

Beginning Photography

Course Syllabus 2016/2017

Please read this syllabus and keep it for your information. The last page needs to be signed and returned to your instructor.

Photography at HHS

Beginning Photography is a fine arts/industrial technology course at HHS. We will cover both the artistic side of photography as well as the technical side—aesthetically what makes a great photograph and technically how to create great photographs. The course will be taught using digital SLR cameras and Adobe Photoshop CS5 software. Some of the concepts to be covered include lighting, composure, technique, editing, and critique. Students will also learn about the many outlets for photography including photojournalism, portraiture, commercial and fine art photography.

The Instructor

The instructor for this course is Mrs. Jessica VanOverbeke. Mrs. VanOverbeke earned her B.S. at the University of Wisconsin—Stout in Technology Education. She was a substitute teacher and summer camp instructor before coming to California to teach at Hesperia High. She started at HHS in 2005 teaching automotive and drafting courses. In 2008 she launched the school's photography program, and now teaches beginning and advanced photography and AP Studio Art 2D Design (AP Photography.)

Course of Study

Beginning photography students will learn the art of photography, photographic applications, and creative expression. Individual, paired, and class-wide critiques and discussions will help students learn about what makes a great image and will allow students to reflect on their work and that of their classmates. Students will spend time taking pictures on campus and editing them in the classroom lab. Students may also choose to utilize their own cameras to take photographs when outside of school. Editing techniques in Adobe Photoshop will be covered. Lecture, group work, presentations, and research/writing projects will also be utilized to cover the course material. Participation will be graded. Students in Beginning Photography will need to be self-motivated and responsible as they will be handling expensive equipment and spending time outside of the classroom taking pictures

DEMA

This photography course is part of the Design, Engineering, and Manufacturing Academy. It can be the first step towards majoring in Photography or can be used as the outside course for several other majors. If you are interested in becoming a part of the DEMA team please see Mrs. VanOverbeke for more information. Or, you can find all the necessary information by joining our Google Classroom with the following code: 93vgk7

Materials Required

- An email account with cloud storage (i.e. Gmail/Google Drive.) This will be used to store/back up photographs.
- Though not required, a USB flash drive can be very helpful so that you can bring your photos home on any given day. This can also be used for transporting photos to be printed elsewhere.
- Hand sanitizer, tissue, and disinfecting wipes may be brought in for extra credit (2 items per semester) to help keep the classroom clean and germ free.

Topics To Be Covered

| Semester I | Semester II | The following topics will be covered throughout the course: |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| The History of Photography | Photojournalism | Light (natural & artificial) Photographic Careers Digital Editing |
| Shutter Speeds | Documentary Photography | |
| The Elements of Composition | Landscape Photography | |
| ISO & Exposure Triangle | Pop Art | |
| Apertures and Depth of Field | Commercial Photography | |
| Portraits | Independent Study | |
| Metering Light | | |
| Value | | |

Course Management & Attendance

Students will be required to always act in a way that promotes a positive and safe learning environment. If a student varies from this they will be subjected to a progressive discipline plan. (see page 3)

Research shows that the more a student attends class the greater his or her success will be. It is also important that students arrive to class on time. Students who are not in their seat when the bell rings will be considered late and will lose their participation points.

Grading

The standard grading scale will apply to Beginning Photography.

| | | | | |
|----|--------|----|---------|---|
| A+ | 97-100 | C+ | 77-79 | <i>* Students with a D or F will not be permitted to work outside of the classroom during the class period until they bring their grade up. These students should utilize after school tutoring options to help bring their grade back into the acceptable range.</i> |
| A | 93-96 | C | 73-76 | |
| A- | 90-93 | C- | 70-73 | |
| B+ | 87-89 | D | 60-69 * | |
| B | 83-86 | F | 0-59 * | |
| B- | 80-82 | | | |

Grading will be based on a point system. Many assignments will be graded using a rubric with feedback from the instructor. Students should reflect on the grade and comments written on their rubrics. They are very helpful in determining areas for improvement. Students will also be given a daily participation grade. Students who come to class unprepared will lose their participation points.

