

# 2021 - 2022 Course Syllabus

## Camera Composition: Introduction to Digital Photography

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### Course Descriptions

This cell phone Camera Composition course will help students understand the how and why behind certain photographs seemingly just “look better than others. In this class, students will learn about the art of photography and enhance their approach to photography by exploring the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design. Students will plan, create, explore, shoot, edit and critique interesting photographs.

Additionally, students will learn about the history of photography and photographic technology, and will be introduced to a number of significant, well-known photographers and their contributions to the history of photography. Students will become aware of the various careers within the field of photography and the categories of professional photography, including nature photography, commercial photography, fashion photography, sports photography, portraiture and even photography and photojournalism. By the end of this course, students will have designed and constructed a digital portfolio of their photography, which will showcase their photography assignments and allow them to observe and track their learning.



**NATIONAL CORE ARTS STANDARDS** Dance, Media Arts, Music, Theatre And Visual Arts

What Are The Standards?	Cr	Pr	Re	Cn
<p>A process that guides educators in providing a unified quality arts education for students in Pre-K through high school.</p> <p><a href="#">Read more →</a></p>	<p><b>Creating</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anchor Standard #1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.</li> <li>Anchor Standard #2. Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.</li> <li>Anchor Standard #3. Refine and complete artistic work.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Performing/ Presenting/ Producing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anchor Standard #4. Analyze, interpret, and select artistic work for presentation.</li> <li>Anchor Standard #5. Develop and refine artistic work for presentation.</li> <li>Anchor Standard #6. Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Responding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anchor Standard #7. Perceive and analyze artistic work.</li> <li>Anchor Standard #8. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.</li> <li>Anchor Standard #9. Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Connecting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anchor Standard #10. Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.</li> <li>Anchor Standard #11. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding.</li> </ul>

**Note to the students and the parents:** even though this is a beginning photography class, we study all forms of photography, which is an art form. I make every effort to make sure that the photographic subjects we examine are suitable for high school students, but while we do not study boudoir, lingerie or nude photography, it is quite possible that your

student may come across nudity or near-nudity while researching photographers or photographic genres online or in class. This is much like a walk through any museum. In the course of studying important historic photographs we will come across some that are troubling and difficult to look at. We do this because it illustrates the power of photography to tell an important story and for no other reason than that these photos of war, injustice, hardship and pain have changed lives and at times, history.

### **Course topics:**

This course will cover the following topics:

1. Define photography
2. History of photography
3. Copyrights regarding photographs
4. How to participate in a critique
5. Composition - Elements of art and design
6. Personal expression
7. Digital photography
8. Managing & editing photos using Photopea and Snapseed.
9. Commercial photography

### **Class Expectations:**

- Students are expected to respect self and others, take responsibility, be safe and caring and do your best everyday.
- Students are expected to arrive at class on time and to be prepared to work with all of the materials necessary for class. Students are encouraged to bring cellphones and laptops to class. Headphones can also be used especially during editing. Please monitor where you electronics are at all times. They are your responsibility.
- Cooperate with other students and staff to increase learning potential.
- Take part in class discussion and critiques of photos presented in class.
- Be prepared with a pen/pencil and all your photography supplies - this includes all charged electronics. It might be necessary to bring charging cords to school.
- Students are expected to keep up with assignments and effectively use all of class time.
- All work is due on the assigned due date unless special arrangements are made. It is your responsibility to make arrangements ahead of time.
- Students are expected to display their artwork. All artwork should be appropriate. Anything questionable will be referred to the administration.
- Students may be required to complete field work directly connected to curriculum work. When students use the class CC passes to do outdoor or for school community shoots, they will act in a mature manner at all times, have visible their student ID, and return to class at a specific set time. They will comply with staff if asked to show their CC pass.
- Students will care for all classroom equipment. Tampering with equipment and supplies will result in loss of privileges. There will be no food or drink allowed in class.

- Students are to avoid shooting photos in or near other classrooms so they will not disrupt the teacher and learning of others.
- Students are to use the MacBooks/Chromebooks for class work only. Inappropriate use of the laptop (game playing, google chat, other off-task use) will result in having a chat with the teacher, privately.
- If a student would like a different seating assignment, the student will ask the teacher.

### Grading Information:

**Formative assessments** will be used to help you and your teacher understand where you are in your learning and what kinds of support you need before you have a summative assessment. They include things such as observations during class and lessons, photographs, digital skills assignments, writing assignments, narrative reflections, in class work and quizzes. Students will receive feedback, formal or informal on formative assessments.

**Summative assessments** will be used to show you and the teacher the level to which you have mastered a learning target or competency. They include things such as art projects, longer writing assignments, presentations and tests.

**Final assessment** (project/exam): This will be a culmination of all core art competencies. Your grade in this class will reflect your level of mastery of the material, equipment and processes. Throughout the course this level of mastery will be evaluated through both formative and summative assessments.



**INQUISITIVE**  
Wondering & Questioning  
Exploring & investigating  
Challenging assumptions



**COLLABORATIVE**  
Co-operating appropriately  
Giving & receiving feedback  
Sharing the 'product'



**PERSISTENT**  
Sticking with difficulty  
Daring to be different  
Tolerating uncertainty



**DISCIPLINED**  
Crafting & improving  
Reflecting critically  
Developing techniques



**IMAGINATIVE**  
Using intuition  
Making connections  
Playing with possibilities

**Habits of work** Students will strive to be inquisitive, collaborative, president, deiciplines, imaginative. Please take risks and shoot lots of photographs. The more your shoot, the better your chances of finding the “perfect” photo.

Photo assignments and projects will be submitted to Google Classroom, unless instructed otherwise. Assignments and projects will be graded on their: quality, originality, relevance to the assignment, and the ability to communicate an idea or message.

**Plagiarism** (Cheating Policy) Academic honesty is a priority in my classroom. Cheating is

defined as:

- Plagiarism: copying directly or paraphrasing text, images, etc. without giving credit to the author;
- Copying or asking for answers from another student during an exam;
- Giving another student answers during an exam;
- Anyone other than the student completing the work for an assignment of the course.
- If any of these things occur, I will follow the policy set forth in the student handbook.

#### **Grading Scale Percentage = Letter Grade**

90-100 = A

80-90 = B

70-80 = C

60- 70 = D

50 - 0 = F

#### **Required Materials**

To successfully complete this course, you will need:

- Access to a fully charged cell phone
- A two pocket flashy folder
- pen/pencil - a few different colors of ink, preferred.
- Lined paper
- Textbook - Complete Digital Photography by Ben Long (this is in the classroom).
- Be present, be curious, Try, take lots of photos, experiment and have fun.

#### **Extra Help:**

If you need help with something we are doing in class, please see me before school, contact me through our Google Classroom or district email me. I am usually available before school. Also, I have found that contacting a fellow student in class for classroom assignment clarification really helps.

