

Journalism 343: Travel and Documentary Photography
May Interim 2013; Sage 3420; M-F 8:00 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.

Dr. Tim Gleason

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Office phone: 920-424-7298; I will receive a phone number for England while in England

Office: immediately after class, as requested

Class blog: <http://travelshooter.blogspot.com>

Course Description

The application of advanced photography techniques at non-local sites to make travel and documentary photographs worthy of publication in traditional and emerging media. The use of cultural analysis to better understand the people and places being photographed. 3 units (crs.)

Objectives of Course

(1) Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of peoples and cultures; (2) understand concepts and apply theories in the use and presentation of images and information; (3) apply tools and technologies.

Required Texts

Fox, Kate. *Watching the English: The Hidden Rules of English Behaviour*. London: Hodder and Stoughton Ltd., 2005.

I'Anson, Richard. *Lonely Planet's Guide to Travel Photography*. Footscray, Victoria, Australia: Lonely Planet, 2012.

Highly Recommended for first day of class (but any map will work)

Middleditch, Michael. *London Mapguide*. London: Penguin, 2012.

Grading

Online Presence	75.0
Exam for LP travel photography book	07.5
Exam for Watching the English	07.5
Attendance and Participation	10.0
 Total	 100

Online Presence Assignment

You will display your work online using a hosting service, such as Blogspot, Wix, or Wordpress.
All images and any multimedia elements (audio files for podcasts; movies; Soundslides folders)

must be submitted to me on a DVD-R or CD-R. Your online presence must remain available to the public until you receive your grade. Changes to your online site may NOT be made between the assignment deadline and the receipt of your grade. Make sure you link your website from the class blog.

There is no single way to complete the assignment. The reason for this flexibility is to encourage creativity and allow each of you to design your own personal branding. You may use a new site, or an existing site. Any subjects that are required to be in your project are listed in **bold** on the schedule and in a list after the schedule. It is also recommended you include wide, medium, and close-up shots to vary your photographs.

Here are some ways you can approach the assignment. (Idea A) Make daily posts to your site with text, photos, etc. while in England. (Idea B) You can also make the posts after returning but make one post for every day there. This requires you to take excellent notes, and then write the narratives and post the photos from Oshkosh. (Idea C) Divide the trip into categories of London, Beyond London, and Documentary, instead of treating it as a daily review. An expected photo count in this style would be 7-15 photos per category, or 7 photos and video combined for at least 2 minutes. In contrast, to get to the same number of images in Idea A and Idea B you'd have to post an average of about 3-5 photos daily. I will not consider online posts made before the start of the class.

Ideas B and C give you the opportunity to use Soundslides and make movies, while Idea A gives a more live feeling. Consider adding elements like Twitter and Instagram feeds. Be aware that too much additional content and you lose the prominence of your images.

Thus, your grade is not based solely on the photographs. It also depends on the quality of the online content you provide. The aim of this approach is for you to take ownership of your site, as well promote your work to potential employers. Your work *is you* in the minds of many potential employers. Don't be afraid to use text to provide context, as well as multimedia to enrich the experience.

Exams

There is one exam for each text. Each exam is to be completed in Desire2Learn before we depart for London. The exam will be closed beginning the day of departure.

Attendance & Participation

Students are expected to attend every assigned function in England and to participate with a positive attitude. Deduction will be made depending on the activity missed. OIE and I expect students to conduct themselves properly, legally, and to a degree, independently (You must be able to get around London and other locations independently after direction.). You should make a positive contribution to the class.

Students who place themselves or trip members at risk may receive a failing grade for the entire class grade. Students who do not adequately partake in class activities may receive a failing

grade for the entire class grade. Thus, at-risk behavior and non-participatory behavior penalties supersede assignment and exam grades. Additionally, students who bring disrepute to the class, journalism department, and/or university may be penalized.

Lastly, you are taking a journalism class. Read a local newspaper daily. Here and there I may be asking you about the news you read. Impress me with your knowledge.

