

## Welcome to Digital Photography!

Over the course of this semester, you will be learning how to use photography to explore and express concepts and ideas. You'll learn how to use exposure, F/stops, shutter speeds, lighting techniques, white balance, and depth of field to create powerful and compelling images in and out of the studio. You will learn how to edit and digitally manipulate your photographs using Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop.

**This course is both technology and writing intensive.**

## Student Learning Outcomes

*At the end of this course, students will be able to do the following:*

- Read and respond to photographs and understand the role of photography in contemporary society.
- Learn to analyze photography and evaluate work critically, both written & orally.
- Develop an understanding of the technology used in industry-standard photographic practice.
- Develop communication skills through photography.
- Learn methods of generating ideas and subject matter through research.
- Learn how to capture interesting and compelling photographs and how to best share them with an audience.

## Grading

- Photo Journal (30%)  
Creation of and submission to a learning journal, documenting research, progress, and exploration.
- Projects (50%)  
Class assignments will be critiqued by peers, instructor, and submitted for formal assessment.
- Class Participation (20%)  
Attendance, the quality and quantity of participation in class discussions and critiques, effort, attitude, and evidence of growth will be evaluated on a daily basis.

A rubric is included in this syllabus.

## Academic Honesty

Plagiarism is a serious breach of academic trust. When you use someone else's words and ideas--whether it's the work of a famous artist or a fellow student -- without crediting the source or authorship of those words and ideas, you are plagiarizing.

It is expected that original work, in terms of idea and aesthetic, will be submitted. Plagiarized work will automatically receive a "0" or "F" for the assignment."

## Late work

Late work is strongly discouraged. Late work turned in within a week of the due date will be graded and receive up to half credit. Work that is more than 1 week late receives no credit.

## Classroom Etiquette

Your learning time is valuable, as is that of your peers. Please respect all learners by arriving on time, keeping distractions such as cell phones at bay, and being respectful peers. Taking an active role in class discussions, exercises and critiques is essential to success in this class. The majority of the course will consist of in-class lectures and studio projects that occur under the guidance of the instructor and in tandem with your classmates. Please practice civility when in class. Honor your classmates' opinions by listening during discussions and offer your own critique respectfully.

## Class Supplies

We will be using a Nikon DSLR camera, supplied by Mt. Everett. This camera will be SHARED with other students. If you have your own DSLR camera or choose to use a point and shoot camera, you are welcome to store it in the closet at Mt. Everett.

You may wish to bring your own supply of alcohol wipes to clean the eye piece of the camera before use.

While not mandatory, purchasing your own SD card is advised. **Photographs left on a shared card will not be safe from being erased. Erased images will not be an accepted excuse for late work as ample time will be given to upload images to the computer.**

**We will be using a sketchbook for your Photo Journal. You may wish to purchase your own to suit your individual style and needs, but one will be provided.**



SD cards range in storage capacity. Students with more storage will be able to keep their photographs archived for longer. Recommended capacity is 64GB, but any capacity will be workable.

# Photography Assessment and Expectations

Each student is responsible for documenting their mastery of the following targets.

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## 1. Demonstrate Effective Visual Communication

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**When speaking.** Examples include: sharing ideas about your work and the work of others, participating in discussion about art we are looking at and creating, using appropriate language in class, keeping discussion relevant and on-topic.

**When writing.** Examples include: using correct spelling and grammar, complete sentences, including details and articulating thoughts.

**When creating photographs.** Examples include: choosing subject matter based on an idea and not merely the simplest option, following techniques and skills learned in class. Considering best use of aesthetic techniques such as utilizing the elements and principles of art and design.

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## 2. Demonstrate Critical and Creative Thinking Skills

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**In your own work.** Examples include: thinking outside the box when coming up with ideas, not relying on ideas you've found on the internet.

**In the work of the group.** Examples include: doing your best to come up with unique ideas for group work, working off of and improving the ideas of the group.

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## 3. Demonstrate Critical and Effective Uses of Information Resources

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Examples include: taking initiative to seek information for projects and lessons, researching to enrich your own photo work.

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## 4. Demonstrate Appropriate and Effective Uses of Technology

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Examples include: paying attention to class demonstrations and utilizing instruction about computer applications. Using internet appropriately and productively.

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## 5. Set goals and make informed decisions

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Examples include: coming up with a complete plan for your work and going through the necessary steps to complete successfully.

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## 6. Show respect for self, others, and the environment

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Examples include: Taking care of the equipment, being respectful, being on-time and accountable, being trustworthy and productive in the halls, following class rules and taking responsibility for your actions.

# Digital Photography

Ms. Giordano | kgiordano@sbrsd.org

Please review the following class information. If all responsibilities are accepted, this form must be signed and returned to Ms. Giordano during the first week of school and will count toward the first assignment grade - easy A!

Using Mt. Everett's Nikon DSLR cameras is a privilege and a responsibility. I will ensure that I am properly using the camera, taking care of the accessories, and following class instructions to responsibly share the equipment with my classmates. Purposeful negligence may result in a fine for damaged equipment.

Most assignments will be completed during school time. Students will be given the freedom to explore Mt. Everett (in classrooms, hallways, outdoors, etc) while searching for subject matter to photograph. This requires maturity and responsibility and is a privilege that will be taken away if abused. I understand that classwork will need to be completed at home if I lose the privilege to be in the halls during class time.

**For Parents:**

Students will be exploring famous contemporary photographers and their work via the internet, films, and photobooks. There is a chance that some nudity may be visible in these famous photographs. I understand this risk and am ok with my child viewing photographs that may have nudity.

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Student Signature

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Parent Signature

NOTES OR COMMENTS:

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