

## Media Photography II

Journalism 339

Fall 2009 TR 10:20am-12:30pm

Dr. Tim Gleason

126A Clow Classroom

E-mail: [gleason@uwosh.edu](mailto:gleason@uwosh.edu)

Phone: 424-7298

Office hours: MW 10:20am-11:20am, 3pm-4pm; TR 9am-10am

Online at desire2learn ([www.uwosh.edu/d2l](http://www.uwosh.edu/d2l)) and <http://uwomediaphoto2.blogspot.com/>

**Description:** Introductory digital color photography for journalistic publications and online media. Picture editing, picture story planning and execution. Emphasis on selection, composition, and content suitable for publication.

You must have received a C or better in Media Photography I to take Media Photography II, as well as meeting all other requirements listed in the university bulletin.

**Objectives:** You will practice working in color, use artificial lighting, and shoot with a digital SLR. A goal is to help you find which area of photography interests you most and to help you improve in that area.

### Grades:

Open	10
Studio	10
Essay	10
Multimedia Package	30
Portfolio	30
Attendance and Participation	10
 Total	 100

**Texts:** Two books will help you prepare your essay, and both are on reserve at the library. *Criticizing Photographs: An Introduction to Understanding Images*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition. *Criticizing Photographs* will help us to critically analyze photography and understand how photography is used to represent diversity in many forms. The other is *Seizing the Light: A Social History of Photography* is another reference. Read them as they aid your essay. Readings from this latter text are listed in schedule as a reference to similar material being discussed in class.

The third text is *Flash Journalism*, which might aid you in completing your multimedia project. If you choose to use Adobe Flash for your multimedia project, you need to go through the book self-guided (unless you already know how). However, I will be

available for assistance. You will be given detailed instruction and practice in Soundslides.

If you still have it, the *Ultimate Field Guide to Photography* from Media Photography I is recommended for advancing your technical skills. Pages are not assigned.

**Things costing money:** Negative sleeves, compressed air, china pencil, loupe, and color film. The 4x5 optional assignment will require you to spend at least \$5 for each sheet of film and processing for each image. You may need flash drives or CDs/DVDs.

**Academic Honesty:** All your work must be of your own original creation.

**Attendance:** Attendance will be taken and participation is expected. Part of participation is to enter the Photographer's Forum College Photography Contest. Forms will be provided. Give me a copy of completed form and photos.

**Submitting photos:** Unless otherwise noted, please submit your sleeved negatives, index prints, and prints. You will submit these in a clean, large envelope or expandable folder. High-resolution photos submitted for a grade are to be put in the D2L Dropbox. If you shoot with a digital camera, turn in unused images on a CD or DVD. Photos should be 300 resolution. Do not give me the low-resolution (72) jpgs unless stated under the assignment requirements.

Late assignments are deducted 10 pts for each class day missed. This starts with the day it is due, whether it is during class or before it. All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the day they are due--unless otherwise stated!

Instructions might vary for special projects. Burn all Soundslides or Flash folders/files for me.

Here is a generic list of things to do:

- 1) Submit hi-res prints in b&W or color (because of our bad color printer, I will place no emphasis on the print color for grading)
- 2) DVD-R or CD-R containing: all pics, your edited pics for a grade, digital contact sheets, and the Soundslides or Flash project folder (Film users should submit disk of edited pics and project folder, and film with index prints)
- 3) Upload hi-res pics to D2L
- 4) Upload project folder to server (you can delete sub-folder "Raw" first)
- 5) Embed project in our blog AND the class blog

### **Assignments and Grading:**

The Open, Studio and Multimedia assignments all require Soundslides or Flash presentations in color. Black and whites can be used for portfolios.

The assignments mentioned above are to be placed in your blog/Website AND embedded in the class blog. You will need a hosting site for your Soundslides such as Titan Files. I've used WebNG as well as Titan Files.

All assignments except for the portfolio require original photos—you may not use images previously made. Your portfolio can include any photos you have ever taken.

### **Open**

The first assignment is to prepare you for working in color. Three-to-five photographs will be submitted. This project is similar to your Media Photography I final project.

Make digital contact sheets with images 3 x 4 up to 5 x 6 (File>Automate>Contact Sheet II). Only basic Photoshop techniques (sharpening, toning, color balance, etc) may be used on this assignment. The point is for you to learn how to make adjustments while shooting. No layering or dropping out of elements.

Upload hi res pics to D2L. We will go over adding photos to blogs in class.

### **Studio**

Before you do this assignment, you will practice in small groups to learn the equipment. We will take portraits of each other as practice. You will use the studio during your free time.

For your actual graded assignment, you will produce two still lifes shot with the department digital SLR and one of a person as a subject. Still Life #1 is of a food and/or beverage shot. Please clean up your area when done. Still Life #2 is of any still life subject. Picture #3 is of a person in the studio. You determine what to show—it is a lighting exercise. You must bring your own backdrop (sheet, blanket, etc).

Please remember to remove the battery from the camera when you are done shooting or it will die forever!

For insurance and legal reasons, no animals or open bottles of alcohol are allowed in the studio. For inspiration you can go to Corbis.com or Getty.com to get ideas for studio shots, as long as you include a print of the photo(s) that inspired you.