Equipment

A digital camera with manual control of focus and exposure is highly recommended. A consumer digital camera is acceptable, but a high-quality digital camera (e.g., DSLR) is certainly recommended. You should shoot RAW+JPG if you have the capability, and I would recommend 2 gigs of storage for every megapixel of your camera. If you know you can transfer your files so you can erase your card, you will still want about 4 gigs of cards to get you through the day. Remember these are only recommendations and for those shooting RAW+JPG. For other cameras, it is advisable to have enough memory cards to shoot at least 100 high-resolution images per day.

Highly recommended for everyone is a lens cleaning kit, as well as a polarizing filter for DSLR cameras. You may (or may not) benefit from a lightweight table-top tripod.

Avoid bags that scream CAMERA! Go for the subtle bag. Be aware that the limited number of loaner bags we have shout NIKON. Durable tape should be used to cover the words.

You may also want some way to record audio. Some cameras offer a mode to record audio without video. You may also use a dedicated audio recorder. Another option is a mobile device with an audio recorder app. You may use an iPod for recording audio, but don't use it for still shots. If you are using a cell phone, turn off the roaming. Some cell phone companies charge outrageous roaming charges in England. Note that most cell phone cameras make horrible still photos, so I highly recommend against using them for stills. You have been warned. They should only be used as a back-up camera in case your camera breaks, or for things like Instagram.

Pre-travel Schedule

You will have most of the first week to prepare for the trip. You are expected to create a detailed itinerary with the oversight of your professor. You need to create a list of places you would like to see in each city and then figure out when to photograph them. Along with this, you need to make a travel route to make sure you can make it to your chosen locations. This includes directions along the Tube, as well as the direction you will head from each Tube station. You will also need to create a budget for any entry fees. You will give me a copy of your schedule by the end of the class the day before we leave. You are allowed to make deviations of your schedule while on-site as long as you write me a note with the changes. Just slip a note underneath my door or give it to me at breakfast. The schedule shows me you know how to get around London, as well as let me know your general location in case of an emergency.

Before leaving you should consider a walk around Oshkosh with your gear to see how much you can carry while remaining comfortable. Go for comfort, people. Some students think this advice is goofy until they don't last 30 minutes on their trial walk with the gear they are thinking of buying.

Ethical Statement

Students must make themselves aware of the university's policy on academic honesty. Be aware that you must take your own photos, and you must edit and present your images yourselves. You must follow photojournalism ethical practices in processing your images. I reserve the right to fail any student behaving in an unethical manner during any portion of the class.

Tentative Schedule

The class has three components: pre-trip preparation, the working trip, post-trip editing and critique. Sites marked in **bold** must appear in your online presence. Schedule is subject to change.

May 13, Monday

Overview of trip; traveling in England; photography basics.

May 14, Tuesday

English culture; travel photography; planning time.

May 15, Wednesday

Finalize plans; digital photography and software.

May 16, Thursday

- Meet by 11:15 a.m. at Parking Lot 30.
- Depart 11:30 for O'Hare.
- Chicago to Heathrow on Virgin Atlantic #40 at 6 p.m. On the plane you need to fill out a landing card that identifies you and where you will be staying. The Kent Hall address is below. Listen for the flight attendants offering landing cards for visitors to UK.

May 17, Friday

- Arrive in London 8 a.m.
- Coach to Kent Hall (414 Seven Sisters Road, London, N4 2LX, located near Manor House Station, Tel: 011-44-20-8802-0800).
- Settle bags at hotel storage or rooms.
- Tube on Piccadilly Line to **Piccadilly Circus**, exit station toward Eros (look for signs above exits).
- You may stay with me as I walk up Regent, or go on your own.
- Travel ideas: Regent Street, Carnaby Street in Soho, Savile Row, Temple Church (if open), Fleet Street (old home of London journalism), Twinings Tea on Fleet Street, Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese for dinner (Charles Dickens' old stomping grounds--take alley at 145 Fleet Street), back to Piccadilly Circus for night photography. Please note that parts of Soho can be sketchy at night.

