

Course Code: ART 128

Course Title: Digital Photography

Department: Arts, Media, and Social Sciences

Effective Date: Summer 2026

PCS Code: 1.1 - Baccalaureate/Transfer

CIP Code: 50.0406

Repeatability: 0

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 1-5-3

Credit Hour Distribution:

Lecture: 1

Lab: 5

Clinical: 0

Total: 3

General Course Information

Catalog Description

An introductory course covering the basic principles of digital photography as a fine art medium, including equipment selection and use, image processing, and aesthetics.

General Course Objectives

To introduce students to the basic techniques, aesthetics, and concepts of photography through the use of digital imaging equipment.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
None	Placement out of CCS 098	None

Prerequisites

Basic computer skills

Methods of Evaluation

5-7 photographic assignments, 5-7 class participation critiques of photographic assignments, a final portfolio and presentation, 1 written examination, observation of lab methods, and participation.

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

Videos, presentations, articles, and handouts supplied by the instructor.

Each student must supply own digital camera with file size and manual setting requirements or have instructor approval for proper equipment. Additional supplies and material approximately \$100-\$125.

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Creativity and Innovative Thinking: Students will design, present, and interpret materials, information, and ideas in innovative ways.
- Technology: Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate, select, and appropriately use current and emerging tools.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Introduction to Photographic Images and Aesthetics	1. Recognize the fundamental components of photography as an artistic medium: subject, lighting, composition, and camera angles.	1	3	0
Digital Technology and Its Relation to Film Technology, Operation, and Handling of Camera: aperture, shutter speed, lens focal length, white balance, ISO rating, resolution, memory, and exposure	1. Identify and understand the uses of different types of cameras and scanners. 2. Practice basic care and handling of camera. 3. Use and understand reflective metering systems. 4. Operate aperture and shutter speed to make a properly exposed digital image and manipulate these for aesthetic effects.	2	6	0
Historical and Contemporary Art Photography: people, ideas, and trends	1. Identify historical and contemporary issues in photography.	1	3	0
Visual Content and Elements: light, tone, contrast, texture, focus and depth of field, viewpoint, space perspective, line, and balance	1. Demonstrate control of contrast through lighting, exposure, and post-exposure manipulation.	1	12	0
Use of Photoshop for Contact Sheet Proofing, Color Correcting, and Cropping	1. Identify a properly exposed, underexposed, or overexposed file, and through various methods in imaging software, be able to make corrections. 2. Color correct an image for screen or print use.	2	6	0
Scanning Materials, Storing Images, and Managing Files	1. Distinguish between the various file formats (tiff, jpeg, eps, psd, gif, bmp).	1	6	0
Advanced Image Manipulation: burning, dodging, adjusting layers, and controlling contrast	1. Employ advanced image manipulation techniques.	1	10	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Use of Lighting, Artificial and Natural	1. Recognize and be able to manipulate or capture existing light to make visual statements.	1	6	0
Considerations for Using Color and Monochromatic Photographic Images	1. Translate color images to effective monochromatic images. 2. Recognize the basics of color temperature and the effects of different types, qualities, and directions of light as well as their impact on a digital image.	2	9	0
Image Output and Presentation: creation of image files for internet, multimedia, and printing to emphasize quality and longevity	1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of image storage and management. 2. Identify the various means of output available for digital images.	1	10	0
Professionalism of Photography: exhibitions and portfolios	1. Create a quality photographic portfolio, digital and print. 2. Critique own images and the work of class members, recognizing both the strengths and weaknesses in those images.	2	4	0

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
15	75	0