Make digital contact sheets with images 3x4 up to 5 x 6. Only basic Photoshop techniques (sharpening, toning, color balance, etc) may be used on this assignment. The point is for you to learn how to make adjustments while shooting. No layering or dropping out of elements.

### **Multimedia Package (\*subject to change as A-T assignment)**

Details of assignment will be posted online during the course of the semester.

Option 1: Soundslides with audio track describing your project of 10-20 photos on an open topic. This is eligible for the full 20 percent of total class grade. Thus, your grade on this project can range from 0 to 100.

Option 2: Soundslides and a separate video (with audio) that shows you working on your project. This is 20 percent of total grade with 5 bonus points on top of the 0-100 project grade. Thus, the highest grade you can get on project is 105.

Option 3: Use Adobe Flash to make a Flash presentation of photos and video. This is 20 percent of total grade with 10 bonus points on top of the 0-100 project grade. The highest grade you can get on this project is 110. If you read through the chapters once a week, you will be ready when it is due.

Make digital contact sheets with images 3x4 up to 5 x 6. Only basic Photoshop techniques (sharpening, toning, color balance, etc) may be used on this assignment. The point is for you to learn how to make adjustments while shooting. No layering or dropping out of elements.

### **Essay**

Write a three-page, interpretive essay on one photographer's work. The source for this work is a book in a library, one you might own, or a website gallery. Your subject must be pre-approved by me during a class discussion. Show me the book or the website.

You will use one of the techniques discussed by Barrett. Subject's photography must also be put in historical perspective. Avoid Wikipedia and laypeople's Websites in favor of books, magazines like *Aperture*, and Websites by important organizations like those of museums.

Provide copies of any pages you cite, unless the source is one of our textbooks. Include these pages in a folder with your essay. Please provide a paper copy of the essay and a digital PDF version in D2L. Essay must have separate title page.

### **Final Project**

Make a portfolio of 12-20 photographs. Your portfolio must consist of 12-20 color and/or black and white images, and it can include images from Photo I, Photo II and any other photos you have made. I recommend that you try to find other things to shoot during the semester to include in the portfolio. This portfolio can be paper-based or digital-based (Flash or HTML). You will look at various examples. Ad images may now be altered in ways not previously allowed.

### **4x5 Assignment for Bonus Credit**

Your optional assignment is to use the department's 4x5 view camera.

Students will shoot with 4-inch by 5-inch color transparency sheet film. The images will be previewed before shooting with a digital SLR. Turn in one 4x5 and a digital image scanned from our special flatbed scanner.

Your score out of 10 is added to your attendance/participation grade as bonus credit.

### **Video Bonus Credit**

You will receive 5 bonus points for Open and Studio assignments if you make a related video of 60-90 seconds with sound (typically narration or interviews), at least five different shots, and post it online by the assignment deadline. This is all or nothing extra credit. If your video receives a zero, you may remake it. You can use iMovie on the Macs or another program that you are familiar with.

### **Tentative Schedule (Note: All lab times are for my feedback while you work)**

#### Week 1

(9/10) Introduction, review basics and color imaging, professional genres of photography and given first assignment; schedule lighting sessions

#### Week 2

(9/15) **Bring your flash and camera, and manuals for both; upload a photo to class blog; basic lighting concepts**

(9/17) 30-minute lighting sessions

#### Week 3

(9/22) Color and Cameras; Color in Photoshop, scanning & Photoshop filters; **film users bring a strip of film to practice; digital shooters bring files**

(9/24) Soundslides; Digital imaging time for Open Assignment; revisit studio as needed

#### Week 4

(9/29) 20<sup>th</sup> century genres of photography; **Hirsch chapters 9-15**

(10/1) **Critique Open Assignment at start of class**

#### Week 5

(10/6) Street photography lecture

(10/8) Fashion photo examples; **Photo exhibit at the Paine, bring \$7**

## Week 6

(10/13) **Critique Studio Projects at beginning of class**

(10/15) Theories of photography; lecture **Barrett chapters 1-2, writing exercise**

## Week 7

(10/20) Lecture on **Barrett 3-4, writing exercise**

(10/22) Lecture on **Barrett 5 and 6, writing exercise**

## Week 8

(10/27) Lecture on **Barrett 7 and 8; Hirsch 16-18; discuss your anticipated essay topic**

(10/29) Portfolio examples and requirements; digital imaging time

## Week 9

(11/3) **Status Report on Multimedia Assignment at beginning of class; assign shoot-out groups; open lab time available**

(11/5) **Shoot-out; please bring a digital camera; submit up to three pics per person; shoot only during class and submit pics by end of class to class blog**

## Week 10

(11/10) Critique Shoot-out for bonus credit, then lab if time remains

(11/12) Writing lab and feedback

## Week 11

(11/17) **Essays due at beginning of class; students discuss their papers, show examples; Susan Meiselas work**

(11/19) Inspiring Photographers lecture

## Week 12

(11/24) Making a web gallery, England pics; **all optional 4x5 projects due by now**

(11/26) Thanksgiving Vacation

## Week 13

(12/1) Open lab for feedback

(12/3) **Multimedia Project due for critique**

## Week 14

(12/8) Portfolio development time

(12/10) Portfolio development time

## Week 15

(12/15) **Portfolio Final Project due at END of class**

(12/17) Critique of portfolios