May 18, Saturday

- Group has own breakfast room from ~8:00-8:30. Come down at your leisure. Kent Hall will accept members in small numbers during open breakfast time, 7:00 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. You are allowed to come down early to have breakfast if you are going out early to shoot.
- Aim to be at **Portobello Market** at 9 a.m. If you arrive much later, it will be so crowded that it is tough to photograph. Market opens at 6, but small crowds start arriving around 9.
- Head to **Trafalgar Square, Covent Garden, Chinatown--at least one** of these has to be in series.

May 19, Sunday

- Group has own breakfast room from ~8:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m.
- **Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace** starts at 11:15 and ends at noon. Getting to the Buck at 9 will get you a view from the fence but a long wait. Arriving around 10 or later is a battle for a view. It is your call when to arrive--we are not going as one group unless it happens out of luck. Note that it is a long walk to the Buck from a Tube station. **OR**, you can shoot the **Super Hero Fun Run** at Regent's Park, 10:00 a.m. Exact location TBD. Should be goofy. All students must photograph the Changing of the Guard OR the fun run for charity on Sunday. You may see the Changing of the Guard on Monday, too. If you want to visit the Buckingham Palace's gallery gift store, walk to the left of the Palace and then turn right and walk a little ways on Buckingham Palace Road. You should also find a restroom there. There is a different store a little ways more on this road.
- Travel *ideas*: Speakers' Corner at NE corner of Hyde Park by Marble Arch; walk SW on south side of Serpentine, and see park's garden, Princess Diana Memorial Fountain, Royal Albert Memorial, and Kensington Palace and its garden; visit famous Harrod's; Chelsea; Abbey Road; Camden Market (punk scene).
- Consider riding London Eye, and photographing **London Eye** and Big Ben at night. Westminster Abbey is by Parliament and Big Ben.

May 20, Monday

This may be a good day to head to other cities in southern England, such as Bath, Brighton, or Windsor. Alternatively, you may want to visit museums, like the British Museum or Tate Modern. Today may be a great day for the Tower of London. I don't recommend going when it is raining. If rain is forecast for today, consider Tower of London on Sunday. Students who want to travel to touristy places often book a tour that takes them to a few sites, like both Bath and Stonehenge.

May 21, Tuesday

- Relocate to Cambridge, so be prepared for an early departure. Depart Kent Hall 8:30 a.m..
- Coach to **Blenheim Palace**, arrive 10 a.m.
- Coach to **Sulgrave Manor**. Leave Blenheim at 1:30 p.m.--that does not mean walk to coach at 1:30. Arrive approximately 2:30 p.m. for 2:45 tour; get tour and visit Washington's church, if time allows.
- Depart Sulgrave Manor at 5 p.m.; eat on bus--need to bring non-perishable food from Blenheim.
- Coach to Hamilton Lodge, 156 Chesterton Road, Cambridge. Tel: 011-44-1223-365-664
- Arrive by 8 p.m., but aim for 7 p.m.
- If you are hungry, head west on Chesterton for a grocery store and few restaurants.

May 22, Wednesday

- Breakfast served 7:15-8:45.
- Walking tour of Cambridge. You are not expected to take photos along the way. This is an orientation tour so you can find your way around spots on your own, such as the **Cambridge Market**, Trinity Lane, and Orchard Street.

- Rest of Cambridge is to schedule as you desire. See below.