Late Work

When a student is absent he or she is responsible for making up material that is missed. Assignments are due the day a student returns to class after an absence. Anything handed in after this point will be worth 50% credit.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the act of presenting another person's work (including ideas and words) as your own. When using another person's work, even when paraphrasing, you must acknowledge it fully and appropriately, unless the information is common knowledge. Proper acknowledgement requires citing sources. Any student that plagiarizes from another student or source will receive an F and 0 points on the assignment/quiz. Any student that allows another student to plagiarize their work will also receive a 0. If a student is unsure about what constitutes plagiarism he or she should see the instructor.

Tutoring and Studio Use

Any student who needs extra tutoring, time to complete an assignment, or who would like to use the equipment or classroom studio may make an appointment with the instructor to do so.

Contacting the Instructor

Parents and students, please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns. Email is the very best way to contact me. jessica.vanoverbeke@hesperiausd.org

An Additional Note on Trust

In this class students will be using expensive equipment. They will spend a great deal of time working on their own both inside and outside of the classroom. In order for the instructor to give students these freedoms and responsibilities they will need to earn and keep her trust.

Class Rules

1. No food, gum or drinks in class.
2. Raise your hand to speak.
3. Use appropriate language.
4. Show respect for your teacher, your classmates, yourself, and the materials in the classroom.
5. Abide by the class Cell Phone Policy**

***Cell Phone Policy: There may be times in this class where using your cell phone may help you complete assignments or participate in class polls. It may occasionally be useful to utilize your cell phone's camera or video capabilities. Your phone's camera is not meant to replace the professional grade DSLRs we'll be using in class, but rather to supplement them. Our goal is to utilize the features of phones when appropriate while learning to minimize the distraction they can cause. To accomplish this goal:*

-Cell phones must be on silent or off (not vibrate) and put away unless their use is absolutely necessary as determined by the instructor.

-Misuse of your cell phone will result in the loss of your participation for the day and/or the phone being confiscated and sent to the office.

-Parents, if you prefer that your son or daughter does not use their cell phone for any purpose in class please contact the instructor so that she is aware.

Class Discipline Plan

THE FIRST TIME YOU BREAK A CLASS RULE: You will receive a verbal warning and lose some or all of your participation points. (unless it requires more severe action as outlined in your student handbook.)

THE SECOND TIME YOU BREAK A RULE: You will lose computer and camera privileges for the rest of the day and will lose the rest of your participation points.

THE THIRD TIME YOU BREAK A RULE: You will receive a referral and be sent to the administrative office.

You will receive an **IMMEDIATE** administrative referral or be expelled from class if you:

1. Break a district or school rule that requires the above per your student handbook.
2. Endanger the health or life of yourself or another person.
3. Refuse to do what the instructor or her aide tells you to do (overt defiance of authority.)
4. **Cause damage to the cameras or equipment by misuse or vandalism**

****You should know; if the instructor feels you are not attempting to correct improper behavior, of any kind, she will speak with your parents. If the situation is not resolved, to the satisfaction of the instructor, you will be removed permanently from the class.****

Equipment Use Agreement

Students in the photography course will be using digital SLR cameras, lenses, computers, studio strobe lighting, and other expensive and delicate equipment. Misuse, vandalism, and theft will not be tolerated.

Student:

As a photography student, I agree to use all equipment properly so as not to cause damage. I will not remove any equipment from the classroom without the instructor's permission. I will return all equipment to the classroom on time and in the condition in which it was checked out.

Parent or Guardian:

As the parent or guardian of this student, I agree to take full financial responsibility for damage or loss caused by my son or daughter to any of the photographic or computer equipment.

Please sign below and return this page only to Mrs. VanOverbeke by Friday. A copy of the syllabus is also available online.

Student:

I verify with my signature that I have read, understand and will abide by the contents of this syllabus.

_____ Period _____
Student Name (Print)

_____ Date _____
Student Name (Signature)

Parent or Guardian:

I verify with my signature that I have read, understand and will have my son or daughter abide by the contents of this syllabus.

_____ Date _____
Parent or Guardian Name (Print)

_____ Daytime Phone # _____
Parent or Guardian Name (Signature)

Email address _____