

PHOT 180
Photography 1
8 Weeks -Three (3) Credits

Course Description:

This is an introductory level photography course in which students will learn the basics in photography and how to use a DSLR camera. This class will cover all aspects of the camera from shutter speed and aperture to all of the buttons, dials, and menus. Students will also learn basics visual communication, an intro to 2D design, and “seeing” creatively.

Pre-/Co Requisites:

None

Course times:

M,W 1:00 – 3:30 pm

Studio times:

By appointment, see schedule on door

Room number:

NCS 104

Instructor:

Clint Saunders

Office number:

NCS 104

Office Hours:

Available during all studio hours

Phone:

307-702-1368

Email:

clint.saunders@dakotacollege.edu

Text:

None

General Education Objectives

1. Use techniques to create original photographs
2. Possess a base knowledge of art forms
3. Use base knowledge to critique photographic works

4. Evaluate relationships of content and form in a photograph

Course Objectives:

1. To learn all camera functions of a DSLR camera
2. To apply critical thinking to exposure problems
3. To get basic understanding of composition and design
4. To learn basics in how to communicate visually

Relationship to Campus Theme:

This course addresses the campus theme by having students compare and contrast traditional film methods in photography with current digital technologies while anticipating future changes in photographic technologies.

Classroom Policies:

1. Cell phones and related devices are prohibited in the classroom at all times. You have the option of keeping them turned off or leaving them at home.
2. The internet in the classroom will be used for educational purposes only. Do not use the internet for Facebook, instant messaging, or any other similar websites during class time.
3. Food and beverages are permitted in accordance with IVN classroom policy.
4. Be respectful of other students, technicians, instructors, and guests.

Academic Integrity:

All students are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity. Dishonesty in the classroom or studio and with assignments, quizzes, exams, and papers is a serious offense and is subject to disciplinary action by the instructor and college administration. For more information refer to the Student Handbook. Please note that I have a ZERO tolerance policy for cheating, plagiarism, and copyright violations.

Disabilities and Special Needs:

If you have a disability for which you are, or may be, requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact your instructor and Jan Nahinurk in the Learning Center (228-5479) as early as possible during the beginning of the semester.

Grading Philosophy:

Please understand that I do not care about your grades, I care about your education. My job is to teach you, your job is to learn what I teach you, and hopefully more. If we both do our jobs, grades shouldn't be necessary.

An instructor once said to me, “if you do everything that is expected of you in this class, then you will earn a “C”. Because only doing what is expected is average, and a “C” represents an average grade. If you want a “B,” do more than is expected, if you want an “A,” do a lot more than is expected.”

I embraced this philosophy as a student and discovered something amazing. When I did more than what was expected, I learned more, and when I did a lot more than was expected, I learned a lot more. Amazing huh?

Because of my philosophies on grading, I allow you to re-do any assignment at any time during the semester for a better grade. However, the best way to succeed in my class is to not focus on - “what’s my grade” - and instead focus on - “how much can I learn.” If you embrace this, you won’t be re-doing assignments for grades, you’ll be re-doing them in order to learn, and the grade will become secondary as well as take care of itself.

Grading Scale:

A (90 – 100%) B (80 – 89%) C (70 – 79%) D (60 – 69%) F (below 60%)

Attendance:

If you aren’t in class, you aren’t learning the material. Don’t miss class! And, don’t be tardy! Being late or being on time is nothing more than a habit. If you are in the habit of being late, this will be a good time to work on changing that habit to one of being on time. In the career field, being late is a just cause for firing employees, so if you are in the habit of being late, then you can use this class as an opportunity to work on changing that habit. However, I’d rather you were late, than miss class, so if you are running late, please come in quietly and take your seat.

Critiques:

Critiques are a crucial part of learning. During critiques, the instructor and students will offer feedback on your work. The following rules apply to critiques.

1. Be respectful!
2. Give positive and negative feedback. Positive feedback is important to learn what is working and to build confidence. Negative feedback is important because we cannot improve without it. All negative feedback should be as constructive as possible.
3. When receiving a critique, keep an open mind and don’t get defensive. Remember, no one is attacking you or your work. The goal is to learn. You cannot learn with a closed mind or defensive attitude.

Photography Program Internship/Field Study Guidelines (Practicum)

- Student's in Dakota College at Bottineau's (DCB) photography classes will do internship or field study experiences as part of their educational training. These applied experiences will help them to be "job ready" when they enter the profession. The classes for which internship or field study instruction will be provided are as follows:

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PHOTO 235

PHOTO 190

PHOTO 240

PHOTO 200

PHOTO 250

PHOTO 210

PHOTO 270

PHOTO 292

PHOTO 289

PHOTO 232

- The DCB photography program will not assertively or opportunistically promote its services outside of the campus environment in order to not be in competition with the private sector. The program will take measures that will help prevent it from requisitioning work otherwise accomplished by persons in the profession.
- Pictures taken by photography students as part of their course of study will not belong to them. Ownership rights will lie with the parties for whom the photographs have been taken. Students will sign a waiver stating that the product of their internship or field study photography work belongs to the subjects of the photos or to their representatives.
- All revenue generated by students' internship or field study experiences will be invested back into the program to cover operation and equipment costs. Dakota College students, instructors, or staff will gain no monetary benefit from their participation.
- Students participating in an internship or field study exercise will be supervised and provided guidance by their instructor and advisor. No applied training event will be approved that does not have proper authorization from the photography program's instructor/advisor. However, although the students will be taught and directed by the institution, the actual engagement in the educational experience may or may not be done under direct supervision of their instructor.
- Transportation to the locations where the photos will be taken will not be provided by the institution.

Disclaimer Statement:

The instructor of this course reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus without prior notice.

Tentative Course Outline:

Week 1 – Introduction, What is a Camera and Exposure

- Digital VS Film
- What is a Camera
- Shutter Speed
- Aperture
- Visual communication

Week 2 - 3 – Shooting on Manual

- ISO
- Shooting on Full Manual
- Visual communication

Week 4 - Lenses, Filters, Settings

- Lenses
- Filters
- Misc. Settings
- Visual communication

Week 5 – Settings, Capture Modes

- More Misc. Settings
- RAW vs JPG
- Visual communication

Week 6 - 8 - Composition and Design

- Composition
- 2D Design for photography
- Visual communication