Digital Photography ART 137

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will learn and develop basic skills in camera operation, editing, manipulation, storing and printing images. Comprehension in composition, layout, and the principles of design will be addressed in creative photography. Theories of artistic expression will be discussed including rules of composition, light, exposure, colors, etc. Additionally, you will learn to reflect on artistic photography and develop competence in evaluating photos with a critical eye.

COURSE OUTCOMES & GOALS

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- To develop skills in technical camera operation including f-stops, depth of field, various angles, lighting, and proper exposure.
- To utilize file management concepts of saving, formatting, organizing, and retrieving images.
- To learn process of cropping, sizing, and printing of images.
- To apply basic photo adjustment techniques of color balance, levels, and other corrections.
- To gain knowledge of historical and contemporary photographers.
- To use and expand upon photographic terminology.
- To evaluate and critique photographs on the technical and aesthetic components.
- To identify and apply elements of composition design in personal images.


ASSOCIATE DEGREE OUTCOMES (ADOs)

The Board of Trustees of Jackson Community College has determined that all JCC graduates should develop or enhance certain skills while enrolled in the College.

JCC's goal is to prepare students to live productive and meaningful lives. Implicit in this goal are efforts to prepare students to: (a) live and work in the twenty-first century, (b) be employed in situations which will require retraining several times during a productive life, and (c) function in a rapidly changing informational society. In this course the ADO covered includes

- **ADO 6, Understanding and Appreciating Aesthetic Experience and Artistic Creativity**

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK & TECHNOLOGIES
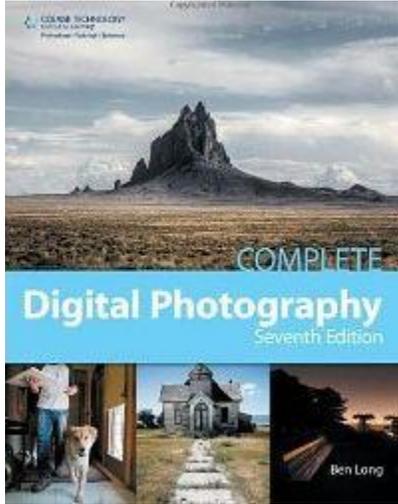
Complete Digital Photography
Ben Long
ISBN 10: 1285077261
ISBN 13: 9781285077260
Seventh Edition

Additionally you **must have continual access to** the following:

- digital SLR or point and shoot camera (at least 8 MP),
- flash drive or portable hard drive with cables,
- tripod,
- storage card,
- card reader with cables, and
- camera bag with extra batteries.

This is a PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS. In order to be successful in this class you need to **bring all of these materials with you** to class each week. You are also expected to have a backup plan in case any issues arrive with your digital devices – this includes the proper storage of and access to your image files. The course will continue to move along regardless of whether your camera and flash drive/portable hard drive work or not. I provide instructional support, not computer or camera support. It is **your responsibility** to properly maintain your digital devices.

JCC SOLUTION CENTER

Drop-in or open computer labs are located in William Atkinson Hall Room 103 and within the IT Commons area. Please call for available times and locations.

Any issues with JetNet, computer logins, student email logins, printing, or needing a password reset can be done by contacting the Solution Center immediately at the number above or stopping by **William Atkinson Hall Room 203**.

Their website is http://www.jccmi.edu/informationtechnology/SolCen.htm
Their phone is 517-796-8639

CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Tutors as well as additional services for academic success can be accessed here by calling the number below. Our Hillsdale representative is Sue Skiendziel and she can be reached by emailing SkiendzSueE@jccmi.edu

Students requiring special assistance, including those affected by the **Americans with Disabilities Act**, should contact the Center for Student Success **immediately**. This is the first step in acquiring the appropriate accommodations to best facilitate learning.

Their website is http://www.jccmi.edu/success/
Their phone is 517-796-8415

PARTICIPATION & ATTENDANCE POLICY

Your success will depend upon your participation in class, time spent completing assignments, time practicing on the computer, and utilizing opportunities to work with peers. Attendance will be reported periodically to the Registrar's Office during weeks 2, 4, and 7 in the following form:

- H – the student is not doing acceptable work and needs "HELP" to be successful.
- Q – the student has not participated/attended and the instructor believes the student has unofficially withdrawn or "QUIT" the class. (***Applied if 2 classes in a row are missed***).
- V – the student is "VERIFIED" by participating/attending class and doing acceptable work.

