

Pellissippi State Community College  
Master Syllabus

**PHOTOJOURNALISM**  
**PHO 2400**

Class Hours: 3.0  
Laboratory Hours: 0.0

Credit Hours: 3.0  
Date Revised: Spring 2017

**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.

**Prerequisites**

PHO 1100

**Corequisites**

PHO 2010

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

- Textbooks: PHOTO JOURNALISM The Professionals' Approach by Kenneth Kobre, Sixth Edition
- Other Course Materials:
  - DSLR (Digital Single Lens Reflex) camera
  - 2 Flash memory cards with at least 4 GB total storage each.
  - Dedicated TTL flash
  - 2- USB flash drives (each 4 GB or greater) for handing in assignments
  - A tripod is optional but highly recommended

**Week/Unit/Topic Basis (*Subject to Change*)**

1. Intro, Brief history of Photojournalism
2. PSCC Press passes, flash review, fill flash, bounce flash, light modifiers, light quality
3. AP style/writing captions/Journalistic ethics and access
4. Photo Documentary, locations, subjects, guest speaker, working as a photojournalist
5. Feature story, (**Captions Quiz**)
6. A Slice of Life, lenses, filters, tripods or monopods, (**Music/Arts**)
7. Action, shutter speed or aperture priority (**Sporting event**)
8. Local/features (**Weather/Accidents/Government Meetings**)
9. Sports portrait (**Sportrait**)
10. News event coverage (**Event Shoot**)
11. Multimedia programs for presentations (**Journalism Quiz**)
12. Multimedia presentation (**Photo Documentary**)
13. Current events (**General News**)
14. Political coverage (**Political Event**)
15. Final Exam Week- Final Portfolio Review

**Course Goals**

NOTE: Roman numerals after course objectives reference goals of the MDT program.  
The course will

- A. Enable students to demonstrate proficiency with the DSLR camera system and proficiency with hot-shoe flash 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.

### **Expected Student Learning Outcomes**

NOTE: Capital letters after Expected Student Learning Outcomes reference the course goals listed above. The student will

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, multi-media photo story that covers a subject over a period of time. C, D, E
5. Illustrate multiple facets of the story to provide more complete coverage. C, D, E
6. Be able to produce effective, technically competent photographs in a variety of challenging real-world situations. A, B, C
7. Be able understand the legal, ethical and professional issues affecting photojournalists. D, E

### **Evaluation**

#### **Testing Procedures**

2 Quizzes- 75 points each

#### **Laboratory Expectations: none**

#### **Field Work**

6 assignments– 80 points each

Photo Essay Assignment–150 points

Final news portfolio–150 points

#### **Other Evaluation Methods**

Class participation, class event assignments and critique-70 points

#### **Grade Scale**

A	=1,000 to 925 points
B+	=924 to 875 points
B	=874 to 825 points
C+	=824 to 775 points
C	=774 to 725 points
D	=724 to 650 points
F	=649 & below

### **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](#) (<http://www.pstcc.edu/sswd/>) may be contacted via [Disability Services email](#) or by visiting Alexander 130.