

**PELLISSIPPI STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MASTER SYLLABUS**

**PHOTOGRAPHY I  
PHO 1000**

**Class Hours: 3.0**

**Credit Hours: 3.0**

**Laboratory Hours: 0**

**Date Revised: Fall 2016**

**Catalog Course Description:**

A beginning course in the study of photography as visual communication. Basic principles of digital photographic capture are explored, as well as composition, design elements, technical principles of photography and camera theory, and basic digital editing using Adobe Photoshop and Bridge on the Macintosh computer. Students are responsible for providing a digital camera. Photography/Media Technologies majors, along with those interested in continuing on to other Photography courses, should have a digital single-lens reflex camera (DSLR).

**Prerequisites:**

None

**Corequisites:**

None

**Textbook:**

- London & Stone- A Short Course in Digital Photography, Third Edition, Pearson, ISBN 9780205998258

**Other Course Materials:**

- Digital camera with 6 or more Megapixels (cameras on phone or digital tablet are not allowed)
- Flash memory cards with 8GB total storage.
- 2 Portable flash memory drives with 4 GB total storage each.
- 2 DVD-R
- Epson Ultra Premium Luster photo paper, Letter size (8.5 x 11), 25 sheets

**Week/Unit/Topic Basis: (Subject to change)**

1. Introduction to the course & syllabus. Camera Theory. Basic Macintosh\* use.
2. Camera Handling. Digital photography theory. Image formats and compression. CAMERA HW1.
3. Downloading and saving images. Aesthetics & Composition 1- subject, setting.
4. Aesth. & Comp 2- Design elements. Intro to Adobe Bridge. Image management/metadata. CAMERA HW2.
5. Rules of Critique. Critique and cropping. Exposure, ISO and histograms. PHOTOSHOP HW1.
6. Aesth. & Comp 3- Lighting & contrast. Adobe Camera Raw Basic Adjustments. CAMERA HW3.
7. Lenses & Focal Length. Non-destructive editing principles. PHOTOSHOP HW2.
8. Aesth. & Comp 4- Color theory. White balance, color spaces, noise reduction, sharpening. CAMERA HW4.
9. Aperture & Depth of Field. CAMERA HW5. Critique.

10. Aesthetics & Comp 5- Content, Mood, Theme. Digital printing fundamentals. PHOTOSHOP HW3.
11. Critique. Save for Web. Shutter & Motion. CAMERA HW6.
12. Discuss Final Portfolios. Critique. DSLR exercise 1. Basic image retouching. PHOTOSHOP HW4.
13. Print Evaluation. Critique.
14. DSLR exercise 2, 3.
15. Final Exam Period-Final Portfolio Presentations.

*\*Macintosh use not covered in Windows-based sections.*

### **Course Goals\*:**

*The course will:*

- A. Expand student understanding of how a camera works and the characteristics of different types of cameras. (II, IV)
- B. Describe the various parts of the camera and their functions. (II, IV)
- C. Explain the concept of “stops” and “histograms” and their role in measurement and control of light in photography. (II, IV)
- D. Train students in the basic use of Digital cameras. (II, IV)
- E. Describe the effects of different camera settings on the image. (I, II, IV)
- F. Explain how composition, quality of light, color and contrast affect the aesthetic quality of a photograph, and how these can be employed when taking photographs. (I, II, III)
- G. Help students critically evaluate one's own photographs to select the most effective images. (I, III, IV, VI)
- H. Train students in the basic use of Adobe Bridge to view and organize their images. (II, IV)
- I. Train students in the use of Adobe Photo Downloader to copy images from the media to the computer. (II, IV)
- J. Train students in the basic use of Adobe Photoshop to improve their images. (II, IV)
- K. Instruct students in the principles of photography critique and the etiquette of a classroom critique environment. (II, III, V)
- L. Introduce students to the DSLR camera. (II, IV)

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

### **Expected Student Learning Outcomes\*:**

*Students will:*

1. Create aesthetically pleasing, effective images that are properly focused and exposed. (D, E, F)
2. Identify the function of the parts of the camera and their effect upon the photograph. (A, B, C, D, E, L)
3. Understand the basic principles of shutter speed, f-stop and ISO. (C, D)
4. Select appropriate shooting mode for a variety of subject material. (B, D, E)
5. Select the camera setting that gives the desired effects. (D, L)
6. Understand the importance of non-destructive image editing, backing up work regularly and effective image management. (H, I, J)
7. Use Adobe Photoshop and Bridge to do common basic tasks. (H, I, J)
8. Select the most effective images for submission and critique. (G, H, K)
9. Create a portfolio consisting of the most effective images, covering a variety of genres, styles, content and technique. (G, H)

*\*Capital letters after Expected Student Learning Outcomes refer to course goals listed above.*

### **Evaluation**

**Testing Procedures:** 0% of grade

**Laboratory Expectations:** 0% of grade

**Field Work:** 70% of grade

- Six camera homework assignments- 7% each.
- Four Photoshop homework assignments- 7% each.

**Other Evaluation Methods:** 30% of grade

- Final portfolio- 30%
- Students will participate in critiques & class discussions, demonstrate knowledge of technical & compositional issues, and maintain a professional environment. Participation, conduct, progress and attendance will affect final grade as determined by instructor.

**Grading Scale:**

4.00-3.75=A

3.25-3.74=B+

2.75-3.24=B

2.25-2.74=C+

1.50-2.24=C

0.50-1.49=D

0.00-0.49=F

## **Policies**

**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 Academic Affairs, 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 Academic Affairs.

**Academic Dishonesty:**

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.

Please see the Pellissippi State Policies and Procedures Manual, Policy 04:02:00

Academic/Classroom Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions for the complete policy.

Accommodations for disabilities:

Students that 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 Disability Services (DS) in order to receive accommodations in this course. Disability Services may be contacted by sending email to [disabilityservices@pstcc.edu](mailto:disabilityservices@pstcc.edu), or by visiting Alexander 130. More information is available at <http://www.pstcc.edu/sswd/>