

Course Code – Section: PHTG 240-Section 1
Course Title (Credits): Photojournalism (3 credits)
Term & Year: Spring 2016
CRN: 10263

Instructor: Daniel Kelly
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Email: dkelly@sierranevada.edu
Office Hours: Holman Arts & Media Center, by appointment.
Class meeting Time: TR 16:00 – 18:45, Holman Arts & Media Center

Prerequisites: None
Co requisites: None

Course Description:

This course is an entry-level course in photography techniques specific for newspaper and print media production. In the class, students study and practice techniques of using a standard or digital camera and the darkroom or associated software to manipulate images. The course emphasizes basic lighting, composition, flash, and layout and image quality.

Students will take a critical look photojournalism from the perspective of time, composition and technique. The course will survey various works from photojournalism, and study contemporary issues surrounding news source photography. In addition to developing a critical eye and technique, students will apply their studies to field assignments for publication in the *Eagle's Eye*.

Students will learn through field assignments, writings, class discussions, videos, photo essays and lectures.

Student Outcomes

Students will learn:

- How to take a “newsworthy” image, and contemporary principles, ethics, legalities surround such an image.
- How to print technically sound and engaging images from either a digital cameras and / or film camera, as well as properly format their photos for publication in the *Eagle's Eye*.
- How to create a multimedia presentation through the use of software.
- Foundational understanding of manual and auto camera controls, for both digital and film 35mm cameras.

- How to work both independently and collaboratively to produce photojournalistic assignments, essays and multi media presentations.
- To critically assess “newsworthy” photos and respond with their own work.

In addition:

- Students will be able to discuss formal, technical, creative, legal, ethical and conceptual aspects of their photo essays.
- Students will be able to understand and appreciate the critique process and “see” in a new way as well as learn a new visual language.
- Students will appreciate the history & roots of photojournalism.
- Students will submit images throughout the semester to the *Eagle’s Eye*.
- Students will develop a portfolio of their work.

Instructional Strategies:

The class will be composed of lectures, discussions, readings from the required text, presentations, videos, digital lab work and class critiques.

Recommended Text:

Visual Journalism: A Guide for new media Professionals,
by Christopher Harris & Paul Martin Lester

Photojournalism, The Professionals' Approach, by Kenneth Kobre (6th Edition)

Witness in Our Time, Working Lives of Documentary Photographers, by Ken Light (2nd Edition)

Magnum: Fifty Years at the Front Line of History: The Story of the Legendary Photo Agency, by
Russell Miller

Believing is Seeing (Observations on the Mysteries of Photography), by Errol Morris

Attendance: 40% of your grade is based on attendance!

- A student is allowed a total of 3 absences for the semester without penalty; following that, the first absence lowers the overall course grade by 1 letter grade, with each additional absence lowering the grade by 1/3rd.
- Please be aware: Absence from a critique or leaving early lowers your grade on that assignment by a full letter.

Assignments: Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date it’s due.

Plan to complete them a few days before they are due, because you may decide you need to do them over. Visual art projects almost always need more work beyond the first edit, and therefore will most likely take longer than originally planned

Class Requirements:

- Bi-Weekly submissions to the Eagles Eye are expected (20% of final grade) and a final group project, (25% of final grade) will be expected.
- Deadlines are important to the production of the Eagles Eye, therefore there can be no credit for late submissions.
- Assignments will be graded based on conceptual and technical aspects, as well as execution of the images.
- Readings will be assigned throughout the term from materials provided by the instructor or web-based material. Weekly quizzes will be based on this material.
- The final project presentation & critique is **mandatory**. Student will fail the project if they do not attend.
- All student work is graded on an individual basis at the discretion of the instructor.
- Students are required to maintain a clean studio (darkroom and digital lab) and report any malfunctions or broken equipment.
- Attendance is required and accounts for 40% of your final grade.
- Students are required to adhere to the Student Honor Code, specifically in regard to plagiarism. **All work in this course must be created during the current semester.** Any prior images will not be accepted, unless previously cleared by instructor.
- Students are required to join the class website on Moodle, as all assignments and communication regarding the class will be posted there.

Grading Policy: Your final grade will be based on assignments, final presentation, class participation & class attendance. Please note: in order to earn an “A,” you must create interesting and **superior work** that is well thought out and executed. You must also be **an active participant** in the class and critiques.