Remember if you miss two class sessions in a row without informing the instructor during that time period you WILL be given a Q and thereby withdrawn from the class. Ultimately, it is your responsibility to withdraw from the course. Speak with or contact the instructor first if you are considering a withdrawal from class.

WITHDRAWAL

Because courses vary in length, it is critical that you check the last day to drop or withdraw by going to the following site located in **Student Services** and then **Registration & Records** http://www.jccmi.edu/studentservices/registration/canceled_drops_withdraws.htm If you receive financial aid, call 517-796-8410 to discuss the impact of dropping or withdrawing.

Students who stop attending class without completing a withdrawal form will receive a grade of 0.0 from the instructor. It is ***your responsibility*** to withdraw from a course. You should initiate a withdrawal at the main campus Registrar's Office or at any JCC center if you cannot complete the course. You should also contact the instructor when considering a withdrawal.

INCOMPLETE

No incomplete grades will be given in this class except under extenuating circumstances and ***only if*** the student has completed at least ***75% of the work and has a grade of at least 2.0*** in the course. The grade of "I" is not awarded to students who did not attend, or seldom attended, or to those who simply are not pleased with their final grades. Students receiving an "I" submit only the remaining work that was not completed at the end of the semester; students ***do not*** redo work that was already graded.

AUDITS

Students who do not wish to receive a grade from the course may opt for an "audit," which means they will not receive a grade. They may turn in their work and take tests for evaluation. Students who sign up to "audit" and now with to receive a grade must contact the Registrar's Office at main campus or personnel at the extension centers ***by the drop/add date***.

JETNET COURSE PAGE

Each week our JetNet course page will be updated Fridays before our class session begins to reflect the most recent materials, assignments, and due dates. Additionally, some of your assignments will be uploaded here to the appropriately labeled links such as your Artist's Reports. Each link is titled with the name of the work that is due as well as the due date. Remember that ***all work*** must be submitted ***before*** its due date; one minute late is still late and will incur the previously detailed late policy.

ARTIST'S REPORTS

There will be four Artist's Reports due throughout the semester. Papers should be about a photographer or a photographic technique that interests you and 1-2 pages long, 12pt Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with a works cited page. Not a bibliography of that person, but what you learned and liked about their work.

Two reports will be from a web site, and two from a book of a photographer. No Wikipedia allowed. No exceptions! All papers should be complete sentences and free of grammatical and syntax errors. *Get a library card now*, if you do not already have one.

PHOTOGRAPHS [NO FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY PERMITTED]

A total of 20 – 8x10 photographs will be submitted throughout the semester as your best representations of various techniques and styles. Remember, there is ***no flash photography permitted*** with any of the photographs you submit. The categories include:

1. Self-Portrait
2. Street
3. Close-up or macro
4. Architecture
5. Action
6. Performance
7. Landscape
8. Documentary
9. Humorous
10. Still Life
11. Mood or Emotions
12. Nature
13. Abstract
14. Extreme Vantage Point
15. Night Life
16. Conceptual
17. Creative Editing
18. Dramatic Lighting
19. Composite Two or More Images
20. Your Original Creative Idea

FINAL PORTFOLIO

This will include your titled, 20 – 8x10 photograph assignments presented in a presentation folio and organized in a specific manner to demonstrate what you have focused on during the semester or in another manner you will explain.

In a final reflection report you must discuss why and how you photographed each assignment. Demonstrate that you know the photographic terminology and what artist inspires you to support what you have created during the semester.

LATE POLICY

All of the work for class is posted in JetNet. Generally, each assignment is due **one week** after assigned unless otherwise noted. Any work submitted after the due date (***for any reason – even technical difficulties***) will be accepted with a ***50% deduction***.

You are responsible for making sure the schedule in JetNet is followed ***even when being absent from class***. *There is no makeup work when missing a class*; the work in this class builds upon previous assignments and must be completed in a timely manner. Any work turned in after the deadline even when you are absent from a class session will be treated as late.

The only exception to the late policy is the final for class, which is due the last day of class and therefore cannot be accepted late for any reason.