May 22-24, Wednesday-Friday:

Ideas for things to do and where to do them at your convenience

- Breakfast served 7:15-8:45.
- Everyone should take a **punting tour on the Cam**, and the price can be negotiated. You do not have to do this today. I recommend you going when the weather is good, whether it is today or not. Look for Silver Street, Mathematical Bridge and Bridge of Sighs.
- Get something to eat at The Eagle (across from King's College), where American WWII pilots used to hang out and where DNA was announced.
- Try the food at the Free Press. The food is good and the name is awesome.
- Tour some "colleges" at Cambridge. Check schedules because tours are not available everyday, especially when term is in session. Some of the big-name colleges are King's, Queen's, Trinity (founded by Henry VIII, Isaac Newton was a grad) and Jesus. Punting allows you to see the "backs." We will be visiting Cambridge during their exams, so it may be difficult visiting one. The punting gives you a nice view from the backside.
- The American Military Cemetery is a somber but meaningful experience.
- A view of Cambridge atop Great St. Mary's (about \$5).
- For about \$30 you can go to Oxford for the day. Make sure to buy a "return" ticket, which is what we call a round-trip ticket.

May 24, Friday

- Breakfast served 7:15-8:45.
- This is our last day in Cambridge. Make sure you pack most of your stuff today in preparation for early departure on Saturday, or you will need to take a train or bus to Heathrow.
- Charge your cell phones overnight so you will have a full battery to call your rides upon arrival in Oshkosh Saturday.

May 25, Saturday

- Coach leaves for Heathrow at 6:00 a.m.
- Heathrow to Chicago on Virgin Atlantic #39, departs 11 a.m. On the flight you will be given a US Customs card to declare purchases. I recommend making a daily account of items purchased that are being brought into USA.
- Virgin Atlantic arrives at O'Hare 1:55 p.m.
- Go through Immigration--make sure you are in the American passport holders' line. No photography is allowed in this area.
- Meet at baggage and stay together.
- Take yellow school bus to Oshkosh--estimated arrival 6 p.m., but immigration lines may be extra long with federal spending cuts.
- Work on those American accents.

May 27, Monday (Memorial Day--no class, but I recommend doing initial editing of images over 26-27)

May 28-30, Tuesday-Thursday

- Lab throughout. Make sure your main web page is linked in the class blog so it is easy for the rest of us to find it.

May 31, Friday

- Optional critique. You are not obligated to come because of the university's schedule. However, I will hold a critique for those who want one. Critiques will start at 8 a.m.

Departure/Contact Info

- Did I complete my exams?
- Do I have my *passport* and *college ID*?
- Do I have my itinerary, and did I give one to Dr. G?
- Do I have my London map? Cambridge map?
- Did I bring my camera gear?
- Did I bring *necessary medications*? If I have a significant health issue, do I have a statement to carry on my person?
- Did I follow TSA and UK travel regulations for packing?
- Do I have my *e-ticket* as a reference (NOT a boarding pass)?
- Do I have my *London Oyster card*?
- Do I know how to call? Within London omit the “020” number. From USA to London is “011 44 20” plus the specific number. Within England to London starts with the “020” and the specific number. To call the USA from England, prefix “001” before the areas code.
- Do I have my *orange emergency contact card* filled out and with me? (Useful info below)
 - (Filled side) Telephone code to US: *001*
 - Leader Tel: (You’ll get this sometime after we arrive)
 - Leader Email: *gleason@uwosh.edu*
 - On-Site contact: *Kent Hall Hotel, 011-44-20-8802-0800/Hamilton Lodge, 011-44-1223-365-664*
 - Tel: *020-8802-0800; from USA 011-44-20-8802-0800*
 - Local Police Tel: *Emergency 999; non-emergency 101*
 - Local Ambulance: *Emergency 999; non-life threatening 111*
 - Local Fire: *Emergency 999*
 - US Embassy in London *[44] (0)20 7499-9000*
- Do I have a pen to fill out forms on the airplane? Immigration forms (“landing card”) are for going to England, and coming home USA customs’ forms are for declaring what you purchased and are bringing home.
- Do I have my passport and boarding pass ready to show security?

