

## **Digital Photography I: Creating Images with Impact!**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

#### **Digital Photography I: Creating Images with Impact!**

Have you ever wondered how photographers take such great pictures? Have you tried to take photographs and wondered why they didn't seem to capture that moment that you saw with your eyes? The Digital Photography I course focuses on the basics of photography, including building an understanding of aperture, shutter speed, lighting, and composition. Students will be introduced to the history of photography and basic camera functions. Students will use the basic techniques of composition and camera functions to build a portfolio of images, capturing people, landscapes, close-up, and action photographs.

### **COURSE METHODOLOGY**

- This is an inquiry-based course. Students will generate knowledge through online readings, asynchronous discussions with students and their instructor, interactions with online tutorials, and online and hands-on simulations.
- The instructor will act as a guide, a facilitator, an events planner, and a resource advisor. He/she will always be available through course message.
- The student must actively construct and acquire knowledge by being intrinsically motivated to succeed. To succeed, students must participate and complete all readings and activities. This course requires the student's active participation.
- Both formal and informal assessment methods will be used in the course. Informal assessment will include an evaluation of the quality and timeliness of participation in class activities. Formal assessment may include multiple-choice quizzes, tests, discussion board participation, and written assignments. A final exam will be given at the end of the course.

### **COURSE PARTICIPATION OBJECTIVES**

This course for which you are registered is a college preparatory, academically rigorous course that covers an entire semester's worth of material. As such, it is important that you adhere to the following guidelines as you manage your time and commit to successfully completing all required coursework:

1. The requirements for this course are equivalent to completion of minimum of 90+ hours of class instruction at a traditional on-site high school
2. Assignments must be submitted for each unit as they are completed so that the teacher may review and assess your performance. Do not hold your work, you must submit each unit's homework as it is completed, demonstrating weekly assignment completions
3. You must log in regularly to your course to demonstrate continued participation, and completion of all course requirements, including assignments, assessments and discussion forums
4. You must complete your individual work and any incident of suspected cheating, plagiarism or collaboration on assignments violates the academic integrity expectations outlined at the time of your enrollment and can result in failure of the course or further action as deemed appropriate

### **Citizenship**

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner that reflects sound ethics, honor, and good citizenship. It is the student's responsibility to maintain academic honesty and integrity and to manifest their commitment to the goals of NUVHS through their conduct and behavior. Students are expected to abide by all NUVHS policies and regulations. Any form of academic dishonesty, or inappropriate conduct by students or applicants may result in penalties ranging from warning to dismissal, as deemed appropriate by NUVHS.

### **Communication**

Throughout this course students will need to be in close contact with their instructor and fellow students. Students are expected to communicate via course message and electronic discussion boards. Therefore, students should plan on checking their course messages at least three times a week and participate in the discussion boards during the weeks they are live.

Instructors strongly encourage and welcome open communication. Clear, consistent, and proactive communication will ensure a successful experience in this course. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor immediately if and when a personal situation occurs that affects his/her performance in this class. Being proactive with communication will result in a quick solution to any problems that may occur.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Unit 1 Part 1: Introduction to Photography**

In this unit, we will examine the basic operation of cameras and how images are created on film or through a digital sensor. We will learn more about some of the different types of cameras and the differences in operation between these types. In addition, we will discuss basic photography terminology and examine the basic features that appear in many cameras today.

**Learning Objectives**

- Discuss how cameras work.
- Learn what happens inside the camera when you take a picture.
- Investigate how an image is created by the camera.
- Learn some of the basic photography and camera terminology.
- Examine how to construct a simple pinhole camera home.

**Activities**

Unit 1 Part 1 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 1 Part 1 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 1 Part 1 Photography Assignment	Homework	15 points
Unit 1 Part 1 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 1 Part 1 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 1 Part 1 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

### **Unit 1 Part 2: The History of Photography**

In this unit, we will explore the history of photography and the people who have made an impact on the technology and development of photography. In doing so, we will consider some of the basic elements of photography that were known before cameras were developed and discuss how these elements came together in the nineteenth century to create photographs. We will look at some of the developments that occurred throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and how these developments shaped the ways that cameras worked and photography in general. Finally, we will explore the changing world of stock photography.

#### **Learning Objectives**

- Learn about pinhole cameras and how they were used before modern photography.
- Discuss the development of the first camera in the early nineteenth century.
- Investigate some of the advances that were made to cameras and photograph production through the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.
- Examine the development of digital cameras.
- Discuss the changes in the stock image industry.

#### **Activities**

Unit 1 Part 2 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 1 Part 2 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 1 Part 2 Photography Assignment	Homework	15 points
Unit 1 Part 2 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 1 Part 2 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 1 Part 2 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

## Unit 2: Aperture and Shutter Speed

In this unit, we will discuss the use of aperture and shutter speed settings. We will learn how these settings are measured and how changing these measurements can change the photograph. We will discuss how these settings influence each other. We will also discuss some of the common camera modes and examine how the aperture and shutter speeds are set in these modes. Finally, we'll examine how aperture and shutter speed can be used to create nighttime photographs.

