

Photography I

2011-2012 Webworks

1st Semester – 14 Week Class

Grades 8 – 12 recommended

½ High School Fine Arts Credit

Course Tutor:

Rod Cranson

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Course Description:

Photography I will be a hands-on class using a camera, preferably a 35 mm SLR, to investigate the theory of and creation of photographic images. Images created from both film and digital cameras will be considered. Topics will include: history of photography, selection of a camera, lenses and appropriate accessories; the nature of light, exposure settings with adjustable lenses including shutter speed, f/stop, aperture, focus and depth of field; types of film and film speeds (ISO number); image composition and effective use of light (ambient and artificial); basic functions of digital cameras including white balance, ISO selection, and exposure settings as noted above; techniques for photographing a variety of subjects.

Course Notes:

This class will run for 14 weeks during 1st Semester.

Class requirements include: completion of homework based on readings assignments and supplemental class handouts, written homework assignments, preparation and completion of photographic image assignments, and class participation. There will be brief quizzes in class and a comprehensive final exam at the conclusion of the class. A final grade will be based on successful completion of the requirements and faithful class attendance. Detailed grading information will be published at the first class meeting.

Prerequisites:

Students are encouraged to have access to a 35mm SLR style camera, either film or digital, that allows manual setting of: shutter speed, aperture and focus. Several rolls of 35mm film or an appropriate digital storage device for use with assignments. Camera should be secured and available at the first class session. Some assignments may require images to be printed.

Textual Materials SUGGESTED for reading assignments:

Teach Yourself Photography by Lee Frost, McGraw-Hill Co (ISBN 0-07-143505-0).

Joy of Digital Photography by Jeff Wignall, Lark Books (ISBN 978-1-57990-947-7)

Supplies:

Small hand-held calculator

A 12 inch ruler with English and metric scales.

35 mm film as noted in prerequisites above (to be obtained as needed).

Tutor Biography:

My experience in photography dates back to the 1960s, and I have been involved in professional photography since 1980. With my wife, Sharon, I have established and operated a professional home studio for nearly 20 years specializing in portraiture. In 2001 the Professional Photographers of America granted me their Certified Professional Photographer degree. I published several editions (the 3rd Edition is currently available) of *Crater Lake – Gem of the Cascades* that features many of my photographs. My formal education was completed at Michigan State University where I earned a Bachelors of Science (BS) in geology, a Masters of Arts for Teachers (MAT) in science education and completed advanced graduate work. My professional career included teaching at Waverly High School for three years and at Lansing Community College's Science Department for 27+ years. Sharon and I attend South Church in Lansing where we are active in many of the church's activities. We have two children and four grandchildren.

My educational philosophy is a student-centered, hands-on, problem-solving approach with the teacher serving as a tutor and resource person.