



Syllabus

Course Name: Photography

Course Number: COMM 1318 01 OOS

Semester & Year: Spring 2021

Instructor Information:

Name: Laronda M. Bailey

Office: HUM 211

Telephone: 903-823-3368

E-mail: Laronda.bailey@texarkanacollege.edu

Emailing the Instructor: Email the instructor from your TC email address with any questions or concerns. Please list your name and course in the "Subject" line. Response to emails typically occurs within 24 hours.

Office Hours: Monday, 2-3 pm; Tuesday, 9:30-11 am; Wednesday, 2-3 pm; Thursday, 9:30-11 am; Friday, 8 am-12:30 pm

Textbook: *Digital Photography*, Bruce Warren, 2013

Material:

- A cellphone with built-in camera
- A digital camera (Recommended specs: Audio/video input; high resolution; under \$300; Nikon or Canon)
- *Computer and wifi; access to Internet is required for online classes*
- *Black or blue pen; pencil, highlighters; notebook paper* (for personal planning and organization of materials)

Course Description: Introduction to the basics of photography, including techniques and equipment operation.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate ability to operate equipment used to capture and edit photographic images.
2. Demonstrate understanding of composition, framing, and perspective in photography.
3. Analyze and discuss aesthetic considerations of visual storytelling.
4. Discuss ethical implications of photographic manipulation.

Student Assessment:

Assignments and Assessments	Percentage of overall grade
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Project Assignment (5) • Presentations 	50%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response Reading Assignments (3) • Discussion Forums (3) • Online Assignments (5) • Online Portfolio 	40%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam 	10%

Grading Scale:

Grade	
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59-below

Computer Requirements

Access: This is an **online on a schedule** course. You will need to have access to a computer. It is best if you have high speed internet access. If you have Dial-up, it may be difficult to download videos and other materials.

Operating System:

Windows Operating System		Mac OS X Operating System	
Minimum System Requirements		Minimum System Requirements	
Operating System:	Windows XP	Operating System:	OS X 10.6 (Snow Leopard)
Processor:	1.7 GHz	Processor:	1.83 GHz
RAM:	1 GB	Memory:	1 GB
Browser:	Firefox 4.0 Internet Explorer 8	Browser:	Firefox 4.0 Safari 4.0

Computer Hardware Requirements:

- Internet Access: High speed internet connection

such as cable modem or DSL

- Processor: 2GHz processor
- Memory: 1GB RAM; 4 GB free hard drive space
- Some courses and/or assignments may require the use of a webcam.

Communication between Instructor and Student

All communication in the course will be conducted through email, Teams, or telephone. I will respond to emails within 24-48 hours. If you have not received a reply within that time limit, please resend. All email communications must be through your TC email account.

Feel free to give me a telephone call during office hours. Email is the preferred method of communication.

Attendance Policy:

Texarkana College's absentee policy allows instructors to withdraw a student from a course due to excessive absences. Failure to log-in and access weekly material and/or meet due dates and deadlines constitutes ABSENCES.

“Live” sessions will be offered in Microsoft Teams. These sessions are scheduled to provide clarification on assignments and to give students the opportunity to ask questions. However, official attendance is determined by your active participation and communication in the course. That communication will be counted as attendance.

In some workforce/vocational areas, such as nursing and cosmetology, certification requirements necessitate an absentee policy that is more stringent than the institutional policy. In these instances, the matter of certification takes precedence over local policies, since certification policies are established by the State of Texas.

Faculty members are not obligated to provide opportunities for students to make-up missed assignments and tests as a result of a student's absence(s).

A student should not stop performing in an online class without formally withdrawing from the course by the institutions published Last Day for Students to Drop. If a student stops performing in the class after the published Last Day for Students to Drop, the student **may** receive a grade of “F” in the class. The instructor will submit the last date of activity for students receiving a grade of “F” or “W”.

Withdrawal from a course(s) **may** affect a student's current or future financial aid eligibility. Students should consult the Financial Aid Office to learn both short and long term consequences of a withdrawal.

Excused Absences:

A student's absence due to school trips and/or school business will not be counted against a student's allowable number of absences. Military duty and absences for Holy Days (FBD

LEGAL) are covered in a separate section of the catalog and the student handbook. These are the only excused absences that are considered by Texarkana College.

If a student is excused for a Texarkana College extracurricular activity, religious holiday, or military service, the student must receive prior approval from the Dean of Students and the instructor. Assignments must be completed prior to the excused absence.

