

PELLISSIPPI STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MASTER SYLLABUS

**PHOTOJOURNALISM  
PHO 2400**

**Class Hours: 3.0**

**Credit Hours: 3.0**

**Lab Hours: 0.0**

**Revised: Spring 2011**

NOTE: This course is not designed for transfer credit.

**Catalog Course Description:**

A study of the methods and techniques of photojournalism as found in contemporary publications such as newspapers, magazines, and corporate publications. Topics include spot news, events, sports, features, environmental portraiture, photo essays, and professional practices.

**Entry Level Standards:**

Proficiency with the 35mm single lens reflex camera and dedicated TTL flash.

**Prerequisites:**

PHO 1100 and 1890

**Corequisites:**

NONE

**Textbook(s) and Other Course Materials:**

**Text:** No textbook required

**Equipment:** Digital SLR camera (Single Lens Reflex) with light meter, adjustable aperture, and shutter speeds.

Dedicated electronic flash

2- USB flash drives (each 4 GB or greater) or 15+ CDs (instructor's choice) for handing in assignments

**I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Intro, captions, publication requirements, Photoshop, deadlines, ethics, lighting, making something out of nothing visual, <b><u>portrait</u></b>
2	Feature, <b><u>occupational feature</u></b>
3	Feature, photo story, <b><u>find a feature</u></b>
4	Feature, <b><u>feature</u></b>
5	Feature, photo story ideas due, <b><u>music/arts</u></b>

- 6 Sports, sports action/feature
- 7 Sports field trip, sports action/feature
- 8 Photographers, favorite photos
- 9 Portrait
- 10 Photo story due
- 11 News, current event
- 12 News, current event
- 13 Illustrations
- 14 Multimedia, new media, portfolio
- 15 FINALS WEEK- PORTFOLIO REVIEW

**II. Course Goals\*:**

The course will:

- A. Enable students to demonstrate proficiency with the DSLR camera system as used in photojournalism. II.
- B. Enable students to understand techniques for photographing in difficult situations. II
- C. Enable students to understand techniques for photographing spot news, events, features, environmental portraiture, and sports. II. IV.
- D. Introduce visual storytelling concepts & skills in the practice of photojournalism both as an occupational discipline and as an art to the class. V.
- E. Introduce basic theories and principles related to the field of photojournalism including the role of the visual reporter in society, ethics, technique, composition, and content. V.
- F. Enable students to create a portfolio of professional quality photojournalistic photographs. I. III. VI.

\*Roman numerals after course objectives reference goals of the MDT program.

**III. Expected Student Learning Outcomes\*:**

The student will be able to:

- 1. Select appropriate equipment, materials, and techniques for a variety of subjects, situations, and publications. A. B. C
- 2. Write captions for assignments in proper AP format. E.
- 3. Present a portfolio of images from a variety of typical photojournalistic assignments. A. F.
- 4. Produce an effective, compelling photo story that covers a subject over a significant period of time and illustrates multiple facets of the story to provide more complete coverage. C. D. E.

5. Be able to produce effective, technically competent photographs in a variety of challenging real-world situations. A. B. C.
6. Be able understanding the legal, ethical and professional issues affecting photojournalists. D. E.

\* Capital letters after Expected Student Learning Outcomes reference the course goals listed above.

#### **IV. Evaluation:**

##### A. Testing Procedures:

N/A

##### B. Laboratory Expectations:

N/A

##### C. Field Work: 90% of grade

12 Assignments – 50 Points Each  
Photo Story – 100 Points  
Final Portfolio – 200 Points

##### D. Other Evaluation Methods: 10% of grade

Participation/attendance in class is worth 100 points.

Extra credit (50 points) will be given (one time) for any photo you make that is published in a newspaper during the semester.

#### **V. Policies:**

##### A. Attendance Policy:

Pellissippi State expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses (excluding distance learning courses) must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course. Individual departments/programs/disciplines, with the approval of the vice president of the Learning Division, may have requirements that are more stringent. In very specific circumstances, an appeal of the policy may be addressed to the head of the department in which the course was taken. If further action is warranted, the appeal may be addressed to the vice president of the Learning Division.

##### B. Academic and Classroom Misconduct:

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices:

- Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments.
- Plagiarism, including but not limited to paraphrasing, summarizing, or directly quoting published or unpublished work of another person, including online or computerized services, without proper documentation of the original source.
- Purchasing or otherwise obtaining prewritten essays, research papers, or materials prepared

by another person or agency that sells term papers or other academic materials to be presented as one's own work.

- Taking an exam for another student.
- Providing others with information and/or answers regarding exams, quizzes, homework or other classroom assignments unless explicitly authorized by the instructor.
- Any of the above occurring within the Web or distance learning environment.

C. Accommodations for disabilities:

Students who need accommodations because of a disability, have emergency medical information to share, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated should inform the instructor immediately, privately after class or in her or his office. Students must present a current accommodation plan from a staff member in Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) in order to receive accommodations in this course. Services for Students with Disabilities may be contacted by going to Goins 127, 132, 134, 135, 131 or by phone: 539-7153 or TTY 694-6429. More information is available at [www.pstcc.edu/departments/swd/](http://www.pstcc.edu/departments/swd/).

D. Other Policies:

Late assignments will be marked down two letter grades for each week that they are late.

There is a big difference between getting inspiration from or being influenced by others and stealing their intellectual property. Look at the work of other artists or media professionals for inspiration & reference, but create your own.

Use of cell phones, text messaging and unauthorized Internet use is prohibited during class. Phones should be turned off or silenced. Violation of this policy may result in ejection from the class and being marked absent. If special circumstances such as emergencies require access to these forms of electronic communication, student must seek prior authorization from the instructor.