

San Dieguito Academy

Digital Photography COURSE OUTLINE

Course Title: Digital Photography

Course Number: K7660

Recommended prerequisite: none

Graduation requirement: Practical Art/Elective

A-G: College-Preparatory Elective (G)

Catalog Description:

Welcome to the magical world of digital imaging! In this class we create works of art using the tools of digital photography: digital SLR cameras, computers, Adobe Photoshop, and inkjet printers. We will learn how to see and create by studying past masters of photography and their techniques, by evaluating our own work and the work of our classmates, and by connecting our unique vision to culture and history. We work on project-based, interpretative assignments in a creative environment to refine our own artistic expressions.

Methods of Instruction:

Methods of Instruction may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Lecture/Lab
 2. Demonstration
 3. Observation
 4. Practicum
 5. Guest Speakers
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1. **Introduction to course**
 2. **Copyright, ethics, freedom of expression vs ethical responsibilities as an artist.**
 - a. Copyright Research
 - b. Shepherd Fairey vs. Associated Press
 - c. Ethics - Photo Retouching, When is it appropriate? When does it go too far?
 3. **Art Concepts-** (Elements & Principles, Photo techniques & terms)
 - a. Research an Element of Art, Principle of Design or Photo Compositional Technique, and create a presentation on a topic to present to class.
 - b. Elements & Principles Quiz
 4. **Learning your Camera**
 - a. Camera Anatomy
 - b. Camera Menu
 - c. Shooting Modes
 - d. Shutter Speed
 - e. Aperture
 - f. ISO
 - g. White Balance
 - h. Light meter & Exposure Compensation
 - i. Focal Length
 5. **Adobe Lightroom CC Setup & Library**

- a. Photo Vault
 - b. Metadata Preset
 - c. Organization
 - d. Importing
6. **Digital File Management**
- a. File Format (JPG, RAW)
 - b. Resolution
 - c. File Organization
 - d. Back-up
7. **Photo Assignment: Photography Techniques-** examples of each technique, complete self-evaluation, turn files into 'common drive', and present images digitally during class critique.
- a. Vertical Orientation
 - b. Framing: Tight, Wide, Object as a Frame
 - c. Vantage Point: Bird's Eye & Ant's Eye
 - d. Rule of Thirds
 - e. Reflection
 - f. Silhouette
 - g. Fill-Flash
8. **Adobe Lightroom CC (Intro)**
- a. Histogram
 - b. Basic Adjustments
 - c. Presets
 - d. History
 - e. Collections
 - f. Export files (jpg vs tiff vs psd)
9. **Photo Assignment: Abstract Photography-** submit two final images of abstract photography, digital contact sheet of 40 images minimum, turn files into 'common drive', self-evaluation, and present images digitally during class critique.
- a. Masters of Abstract Assignment
 - b. Photos- Focusing on Depth of Field & Framing to remove context
 - c. Adobe Lightroom CC Develop (Cont.)
 - (1) Presets
 - (2) Black & White Editing
 - (3) Tone Curve
 - (4) Detail
10. **Photo Assignment: Time & Motion-** submit 2 final images of time & motion photography (stop action, blurred action or sequence), digital contact sheet of 40 images minimum, turn files into 'common drive', self-evaluation, and present images during class critique.
- a. Masters of Time & Motion Assignment
 - b. Photos- Focusing on Shutter Speed, tripod & composition techniques
 - c. Adobe Lightroom CC – Develop Adv. tools- spot removal, adjustment brush, graduated filter & radial filter
11. **Photo Assignment: Greeting Cards-** create a professional looking photographic image for a greeting card.