Responsibility for work missed for any absence is placed on the student. Instructors are required to allow students to make up work missed if the absence is due to an excused absence when students follow the correct notification procedures. **Instructors are not required to allow students to make up work for absences due to other reasons.**

Maximum Allowable Absences:

After official registration, **4 unexcused absences or failure to log-in and access online material for two weeks will be the maximum allowable** before a student **may** be dropped from the class. Mandated program certification requirements detailed for certain programs regarding the maximum allowable unexcused absences takes precedence over the following information.

Make-up Policy:

If the student misses assigned work, it is the student's responsibility to make arrangements to complete the assignments within one week. **However, forums and response paper grades cannot be made up unless arrangements are made with the instructor via email.**

Academic Dishonesty Policy/Academic Integrity Statement:

Scholastic dishonesty, involving but not limited to cheating on a test, plagiarism, collusion, or falsification of records will make the student liable for disciplinary action after being investigated by the Dean of Students. Proven violations of this nature will result in the student being dropped from the class with an "F". This policy applies campus wide, including TC Testing Center, as well as off-campus classroom or lab sites, including dual credit campuses. This information can be found in the Student Handbook at <https://texarkanacollege.edu>.

Financial Aid:

Attention! Dropping this class may affect your funding in a negative way. You could owe money to the college and/or federal government. Please check with the Financial Aid office before making a decision.

Drop Date:

The official drop date for the course is **Friday, April 16, 2021**. This is the last date for the student to drop this course with a **W**.

Viewing Grades:

Grades are available for viewing throughout the semester under the student's MyTC portal.

TC Email:

Students should check their TC Email account on a regular basis to check for general information sent from campus or instructors.

Student Support, Computer Access, Tutoring:

- **Library Hours**

M-Th 7:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.

F 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sunday 2-9 p.m.

- **Student Support Services (Tutoring) in library second floor**

M-Th 8 a.m.-7 p.m. F 8 a.m. -4 p.m. Sunday 2-9 p.m.

- **Testing Center (Library first floor)**

M-Th 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. F 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Sunday 2-6 p.m.

- **Help Desk – TC Login Problems**

903-823-3030 M-Th 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. F 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Class Schedule:

Week	Assignments: All assignments are due Wednesday at 11:59 p.m.
	Introductions Class Information Syllabus Acknowledgement
Week 1	Lecture: Smartphone Photography Online Assignment 1
Week 2	Chapter 1: Getting Started Video: How Does a Camera Work Basic Photography Elements Assignment Vocabulary Assignment Activity in Teams (Fill in the blank)
Week 3	Chapter 2: Creating Digital Images Video: Richard Drew, photographer of “The Falling Man” Response Paper
Week 4	Chapter 3: Camera and Lens Online Assignment 2
Week 5	Chapter 4: Printing and Viewing Discussion Forum Camera Presentations (in Teams during scheduled class time Wednesday)
Week 6	Chapter 5: Troubleshooting Response Paper
Week 7	Chapter 6: Light and Subject Video: How does Lighting and flash affect a photo Online Assignment 3
Week 8	Chapter 7: Seeing Better Photographs Discussion Forum
Week 9	Video: The History of Photography Chapter 8: History of Photography Response Paper
Week 10	Lecture: Legal and Ethical Issues in Photography Introduction to Photoshop Online Assignment 4
Week 11	Introduction to Online Portfolio

	Guest Professional Photographers Online Assignment 5
Week 12	Work on Final Project Assignment (Photography Assignments)
Week 13	Work on Final Project Assignment (Photography Assignments)
Week 14	Due: Final Project /Online Portfolio
Week 15	Final Exam

I: Overview of Photography

II. Photography Portfolio/Online Portfolio

III. Final Photography Project

Assignment 1 (General News: Handout 1)

Choose a newsworthy event to cover: a speech, a press conference, a meeting, a protest, a concert, bad weather, an accident, etc. Shoot 5 pictures, trying to emphasize unusual angles, getting in close, interesting lighting, etc. Photos must contain people.

Assignment 2 (Features: Handout 2)

Feature photos can be standalone or go with stories. They can be “wild art” – images found by the hard work of the photographer or assigned features from events happening in the community. For this assignment, the student should take 5 feature photos ranging from the beauty of an area, a quiet moment, kids, animals, human interest, etc.