COPYRIGHT GUIDELINES

Feel free to visit a website of interest, but *do not upload any copyrighted material in JetNet –* anything from an article to a cartoon – *without the written permission of the copyright owner.* You must *always credit* the author or artist *at all times!*

ACADEMIC HONESTY & CONSEQUENCES

Academic honesty is expected of all students. It is the ethical behavior that includes producing their own work and not representing others' work as their own, either by plagiarism, infringing on another's copyrighted material, by cheating, or by helping others to do so. Please refer to the Student Handbook for Student Rights and Responsibilities. This information can also be found online by going to either of the following websites:

- http://www.jccmi.edu/studentlife/handbook
- http://www.jccmi.edu/policies/StudentServices/Policies/2701.pdf
- http://www.jccmi.edu/policies/Academics/Policies/1004.pdf

Anyone caught cheating on an assignment or exam will receive a zero for that project. If caught cheating more than once, the student will receive a zero for the class. This includes any student who attempts to submit work that belongs to someone else – such as copyright material or that of another student – as his/her own.

All academic honesty violations will be reported to the Dean of Occupational Education. While JCC encourages students to collaborate in study groups, work teams, and with lab partners, each student must take responsibility for accurately representing his/her own contribution.

GRADING PROCEDURE & SCALE

You can determine your grade at any point by taking the total amount of points earned and dividing this number by the total amount of points possible at that time in the semester. Grades will be posted to JetNet for you to keep track of and check up on your progress in the course.

Make sure to write down what you earn in the space provided below to assist you in knowing your current grade status for the class.

GRADING SCALE			COURSE WORK [tentative and subject to change with prior notice given]		
Points	**Percent**	**Grade**	**Assignment**	**Points Possible**	**Your Points**
940-1000	94-100%	4.0	Weekly Activities	100 points total	
880-939	88- 93%	3.5	Artist Report Presentation	50 points total	
820-879	82- 87%	3.0	4 Artist's Reports	400 points total	
760-819	76- 81%	2.5			
700-759	70- 75%	2.0			
640-699	64- 69%	1.5	20 Photographs with Draft Images	200 points total	
580-639	58- 63%	1.0			
520-579	52- 57%	0.5	Final Portfolio+Report	250 points total	
0-519	0-51%	0.0	**OVERALL TOTAL**	**1000 points**	

CRITIQUE GUIDELINES

These critiques are opportunities for you to listen objectively to your peers, be open minded, and learn. Ask the artist questions to find out more. Use the following during the critique:

- **Does the image have impact?** You love the image "just because"
- **Subject matter in focus?** Using different depth of field can make a background out of focus or to see to infinity (as long as the main subject is in focus).
- **Does the image tell a story or is it documentary**? Is it posed? Or un-posed?
- **Rules of composition?** Rule of thirds? Leading lines, vantage point, balance, unity, or emphasis used?
- **Color and contrast?** Is the image white balanced? Is the print's color vibrant or monochromatic? On purpose? Did the artist use complimentary colors? Or use the background to compliment the color of the main subject?
- **Is the image correctly lit?** Is the light illuminating the subject properly? Are there harsh shadows? Is exposure off (blasted out highlights or is there detail in shadows?)
- **Overall print quality** – Is the print too blue or yellow? Is the print pixilated? Is it even tones?
- **Perspective** – How is the relative space and size of your subject in relation to the final outcome of your print? Does the image exhibit depth? Are there converging lines that meet?
- **Creativity** – Is the print creative in positioning, lighting, or in Photoshop that is imaginative?

CLASSROOM POLICY & ETIQUETTE

Be respectful to the instructor as well as to your peers. This is a learning community – and all members will learn something – so being positive and encouraging others will create the most productive, safe, and friendly environment. Any behavior considered to be disruptive, disrespectful, inappropriate, or threatening will be addressed by the instructor and/or security and/or the Dean of Students. Consequences may involve deduction of points/grade and/or may include removal from the class.

Despite this course being held within a computer lab this is NOT the time to hold conversations either by voice or texting over the phone or other electronic devices. All phones should be turned off OR placed on vibrate mode during every class session. If a call must be made or taken you must wait for an appropriate portion of the lesson and quietly move out into the hallway to quickly complete this outside communication.

During class time all computer use must be related to the academic tasks at hand. The focus of class time is the completion of our daily projects in order to keep all students appropriately on course. By using sites during class that include, but are not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, ESPN, or Yahoo Chat, you will miss valuable instructions, assistance, and opportunities to complete work before the due date. These distractions can detrimentally lower single assignment grades and your overall grade in the course.

CAVEAT

There may be things that would require revisions to the syllabus or calendar. For example, severe weather, causing cancellation of classes or instructor illness causing changes in the calendar. Other events may affect the course calendar including typing errors or a due date that must be changed. In any case, the entire class will be notified as soon as possible of any changes to the syllabus or calendar.