructor and, if possible, prior to the absence.

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 prescribed 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. There are no REDO'S on the Projects!

Late projects will not be accepted. Extra credit if available will be at the instructors discretion.

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

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 is deemed 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.

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	43% of grade
2. Weekly contact/Discussion posts /exercises/ quizzes (16 x 20 pts each week 320 points)	320 points	23%
3. Mid-term exam – 100 points test	100 points	7%
4. Gallery visit and critique paper	130 points	9%
5. Written report on a photographer	130 points	9%
6. Final Exam 100 points test 100 points	100 points	7%
Total	1,380 points	100%

Discussions, Quizzes and Tests will be available on your Canvas page.

Mid Term and Final, exams **cannot** be made up. Midterm will be given in the 9th week and the Final in the 18th week.

Weekly contact, discussion posts, quizzes and shooting exercises will occur each week and will total 20 points. These assignments will be available on my website and on Canvas. Weekly project work will be available by Saturday morning of each week and be due on Wednesday at 9 pm of the following week.

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 placed folders labeled on the Server each time an assignment is due – this will go for your 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. (**if you are using your phone, you must rename the files before sending – Long names with numbers, which is how phones name the files will cause transmission issues. Files MUST be renamed as indicated above.**)
- 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).** They are to be 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 be 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 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
 - Labor Day** – Monday 9/3/2018
 - Veteran's Day** – 11/12/2018
 - Thanksgiving** – Thursday & Friday 11/22 & 23rd/2018

Date of the final exam will be Wednesday 12/12/2018

The final drop deadline is – Friday October 10/12/2018

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.

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.

I expect all members of the class to participate in Discussion posts. I expect all comments will be professional and edifying to others in the class. Internet etiquette will be closely monitored and no inappropriate comments will be allowed. In short, treat each other as you would like to be treated! Please view this link for an overview - <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>.

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.