

CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS
Intro to Media Photography CO/M 2355

Semester/Year: Fall 2015

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 3

Class Time: 2 to 3:50 p.m.

Days: Tuesday and Thursday

Room: KT 142

Instructor's Name: Clint Saunders

**Instructor's Contact
Information:**

Cell Phone: 307-702-1368
Office: none

Email:
clint.saunders@caspercollege.edu

Office Hours: As an adjunct instructor I do not have office hours, however I will be available any time you need help after class and by appointment.

Course Description:

This course is designed for students to gain a general understanding of digital camera operation and the development of photojournalism and its role in a visually-oriented world. Students will use either film or digital cameras for their photographs and will learn how to manipulate them in Adobe Photoshop. Digital Cameras are HIGHLY recommended, as you will not use film cameras professionally in this field.

Statement of Prerequisites: No prerequisites.

Goal: To produce a variety of publishable photos including news, sports, feature, pictorial and profile photos.

Outcomes: The main objectives are:

- Understand the development of photojournalism and its role in a visually-oriented world,
- How to use a digital or film camera to shoot a variety of quality photographs for use in the media,
- How to write a clear and concise caption,
- The ability to critically evaluate photographs using accepted professional standards, and
- Understand the ethical and legal aspects of photojournalism.

Methodology: This course is a hands on course. The class will include a mixture of lecture, slide shows, and hands on projects. All quizzes and tests in this class will be project based.

Evaluation Criteria:

You have a chance at 2000 points total, with grades assigned as follows:

- 90% or better: a minimum of 1800 points = A
- 80% or better: a minimum of 1600 points = B
- 70% or better: a minimum of 1400 points = C
- 60% or better: a minimum of 1200 points = D
- 59% or lower: anything below 1000 points = F

In Class Assignments (1600 points)

80 percent

We will have in class photo assignments EVERY day in class. We will treat classtime like work hours. You show up for class, get a briefing on today's assignments, shoot the assignments, and bring the photos back for critique. The daily assignments are worth 50 points each, and are graded on participation.

Final Project (400 points)**20 percent**

Your final project will consist of a minimum of 20 photographs from a photo story. We will begin work on this project at midterm and work on it through the remainder of the semester.

Participation**80 percent**

This is a “hands on” class, which means that 80% of the learning will come from doing. We have several in class assignments every day. We will not spend our class time listening to me lecture, we will spend our class time working on assignments. So, if you are not in class, you will NOT learn the material, and it is very difficult to “make up” hands on assignments.

Extra Credit

I do not believe in extra credit. If you do the required work for the class, then you will not need extra credit. If you cannot do the required work for this class, then how can I expect you to do “extra” work?

Late Assignments

Journalism is a deadline driven world, and the rules are simple. If you miss your deadlines, you get fired. Therefore, I would be doing you a great disservice by accepting late work. I will not accept any late assignments. If the assignment is not done on time, it is a zero. The only exception to this is if you make arrangements in advance to miss class.

Required Text, Readings, and Materials:

- Kenneth Kobre (2008). *Photojournalism: The Professional's Approach* (6th edition). Oxford: Focus Press
- Associated Press Stylebook (2009) is recommended though not required. Note that any AP stylebook will work in this class.

You will need a digital or film camera of your own for the class. If you can't provide a camera, please contact me during the first week of class and I will help locate one from Casper College for you to use. Review the contract information below.

A simple point-and-shoot camera will not work. The camera must be 35 mm with the capacity to manually set the shutter speed and the aperture. It would be best if it was a single lens reflex (SLR). If you choose to use an analog (film) camera, you will need to purchase your own film and pay for the processing. A good analog camera should be fully adjustable with a normal (50 mm) lens, as well as a second lens of 135 or 200 mm, or a zoom lens in the range of 35 mm to 135 mm. You will also need to purchase a couple of zip disks or a jump disk for your electronic images. You can store the photos on the computers within AD 7 though it is community space so you run the risk of losing your images.

Before you can access a Casper College camera, you will need to sign a short agreement indicating your willingness to take care of the equipment and repay the college if it is damaged. Because of the large number of students enrolled in this class, you will check out the camera for a period of time, then return it back to me. I will offer a couple of brief training sessions to go over the basic operation of the camera. During class photo shoots, you will need to share the camera with the other classmates assigned to the camera.

A DIGITAL CAMERA IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AS YOU WILL NOT USE A FILM CAMERA PROFESSIONALLY IN THIS FIELD.

Class Policies: Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade: You can make up a test, a quiz or a photo assignment if you have an approved Casper College excuse.

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Dishonesty: (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

ADA Accommodations Policy: If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college's Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

Official Means of Communication: Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly.

Calendar or schedule indicating course content:

Week 1- August 24	Day 1 - Syallabus, What is Photojournalism, After Capture, Day 2 - Lighting (Bring your camera and any lenses, flashes, etc. to class August 27)
Week 2- August 31	Day 1 - Composition, Day 2 - Principles of Design, Read Chapter 15 Ethics
Week 3- Sept. 7	Day 1 - Surface and Space, Day 2 - color, line, figure ground Read Chapter 16 Law
Week 4- Sept. 14	Day 1 - Types of Cameras, critiquing, Day 2 - Digital Darkroom, Read – Special Section – Digital Darkroom
Week 5- Sept .21	Day 1 - What is a camera, exposure, Shutter speed, Day 2 – Motion Read Chapter 7 Photo Editing
Week 6- Sept. 28	Day 1 - Exposure, Aperture, Day 2 - ISO
Week 7- Oct. 5	Day 1, 2 - Shooting on Manual, balancing exposure, metering modes
Week 8- Oct. 12	Day 1 - Lenses, filters, white balance, mis. Settings, Day 2 - raw vs jpg
Week 9- Oct. 19	Day 1, 2 - Chapter 11 – Photo Story - choosing your project
Week 10- Oct. 26	Day 1, 2 - Chapter 1 - Assignments
Week 11- Nov. 2	Day 1 - Chapter 2 - Spot News, Day 2 - Chapter 3 General News

Week 12- Nov. 9	Day 1, 2 - Chapter 6 - Sports
Week 13- Nov. 16	Day 1, 2 - Chapter 4 - Features
Week 14- Nov. 23	Day 1, 2 - Chapter 5 - Portraits
Week 15- Nov. 30	Day 1, 2 - Chapter 14 - Illustration
Week 16- Dec. 7	Day 1 - Chapter 12 Multimedia, Day 2 - Chapter 13 Video
Week 17- Dec. 14	Finals week Your final is due at the time of your final exam. <i>You will set a portfolio review time with your instructor to critique your final portfolio.</i>

During the first eight weeks, we will spend our time combining lecture with hands on photo assignments to learn photographic design, technical skills, and camera functions.

During the final eight weeks, we will apply our newly learned photographic skills to Photojournalism specific assignments. Every day will be a combination of brief lecture and hands on assignments.