Assignment 3 (Portraits: Handout 3)

- Student will take both posed and candid portraits of a subject. The posed portrait should reveal why the person is in the news or something about his/her personality. Your photos should be natural-looking and result in casual, relaxed portraits. Also, use light as a storytelling element and avoid busy backgrounds. You may use props to help tell the story. 5 portraits.
- Shoot pictures of people doing things, preferably outside, but in well-lit buildings (window light recommended) if it's too cold. Take candid (unposed) pictures of people. Focus is on action and movement. 5 pictures

Assignment 4 (Sports/Recreational: Handout 4)

Sports. Choose any sport you like and shoot pictures of dynamic action shots emphasizing the excitement of the sport. I am aware that Texarkana College does not have an athletics program. However, there are several action shots you can get of people in the community. 5 shots.

Assignment 5 (Photo story: Handout 5)

Student will tell a story with pictures. The story may be built in a matter of minutes, or it could be a story that unfolds over a period of time. Your picture story must have a theme and a newspeg or hook.

IV. Response Reading Assignments

1. Has the cultural and social impact of photographs changed in light of the dominant role of the Internet in mass media in the 21st century?
2. Have the increasing power and decreased costs of digital photography and digital darkroom capabilities lessened the overall impact that professional photographers have on shaping visual culture and using their pictures to influence social, cultural and political change?
3. Why are photographs taken of celebrities by paparazzi photographers so popular, and thus earn so much money for the photographers who take them? Are these photographers overwhelming other forms of professional photography? Are they influencing the style of 21st century photography in a negative or positive way?

Criteria for Response Paper Assignments

Response Paper Assignments are responses to questions that should prompt critical thinking. Criteria includes a fully-developed paragraph, which should be 8-10 sentences in length, written in THIRD PERSON, and should cite examples to support ideas. Submit your response in a Word document or an online text file.

Each response is worth 100 points. Students will be graded on originality and creativity, as well as their knowledge of the topic.

Class Policies:

- Go online frequently and read the week's posts and assignments for the course.
- If you have ANY TECHNOLOGY issues, contact Texarkana College IT as soon as possible. The instructor cannot help you with any issues related to your ability to access wifi, your email, or this course.
- Submit assignments before the submission portal closes.
- Post in all FORUMS as they are used to check your attendance and participation.
- Follow online etiquette guidelines.
- Check your TC email at least twice weekly for instructions and clarifications.
- Communicate! If you have any questions, concerns, problems, etc., email me through my TC email: Laronda.bailey@texarkanacollege.edu. I cannot help you if I do not know about your issues.
- Students in this course are held accountable to all policies and procedures outlined in the Texarkana College Student Catalog/Handbook.

Please add the number for Campus Police to your cell phone: 903-823-3330.

When on campus, all emergency calls should go to TC Campus Police, then 911 if needed.

Needs Statement: Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing enough food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in this course or ability to remain in school, is urged to contact **Tonja Blasé, Director of Student Retention, at 903.823.3349**, for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to provide any resources that they may possess.

Final note~

Everything we do in this course is designed to help you have a successful college career. If something is going on in your personal life that interferes with your success in this class, I cannot help you if you do not communicate with me. I am looking forward to working with each one of you this semester!

NOTE: *The above guidelines are subject to amendment by the instructor at any point during the semester. Students will be notified if any changes occur.*

Alternate Operations during Campus Closure

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, Texarkana College may need to move to altered operations and course delivery methods. During this time, Texarkana College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to: online learning management system (Jenzabar or Moodle), online conferencing through TEAMS, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor Texarkana College's website (www.texarkanacollege.edu) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, instructor email notifications on the method of delivery and course-specific communication, and Texarkana College email notifications for important general information.

COVID-19 Online/Virtual Environment Instructional Commitment

The ongoing Covid-19 situation will require that some course materials and instruction are provided through an online and/or virtual format. Even if all or a portion of a class was originally scheduled to meet face to face, social distancing guidelines associated with Covid-19 will limit the number of students who are able to attend face to face classes in person simultaneously. Further, circumstances associated with Covid-19 could cause the college to be forced to shift completely to an online and/or virtual delivery at any time during the semester. While TC faculty members are committed to providing students the option of face to face instruction if possible, students should be prepared to continue their classes in an online and/or virtual environment if necessary. Texarkana College is committed to maintaining engaging, high quality instruction regardless of the delivery format.

TC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs or activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Human Resources Director, 2500 N. Robison Rd., Texarkana, TX, 75599, (903) 823-3017, human.resources@texarkanacollege.edu

Revised 01/18/2021