

# Bemidji State University

## MASC 2460: Digital Photography

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: \*.\*

Lab Hours/Week: \*.\*

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

Theoretical and applied aspects of digital photography, including camera handling and Photoshop. Students become familiar with all aspects of operating a 35 mm camera and producing quality photographs for media-related work. A survey of the history and principles involved in producing digital photographs, transferring them to computers, enhancing them with software, and incorporating them in publications. Readings, discussions, and individual productions are utilized to familiarize students with the production of digital photos. Lab time required. Digital cameras provided. Lab fees.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 08/24/2009 - Present

## C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Intro to camera check-out and facilities
2. Your eye and the camera's eye: different ways of "seeing";  
Digital SLR-camera basics  
Basic settings: file size, color space, ISO, WB, exposure
3. Hands on practice: camera settings, exposure metering, histogram,  
Camera care
4. Starting the workflow: camera > computer > Photoshop: image size, resolution, download images
5. Photoshop: contact sheet, cropping, straighten, histogram and levels  
Understanding light 1: shutter settings and motion
6. Photoshop: layers, jpg. and psd.files, flattening
7. Understanding light 2: aperture & shutter settings and depth of field
8. Continuing the workflow: camera > computer > printer,  
Intro to printing
9. Equivalent Exposure  
Photoshop: understanding and reading histograms, burning & dodging
10. Practice equivalent exposure
11. Elements of composition (Basics)
12. Understanding light 3: Exposure metering in high contrast situations (over/underexposure,  
bracketing),  
hands on practice
13. Understanding light 4: Physics and Emotion (The RGB and CMYK color models, the color wheel,  
complementary and analogous colors)  
Color management in the work flow from camera to printer
14. Understanding light 5: Sources and quality of light  
(ISO vs. White Balance, color temperature, seeing color cast)  
Photoshop: color saturation, color corrections
15. Seeing in Black and White
16. Photoshop: from color to B&W; B&W and tonal range
17. Composition: From paintings to photography - What the old (and new) masters teach us
18. Photojournalism:  
categories, history, ethics
19. Model Release Contract
20. Why captions?  
Writing captions  
Photoshop: Laying out and printing an image with caption
21. To do or not to do: Manipulations in portraits
22. Eugene W. Smith: the "father" of the photo essay
23. Creating a layout with several images + captions; Editing (video)
24. The power of photography: impact on society and individuals/ James Nachtwey

**D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)**

1. become technically competent with the camera
2. learn to organize a workflow from taking images to editing and printing your work
3. gain an understanding of light, its effects and creative use
4. learn elements of composition
5. apply photographic skills, both technical and aesthetic, to photojournalist/artistic assignments
6. understand ethical issues and a photographer's responsibilities in Photojournalism
7. get to know and analyze the work of masters of photography
8. learn to give and use constructive photo critique as an important means of learning
9. start to develop your own photographic ideas and style

**E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

None

**F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

**G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted