Visual Arts 12   Course Outline

Course Overview:

Welcome to digital photography and imaging. This course is designed for the novice/intermediate photographer who would like to produce higher quality photographs and learn more about post production work using Adobe CS5.

The course is comprised of the following 4 modules:

- Module 1 – Getting to Know Your Camera
- Module 2 – Photographic Composition
- Module 3 – Photographic Categories
- Module 4 – Post Production

Software:

- *Adobe Photoshop CS5*
- Please note that if you haven't purchased a copy of Photoshop, or have access to one on a school computer, that a fully functioning trial copy, good for one month's use, is available for download from Adobe's website. Go to www.adobe.com/ca/downloads

Grading:

This course is graded on the mastery system. You must achieve 80% on the photo assignments in each unit before going on to the next Module. Units 2, 3 and 4 have performance based assignments with clearly written objectives and each has its own marking rubric to follow. Your final mark will be calculated based 60% on your mastery assignments and 40% on the final portfolio project.

Goal:

The goal of this module is to increase your knowledge and skills when working with your DSLR or compact point and shoot digital camera.

Objectives:

While working on this unit, you will learn about and practice:

- Using your DSLR or compact digital camera.
- Using the command dial on your camera.
- Using manual settings on your camera.
- Changing the ISO or sensitivity settings on your camera.
- Choosing different shutter speeds and using the flash.
- Downloading photos to your computer.
- Resizing photos you have downloaded.

What to Do in this Module:

- This module is an introductory module, and will go quite quickly.
- Ask your teacher for the Module 1 Worksheet and read the information it contains. You will be tested on the information in the worksheet.
- Ask your teacher for the Module 1 Assignments and complete the work described there.
- Go over the Module 1 Worksheet once more, and when you are ready, ask your teacher for the Module 1 Test. Remember, you need to get 80% to pass, so be sure to study and do a good job on it.

Goal:

The goal of this module is to improve your photographic eye by learning about and demonstrating essential compositional rules.

Objectives:

While working on this unit, you will learn about and practice using these compositional techniques:

- The rule of thirds
- Triangulation
- Leading lines
- Balance through symmetry
- Minimalism
- Backgrounds
- Depth
- Point of view
- Diagonal lines and framing

What to Do in this Module:

- Ask your teacher for the Module 2 Worksheet and read the information it contains. You will be tested on the information in the worksheet.
- Ask your teacher for the Module 2 Assignments and complete the work described there. The assignments will count as your Module 2 mark.

Goal:

The goal of this module is to increase your awareness of the common photographic picture categories.

Objectives:

While working on this unit, you will learn to identify and practice taking photos in the following categories:

- Nature/Landscape
- Still Life
- People/Portraits
- Black & White
- Macro
- Animal
- Digital Art.
- Horizontal, vertical, panoramic.

What to Do in this Module:

- Ask your teacher for the Module 3 Worksheet and read the information it contains. You will be tested on the information in the worksheet.
- Ask your teacher for the Module 3 Assignments and complete the work described there. The assignments will count as your Module 3 mark.

Goal:

The goal of this module is to learn to repair common photographic errors using the post-production tools in Adobe Photoshop CS5.

Objectives:

While working on this unit, you will learn to use post-production tools to correct flawed photos, including:

- Fixing uneven horizon lines
- Adjusting for contrast and brightness
- Sharpening photos
- Matching colours
- Using spot-healing and clone-stamping tools
- Converting colour to black and white
- Using variation tools to increase/decrease saturation levels

What to Do in this Module:

- You will need to have access to Adobe Photoshop in order to complete this Module. If you don't have a copy already, you can download a free one month trial from Adobe's website. Go to www.adobe.com/ca/downloads

- Ask your teacher for the Module 4 Worksheet, and follow the instructions there. The assignments will count as your Module 4 mark.

- Ask your teacher for the Portfolio Project Worksheet, and follow the instructions there. Remember to submit only your best work.

Congratulations on finishing Visual Arts 12!