### Learning Objectives

- Understand aperture and shutter speed.
- Discuss how different aperture and shutter speed settings can influence a photograph.
- Examine how aperture and shutter speed settings influence each other.
- Investigate some of the common camera modes.
- Discuss how aperture and shutter speed can be used to create nighttime photographs.

### Activities

Unit 2 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 2 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 2 Photography Assignment	Homework	15 points
Unit 2 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 2 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 2 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

### **Unit 3: Composition**

In this unit, we will discuss some of the guidelines and “rules” for composition in photography. We will discuss guidelines such as the “Rule of Thirds,” framing, and active space, among other composition tips. We will address each of the guidelines and when they are most useful for photographers. We will also examine instances where breaking the rules will result in a better photograph.

### **Learning Objectives**

- Discuss composition and how it applies to photographs.
- Examine some of the common “rules” of photography composition.
- Investigate how the “rules” can improve photographs.
- Discuss how and when to break the “rules” of photography composition.

### **Activities**

Unit 3 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 3 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 3 Photography Assignment	Homework	15 points
Unit 3 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 3 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 3 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

### **Unit 4: Lighting**

In this unit, we will discuss lighting in photography and why it is important to pay close attention to this element. We will consider both natural lighting and artificial lighting, including some of the advantages and disadvantages of both. We will discuss how the direction of light on the subject and the time of day can affect the lighting of outdoor photographs. We will also learn more about the lighting equipment that studio photographers use.

### **Learning Objectives**

- Discuss the importance of light when taking photographs.
- Examine the advantages and disadvantages of natural and artificial lighting.
- Investigate some tips and techniques for using light in outdoor photographs.
- Learn about the lighting equipment and accessories for studio photography.
- Discuss some tips and techniques for studio lighting.

### **Activities**

Unit 4 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 4 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 4 Photography Assignment	Homework	15 points
Unit 4 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 4 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 4 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

#### **Unit 4: Lighting (Continued)**

##### **Midterm Exam Objectives**

- Review information acquired and mastered from this course up to this point.
- Take a course exam based on material from the first four units in this course (Note: You will be able to open this exam only one time.)

##### **Midterm Exam Activities**

Midterm Discussion	Discussion	5 points
Midterm Exam	Exam	50 points



### Unit 5 Part I: Special Techniques

In this unit, we will discuss special techniques that can be used to create dramatic photographs. We will examine the use of filters and how these camera accessories can be used to change a photograph and enhance the colors. We will also investigate the traditional black and white photograph, looking at some of the techniques that increase the dramatic feel of black and white photography.

#### Learning Objectives

- Discuss the use of filters in photography.
- Examine the fundamentals of black and white photography.
- Learn some tips to help improve black and white photographs.
- Investigate how to create panoramic photographs.
- Learn tips and techniques for capturing firework photographs.

#### Activities

Unit 5 Part 1 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 5 Part 1 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 5 Part 1 Photography Assignment	Homework	15 points
Unit 5 Part 1 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 5 Part 1 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 5 Part 1 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

### **Unit 5 Part 2: People**

In this unit, we will discuss photographing people. From the earliest cameras, photographers have tried to capture the likeness and individuality of people. Today, this process is easier than ever with cameras that allow us to take multiple photographs within a short amount of time. We will discuss tips and techniques for creating portraits of individuals. We will also discuss some ways of photographing children and groups of people.

#### **Learning Objectives**

- Discuss portrait photography.
- Examine tips on taking portraits.
- Learn tips and techniques for photographing children.
- Investigate how to take group photographs.
- Discuss some of the arrangements that can be used for large group formal photographs.

#### **Activities**

Unit 5 Part 2 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 5 Part 2 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 5 Part 2 Photography Assignment	Homework	15 points
Unit 5 Part 2 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 5 Part 2 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 5 Part 2 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

### **Unit 6: Landscapes and Places**

In this unit, we will explore the area of landscape photographs. We'll discuss some general tips for photographing landscapes and examine the best ways to photograph different types of landscapes. In particular, we will look at tips and techniques to photograph forests, coasts, deserts, plains, and mountains.

#### **Learning Objectives**

- Learn about the different types of landscape photography.
- Discuss some of the challenges in taking landscape photographs.
- Examine some general tips for taking landscape photographs.
- Discuss the importance of focal points in landscape photography.
- Investigate how to approach different types of landscapes.

#### **Activities**

Unit 6 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 6 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 6 Photography Assignment	Homework	15 points
Unit 6 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 6 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 6 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

### **Unit 7: The Close-Up**

In this unit, we will examine close-up, or macro, photography. This type of photography seeks to emphasize and highlight small items and details that are often missed by the naked eye. True macro photography results in a 1:1 lifesize magnification of the object being photographed. However, there are also other ways to obtain macro-like images without spending several thousand dollars on a camera lens. We'll discuss some of the basics of macro photography, the equipment and settings that are generally used, and how to approach photographing popular macro subjects.