- a. Lightroom Crop tool 5x7 (constrained vs not)
 - b. Edit in Photoshop CC
 - c. Text tool, Rulers & Guides
 - d. Save in Photoshop to Lightroom location
 - e. Export from Lightroom to specific size & resolution
12. **Photo Assignment: Adjectives**- submit two final images that express the selected adjectives, digital contact sheet of 40 images minimum, turn files into 'common drive', self-evaluation, and present digital images during class critique.
- a. Masters of Adjectives Assignment
 - b. Photos- Focusing on Manual Exposure, Lighting & Elements and Principles
13. **Digital Photography Midterm**- Practical Exam
- a. Using only 1 exposure, create a well exposed, focused & composed image that shows what you have learned so far this year. If the image is deleted, you fail.
 - b. Complete evaluation on steps leading up to pressing the shutter button and explain how you chose your settings.
 - c. After uploading image, complete self-evaluation discussing the following: Why would you consider your image 'fine art,' use photography and art vocabulary? What did you do well? Did you make any mistakes and if so how would you fix them?
14. **Advanced Lightroom Techniques**
- a. Spot Removal
 - b. Graduated Filter
 - c. Radial Filter
 - d. Adjustment Brush
 - e. Lens Correction
 - f. Effects
15. **Photoshop Techniques**
- a. Levels
 - b. Curves
 - c. Retouching Tools- Healing Brush, Clone Stamp, Patch Tool
 - d. Layer Masks
 - e. Complete a Photoshop tutorial from teacher provided list
16. **Photo Assignment: Surrealism (Photoshop)** - submit one original surreal photo composite that utilizes several Photoshop techniques, turn files into 'common drive', self-evaluation, and present image during class critique.
- a. Masters of Surrealism Assignment
 - b. Photos- Focus on planning a conceptual photo, matching lights & angles, Photoshop composite techniques
 - c. Photoshop Techniques- Layer Mask, Levels, Curves
17. **Photo Assignment: Non-Literal Self Portraits**- submit two final images of non-literal self portrait photography (signature, projection, self-study, fantasy), digital contact sheet of 40 images minimum, turn files into 'common drive', self-evaluation, and present images during class critique.
- a. Masters of Self-Portraiture Assignment
 - b. Photos- Focus on planning a conceptual photo, applying previous techniques, taking self-portrait image
 - c. Photoshop Techniques- portrait retouching & non-destructive adjustments

18. **Photo Assignment: Studio Portrait** – submit one retouched/edited image of a studio light portrait, digital contact sheet of 15 images minimum, turn files into ‘common drive’, self-evaluation, and present images during class critique
 - a. Photo Techniques- use incident light meter, set up studio mono lights, create traditional lights on portrait subject (side, Rembrandt, loop, butterfly), practice posing techniques
 - b. Photoshop Techniques- portrait retouching
19. **Photo Assignment: Non-Literal Portraits** - submit one retouched/edited image of non-literal portrait photography (signature, projection, self-study, fantasy), digital contact sheet of 40 images minimum, turn files into ‘common drive’, self-evaluation, and present images during class critique
 - a. Masters of Portraiture Assignment
 - b. Photos- Focus on planning a conceptual photo, applying previous techniques and working with a client
 - c. Photoshop Techniques- portrait retouching & raw processing
20. **Photo Assignment: Triptych/Series** - submit one edited triptych or series photograph; turn file into ‘common drive’, self-evaluation, and present images during class critique.
 - a. Masters of Triptych/Series Assignment
 - b. Photos- Focus on planning a conceptual series & applying previous techniques
 - c. Photoshop Techniques- Creating a triptych or series in Photoshop
21. **Photo Assignment: Word & Image**- submit one edited image that incorporates word and image, self-evaluation, and present images during class critique.
 - a. Masters of Word & Image Assignment
 - b. Photos- Focus on planning a conceptual series & applying previous techniques
22. **Printing & Presentation:** Prepare your images for the ‘Celebration of the Arts’ and ‘San Diego County Fair’
 - a. Color Management & Printer Profiles
 - b. Matting and mounting
 - c. Show & Contest presentation rules
23. **Career**
 - a. Photographic Genres & Careers in Photography Peer Presentation
 - b. Resume
 - c. Professional Website (About, Portfolio, Contact)
24. **Photo Assignment: Final Project** - submit one retouched/edited image of the student’s choice, digital contact sheet of 40 images minimum, turn files into ‘common drive’, turn files into ‘common drive’, self-evaluation, and present images during final class critique.
 - a. Photos- Focus on planning a self-directed photo/project, applying previous techniques.
 - b. Photoshop Techniques- utilize previous techniques, possibly apply new techniques learned for this project (tutorials/teacher assistance).

Textbooks/Resources:

May Include Textbooks, Manuals, Online articles, Periodicals, Software, and Other Resources

Suggested Reading:

"Digital Photography Best Practices and Workflow Handbook: A Guide to Staying Ahead of the Workflow Curve", Russotti, Patricia; Paperback; Focal Press, ASMP.

Photo District News.

Outside Assignments:

Students will be given the opportunity to take the techniques they have learned in class and apply them on their own outside of the classroom setting.

Critical Thinking:

Assignments will be given simulating a real world commissioned shooting job. The student must analyze and formulate image ideas that fulfill the client's needs. The shooting set will be prepared and the shots taken. The cost of the job will be assessed and an invoice prepared.

Required Writing:

On each assignment, the student is required to create a sketch. They write a reflection to post along with their images on their website, reflecting on problems incurred, evaluation of process, techniques, and finished result.

Methods of Assessment:

Methods of Assessment may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Exams/Tests
- Portfolios
- Papers
- Projects
- Class Participation
- Class Work
- Presentations

Is Course Repeatable for Reason(s) Other Than Deficient Grade? Yes

Contact Person: Laura Olden