



*Mr. Tate, Instructor*

*Room 419*

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## *Course Syllabus*

### **Course Description**

This course is designed to introduce students to different aspects of digital photography. Although taking pictures and editing them may be the first thing that springs to mind, this is only part of digital photography.

Students will learn what to look for when purchasing a digital camera, how to use the setting and features of a digital camera, how to import photos and organizing pictures to enable easy backup and indexing. Photoshop will be used to edit, enhance, and alter photos. Once images are edited, students will learn to prepare their images for printing and web publishing.

A digital camera is a necessity for this course. If you already own a digital camera, hopefully by the end of this course you will understand how to use all of the features of your camera to your advantage. If you do not have a camera, you can sign out cameras from the library or Mr. Tate. It will, however be more beneficial to have your own camera, as the knowledge you gain of your camera will help you to capture better pictures with it. Since all cameras are slightly different, using one camera consistently will enable you to better learn to use that model.

Students will create a rather extensive library of pictures throughout this course. With such a collection of images, organizing and cataloguing images will be important. As you will hear often throughout the course, backup is extremely important. The more places that an image is stored, the lower the chances that the image will be lost. **A thumbdrive is strongly recommended** for this course. Images can be saved to the server; however, sometimes images can be lost there. With a thumbdrive, not only will you have a second copy, you can take the images with you when the course is over.

Intro to Digital Photography is a hands on, student centered class. We will move through the content at a pace that is dictated by student need. With such an emphasis on student work, it is imperative that students be present and active on a daily basis. Every effort will be made to accommodate the various types of learners; handouts, demonstrations, graphic organizers and other methods will be used to explain techniques and concepts to students. With such an emphasis on learning by doing, it is crucial that students are present and constructive in the lab on a daily basis.

## Course Objectives

1. Students will learn how to effectively use the settings and functions of a digital camera.
2. Students will learn to compose effective and dynamic pictures.
3. Students will learn to transfer, organize and tag images from a digital camera.
4. Students will learn to edit and alter imperfections in digital photographs using various tools and techniques in Adobe Photoshop.
5. Students will learn to change file types, resolutions, and color modes.
6. Students will learn the differences between file types, resolutions, and color modes.
7. Students will learn to output their work in both digital and printed forms.
8. Students will learn techniques and terms that photographers use to make photos more appealing.
9. Students will learn the differences between Point-and Shoot cameras and Digital SLR cameras.
10. Students will determine what kind of camera would best meet their needs.
11. Students will learn to become good consumers and use readily available resources to aid in decision making.
12. Students will demonstrate reading understanding and interpretation of documentation.
13. Students will produce quality projects reflecting originality, high standards, and the use of advanced technologies as part of their requirements to show mastery of the content for each unit.
14. Students will develop a pride in their work.

## Evaluation and Assessment

Most of the evaluation through the course will come from student projects and work. However, because there is so much information and concepts that are essential to digital photography, there will be a few quizzes on the material that is covered during lessons given in class.

Most photographs that will be taken for the class will be taken outside of class time, making homework a necessity at times. Each week, usually on Friday, a photo assignment will be introduced. The topic for the assignment will change each week. Students will have one week to complete the assignment and turn in a proof sheet and the digital files. As stated earlier, if you do not have a digital camera of your own, and need to borrow one to complete these assignments, see Mr. Tate *at the end of the day* and he will sign one out for you.

There will be formal assessments in the class. These will come in the form of tests and quizzes throughout the course and at the end of the course.

Specific projects and assignments will be discussed at a later date.

## **Policies and Expectations**

All building rules and regulations must be followed, including those that apply to computer use.

Students are to be prepared for class and in the room ready to work when the tardy bell rings.

Students are expected to follow directions the first time they are given, work attentively on any given task, be productive the entire class period, be respectful to others and their possessions, and be helpful and courteous.

Each student is responsible for obtaining any information missed during an absence from class. It is imperative that the student sees the instructor the very next day to see what he or she missed and receive credit for that day.

All instruments, materials, and equipment must be put away or turned off, water lines, when applicable, must be turned off, and the lab cleaned prior to the end of each period.

Students must conduct themselves in a mature and responsible manner while working in the lab. Horseplay or similar actions are not permitted.

Leaving the room for any reason is considered a privilege. Misuse or abuse of these privileges will result in loss of such privilege.

Students are not permitted in the storage room or teacher desk/bookcase areas without permission. Lab assistants however, may enter the storage areas to get supplies.

Small violations of policy will result in push-ups, writing sentences, detentions, etc.

Serious infractions such as safety violations, misuse or abuse of tools and furnishings, etc. will result in stronger actions up to and including removal from the class.

At no time should any student violate safety rules, endanger themselves or others, or destroy the equipment.

As mandated by administration, there will be a fee that each student must pay at the end of each course to offset the cost of materials used throughout the course. This fee must be paid to the office, not the instructor.

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I \_\_\_\_\_ have read the above information and understand what is expected in this course and am willing to face the consequences of irresponsible behavior within the Graphic Communications lab. Please sign below to indicate that you have read the above information.

Students Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_