#### **Learning Objectives**

- Learn about macro photography.
- Discuss different equipment and accessory options to use in creating macro photographs.
- Discuss the basic techniques of macro photography.
- Investigate some popular topics for macro photography.
- Examine how best to take macro photographs of flowers and insects.

#### **Activities**

Unit 7 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 7 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 7 Photography Assignment	Homework	15 points
Unit 7 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 7 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 7 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

### **Unit 8: Documentary and Action**

In this unit, we will examine the areas of action and documentary photography. In particular, we will discuss techniques for taking sports photographs and look at the technique of panning, which is used to photograph moving objects. We will also discuss photographing animals, including pets and wildlife. Finally, we will turn our attention to a brief discussion on documentary photography and examine some tips for this area.

#### **Learning Objectives**

- Discuss tips and techniques for taking sports photographs.
- Learn the basics for the technique of panning moving subjects.
- Discuss tips on photographing pets.
- Examine wildlife photography and the basics of capturing wildlife on “film.”
- Investigate documentary photography and how best to approach this area of photography.

#### **Activities**

Unit 8 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 8 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 8 Photography Assignment	Homework	15 points
Unit 8 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 8 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 8 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

**Unit 8: Documentary and Action (Continued)**

**Final Exam Objectives**

- Review information acquired and mastered from this course up to this point.
- Take a course exam based on material from units five to eight in this course – the last four units.  
(Note: You will be able to open this exam only one time.)

**Final Exam Activities**

Class Reflection Discussion	Discussion	10 points
Final Exam	Exam	50 points

**HOW YOU WILL BE GRADED**

**For critical thinking questions**, there are no right or wrong answers. For example, a question on your thoughts on why you think people are shy is a pretty open-ended type of question. Grades will be based on the depth of personal insight you present. **Do not simply agree or disagree** with an insight question. We are looking for critical thinking and possibly a related personal experience with the question.

**It is important to provide detailed answers for insight/opinion questions.**

**For review questions**, you should be produce a more academic answer. For example, "What two categories are norms divided into?" This type of direct question requires a specific answer. Please use full sentences and proper grammar.

**When submitting paragraphs**, use these guidelines.

1. The first, second or last sentence contains the main idea and key words from the question or assigned topic.
2. Paragraph contains one to three explanatory sentences.
3. Paragraph contains two to four sentences about specific details related to question.
4. Details are colorful, interesting and appropriate.
5. Paragraph ends with a good closing sentence that refers to the main idea without repeating it.
6. Free of spelling and grammatical errors.

**GRADE SCALE**

The following grading scale will be used to determine your final letter grade.

Letter Grade	Percentage Earned
A	95%+
A-	90% - 94.9%
B+	87% - 89.9%
B	84% - 86.9%
B-	80% - 83.9%
C+	77% - 79.9%
C	74% - 76.9%
C-	70% - 73.9%
D+	67% - 69.9%
D	64% - 66.9%
D -	60% - 63.9%
F	59% and lower

## **SUPPORT**

At NUVHS you will have access to multiple support teams. Who you contact will depend on the questions you have. Always start by contacting your teacher through the Message Center in the course. Your teacher should be able to answer your question, but if they can't, then they will direct you to another support team. If you have questions about any of the course content, your grades, or course policies, you should contact your instructor.

For questions about your enrollment, transcripts, or general school-wide policies, you can contact **NUVHS Student Services** at [info@nuvhs.org](mailto:info@nuvhs.org) or by phone at 866.366.8847. For example, if you would like to withdraw from your course, you should contact Student Services. Please note that a refund for your course can only be obtained if you drop within the first seven days of enrolling in the course.

For help with login/password issues, or other technical issues specific to the Blackboard website, you can contact the team at [National University Blackboard Learn](#). They can also be reached by phone at (888) 892-9095.

## **EXPECTED SCHOOL-WIDE LEARNING RESULTS (ESLRs)**

### **Engaged Learners**

- Demonstrate self-directed learning skills such as time management, and personal responsibility through the completion of course requirements
- Develop an understanding of their own preferred learning styles to enhance their overall academic potential
- Incorporate effective and relevant internet and multimedia resources in their learning process to broaden their knowledge base

### **Critical Thinkers**

- Effectively analyze and articulate sound opinions on a variety of complex concepts
- Illustrate a variety of problem-solving strategies that strengthen college preparation and workforce readiness
- Formulate a framework for applying a variety of technology and internet-based research to enhance information literacy and collaborative thinking

### **Effective Communicators**

- Demonstrate awareness and sensitivity to tone and voice in multiple forms of communication
- Express concepts and ideas in a variety of forms
- Enhance communication skills through the use of media rich or other technology resources



**Global Citizens**

- Appreciate the value of diversity
- Understand the range of local and international issues facing today's global community
- Demonstrate awareness of the importance of cultural sensitivity and social responsibility in the 21st century