Grade Breakdown:

Weekly Reading Quizzes = 15%

Eagles Eye Assignments = 20%

Final Project Presentation = 25%

Attendance & Participation= 40%

Supply List

A small notebook to serve as your journal throughout the semester

A digital camera: it doesn't have to be spendy\$

An inexpensive digital tape recorder

If you have a digital camera:

- Digital SLR camera with a minimum of 6 - mega pixels with at least 256MB memory card (you must bring in your camera by the second week of school).
- A PDF copy or original manual for your camera
- A large capacity USB or external drive for transferring files
- 1-2 packs of 8.5 x 11 Epson or Ilford Paper for printing digitally
- Storage binder and clear sleeves for your photos

If you have a film camera:

- A 35mm or medium format film SLR camera with operator manual (should be serviced and new battery)
- A PDF copy or original manual for your camera
- One box Ilford Multigrade 8 x 10 Photo Paper/ 25 sheets (RC or FB)
- Minimum of 8 rolls of Ilford Delta film 100 or 400 speed (asa), or Kodak TMAX 100 or 400 speed (asa) (if shooting sporting events, a faster asa may be needed.)
- Negative Storage Sleeves/ 8 x 10 – 25 pack
- Storage binder and clear sleeves for your photos

Free Software:

If you do not have access to Photoshop, and you want to use a photo-editing program, there are many open-source solutions for completing your work, as well as ample on-campus resources. Please see the instructor for any software or equipment solutions. Lost files, or limited access to software is not considered as a reason for late or incomplete work.

Prim Library Resources

Using the library's resources effectively (not just Internet resources) contributes to developing each of SNC's core themes by exposing students to high quality academic resources, diverse opinions, new ideas, and a future that includes building on a liberal arts education. In this course, you will be expected to utilize the library's resources (either on-site or remotely) as you complete your assignments.

Link to the *Art and Art History Resources page* online at Prim Library:

<http://libguides.sierranevada.edu/art>

Sanctions for Cheating and/or Plagiarism

The Honor Code

The faculty of SNC believes students must be held to high standards of integrity in all aspects of college life in order to promote the educational mission of the College and to encourage respect for the rights of others. Each student brings to the SNC community unique skills, talents, values and experiences which, when expressed within the community, contribute to the quality of the educational environment and the growth and development of the individual. Students share with members of the faculty, administration and staff the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and personal development, where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, responsibility and trust. The faculty and students alike must make diligent efforts to ensure high standards are upheld by their colleagues and peers as well as themselves. Therefore faculty and students accept responsibility for maintaining these standards at Sierra Nevada College and are obligated to comply with its regulations and procedures, which they are expected to read and understand.

Consequences of Violating the Student Honor Code

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the Honor Code and the consequences of violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes CHEATING, PLAGIARISM and FABRICATION and for refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the Honor Code become part of a student's academic record.

- 1st Offense: Student receives a zero for assignment/exam and counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 2nd Offense: Student fails course and receives counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 3rd Offense: Student is expelled.

ADA Accommodations

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, hconover@sierranevada.edu, office in Prim Library: PL-304.

The SNC Email System

The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year.

Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

The Sierra Nevada College Mission Statement:

Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic and educational sustainability.

The Core Themes:

Liberal Arts	Professional Preparedness
Entrepreneurial	Thinking Sustainability

Week	Module	
Monday, Jan18	Course Overview	
Monday, Jan25	Visual Literacy - Cameras due - Eagles Eye Publication Needs	

Monday, Feb1	Camera Bag, overview of basic camera operation - Visual Literacy Quiz	Eagle's Eye Deadline 4pm
Monday, Feb8	Manipulated Assignments and Environmental Portraits - Camera Bag Quiz	
Monday, Feb15	Ethical Considerations - Compositional Elements Quiz	Eagle's Eye Deadline 4pm
Monday, Feb22	Documentary Assignments - Ethical Considerations Quiz	
Monday, Feb29	Design - Documentary Assignments Quiz	Eagle's Eye Deadline 4pm
Monday, Mar7	Typography	
Monday, Mar14	Spring Break	
Monday, Mar21	Stock Photography - Design and Typography Quiz	Eagle's Eye Deadline 4pm
Monday, Mar28	Multimedia - Stock Photography due	
Monday, Apr4	Final Project Group Assignments - Discuss Final Projects - Working in Photoshop	Eagle's Eye Deadline 4pm
Monday, Apr11	Final Project Group Meetings - Working in Lightroom	
Monday, Apr18	Final Project - Group Concept critiques - Using After Effects for Photo Edits	Eagle's Eye Deadline 4pm
Monday, Apr25	Final Project Lab	
Monday, May2	Final Project Presentations - 5/6/2015 6:30 to 9:30	