NOTES: *Only in case of an emergency* the morning of our departure, you can try to reach me at (920) 203-0962. *Destroy that number once we are on the bus.*

Please tell vital contacts that you are unlikely to be able to contact them for some time, and that you will not be able to contact them upon arrival

Master Assignment Reference Sheet**Name:**

- 1 Piccadilly Circus
- 2 Portobello Market
- 3 Trafalgar Square and/or Covent Garden and/or Chinatown
- 4 Changing of the Guard and/or Super Hero Run
- 5 London Eye
- 6 Blenheim Palace
- 7 Sulgrave Manor
- 8 Cambridge Market
- 9 Punting on the Cam

A few helpful notes for your professor:

Your web address (URL):

Any URLs for multimedia (movies, Soundslides):

Helping Hints

If you haven't had a photo class with me before, you probably don't have a great idea what I look for in a project. See below for advice, or questions to ask yourself.

Is a picture overall too dark or too light?

Are there details in the highlights and shadows, except for scenes like night shots?

Unless a photo is supposed to be blurry, is it sharp without artifacts from Unsharp Mask?

Is the color accurate? A Green Bay Packers' green shouldn't be Dolphins' aqua, for example. Don't assume your color is always accurate. Look for color bias, especially in the neutrals like white colors or sidewalks.

Are there things in the background or side that distract from the subject? Could you have made them less visible by moving yourself, reducing depth of field by going to wider aperture or zooming in, or cropping?

Do the photos engage me? Do I want to look at your photos again and again, compared to other photos in class? You should want me to return over and over to look at your photos because I enjoy them.

Are the photos' compositions boring? Are most subjects centered, causing an ordinary look?

Did you make images of well-known places but made me feel like I saw them for the first time?

Quick Travel Tips (More on blog)

BRING:

Any required medications with a copy of the prescription, or the contact information for your doctor. Carry these on the plane with you.

A converter and adapter, or a combo device. A converter changes the power from the outlet to your device. Unless your device automatically converts (don't assume it does), the power going into your device will damage it. A student once blew out a laptop. An adapter does not convert--it just enables an American device to fit into an English outlet. There are some combo units that do both jobs--convert and adapt--and they usually run around \$30.

Two pairs of comfortable walking shoes. Pack clothes for first two days (e.g. pack clothes for Saturday and Sunday with expectation of doing wash on Sunday for Monday).

Contact info for credit card companies kept in separate place from credit cards, or have trusted person hold it in USA.

If you have a small camera as a backup, consider bringing it. A cheap camera is better than no camera if your primary camera breaks. Yes, this has happened.

DON'T BRING:

Don't bring a hair dryer. Nothing blows out the electricity like an American hair dryer. If you really, really, need one, think about buying a cheap one there and sharing it. There are some travel hair dryers that have a switch on them to convert power, too.

Unless we have a heat wave, leave shorts and other warm-weather clothing in USA. It may not get that warm, and some places won't allow entry if your shorts or skirts go too far above the knee (Really, I am serious.). Many students get sick because they dress like they are on summer vacation in Florida. It can get quite chilly in England during May. The average temperatures range from a low of the high 40s to a high to the low 60s.

The English, quite rightfully, aren't fond of Americans complaining about their culture. We wouldn't like foreigners coming here on vacation complaining about us, would we? So don't bring a bad attitude. It is unusual, but we bring one every visit or so.

Don't bring a different outfit for every day. You won't have room to buy new stuff to bring back. If you plan on bringing back a little, pack your pack about 2/3 full. If you plan on bringing back a lot, pack 1/2 full.

DON'T WORRY:

You can find toothpaste, deodorant, make-up, etc. quite easily in England, so don't worry if you forget it. Their Boots is our version of Walgreens. Boots stores are all over the place.

No worries if you are lost, because London and Cambridge are used to lost tourists. I've been asked for advice a number of times by English tourists! You can find interesting things falling off the tourist trail.

England has a few dishes with some names that appear funky to Americans. Don't be afraid. They sound worse than they taste.