

SPRING 2025 PHTG D004/304.01Z (APRIL 7 – JUNE 27)

# INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Online lectures/tutorials/materials: Uploaded in Canvas

Office Hours (Live Zoom): Mondays 1:00-3:00 by appointment

Instructor: Hiroyo Kaneko

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Hiroyo Kaneko: [www.hiroyokaneko.com](http://www.hiroyokaneko.com)

Photo Department: [www.deanza.edu/photo/](http://www.deanza.edu/photo/)

Library website: [www.deanza.fhda.edu/depts/library/index](http://www.deanza.fhda.edu/depts/library/index)

Student Success Center: <https://www.deanza.edu/studentsuccess/>

Tips and Updates for Spring Quarter: <https://www.deanza.edu/quarter-guide/>

\*This syllabus is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes made will be notified promptly.

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This is a fully asynchronous online course. No in-person or live online meetings are required. However, there will be a few Zoom sessions, which will be announced on Canvas. Students must have internet access. If you do NOT have it at home, you will need to find alternate means of accessing the internet, such as the library and places like internet cafes. Students will not be able to succeed by ONLY using their smartphones for this class. A computer/laptop is necessary to adequately view, engage, and work with the visual components of this course.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course teaches photography with a digital camera and computer. Computer skills and a stable internet connection are necessary. It explores the principles of composition, the use of natural light, and visual awareness. Students utilize Adobe Lightroom Classic to organize, edit, and showcase their photographs. Skills in operating a digital camera are developed. Students produce photographs that are presented and critiqued in class. Additional supplies may be needed.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Differentiate between major camera types (analog and digital) and demonstrate basic camera controls
- Create and conceptualize images using digital techniques and practices
- Organize, process, and output imagery using Adobe Lightroom as the primary digital darkroom
- Compare and contrast traditional photographic methods with new digital methods in a rapidly changing technological world
- Analyze a variety of photographic works to develop, refine, and understand one's thoughts about diverse and multicultural communities
- Critique classmate's work to understand the visual and communicative value of the medium and articulate individual responses and expression

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Apply basic digital camera skills to create images.
- Demonstrate a working knowledge of the digital darkroom using Adobe Lightroom.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This course requires approximately 3 hours per week on online materials for 11 weeks and a minimum of 6 hours of outside work per week.

## TEXTBOOK

## Required Text

[Digital Photography: A Basic Manual, Links to an external site.](#) Henry Horenstein

## MATERIALS

- Camera: A Digital SLR or a Mirrorless camera, a memory card (128G or higher), and a battery
- 256 GB (or higher capacity) 3.0/3.1/3.2 flash drive OR an external hard drive (1TB or higher capacity)
- Tripod (optional)

## ASSIGNMENTS

### QUIZZES

- Introduction to Camera Operation w/quiz
- Digital Files Format for Photographs w/quiz
- Depth of Field and Moving Subjects w/quiz
- Equivalent Exposure w/quiz
- Focal length lens w/quiz
- Pixel, resolution, and image size w/quiz
- Color Theory, White Balance w/quiz
- Midterm Exam

### READING, WRITING, AND RESEARCH

- Introduce Yourself
- Relationship between Technique and Artistic Expression

### PHOTO ASSIGNMENTS

- Assignment #1: Understanding Aperture
- Assignment #2: Understanding Shutter Speed
- Assignment #3: Improving your photos using Adobe Lightroom Classic correction tools
- Final Project: Creating a visual story

**\*All shooting assignments must be NEW work, specifically with the assignment in mind.**

## GRADING POLICY

Grading will be based on assignments, the final presentation, and participation in class activities, as follows:

10%—Participation

10%—Quizzes

10%—Midterm

10%— Photo Assignment

10%— Reading Assignment

10%— Research and Presentation

10%— Writing Assignment

20%— Final Project

98–100	94–97	90–93	87–89	84–86	80–83	76–79	70–75	60–69	59–below
A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F

## IMPORTANT DATES/DROP POLICY

Last day to drop with a refund w/o a "W"	Apr 20
Last day to add class	Apr 20
Last day to drop with a "W"	May 30

## Drop Policy

It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw from the class if unable to complete the course. Review and learn all important academic calendar dates via your portal.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class Overview</li> <li>• Video/Slide Lecture: Introduction to Camera Operation w/quiz</li> </ul>
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Video/Slide Lecture: Depth of Field and Moving Subjects w/quiz</li> <li>• Video/Slide Lecture: Digital Files Format for Photographs w/quiz</li> <li>• Assignment #1: Understanding Aperture Priority Mode</li> </ul>
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Video/Slide Lecture: Equivalent Exposure w/quiz</li> <li>• Video/Slide Lecture: Focal length lens w/quiz</li> <li>• Introduction to Lightroom Classic: How to view and organize your photos in LrC</li> </ul>
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Video/Slide Lecture: Pixel, Resolution, and Image Size w/quiz</li> <li>• Video/Slide Lecture: Color Theory, White Balance w/quiz</li> <li>• Lightroom tutorial: How to improve photos with LrC Develop Module</li> <li>• Assignment #2: Levitation - Understanding Shutter Priority Mode</li> </ul>
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lightroom tutorial: How to improve photos with LrC Develop Module</li> <li>• Discussion: Relationship between techniques and artistic expressions</li> </ul>
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mid-term exam</li> </ul>
Week 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment #3: Improving your photos using LrC correction tools</li> </ul>
Week 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introducing Final Project</li> </ul>
Week 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Project - Work in Progress</li> </ul>
Week 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peer Reviews for Final Project work in progress</li> </ul>
Week 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Presentation</li> </ul>
Final Week	TBA

## ATTENDANCE AND CLASSROOM DECORUM

Attendance is mandatory. Attendance means submitting assignments/quizzes on time and actively participating in Discussions and Peer Reviews.

- It is the responsibility of every student to be punctual and to be aware of the program dates and requirements.
- Students must do all the required reading and assignments and participate in class activities and reviews. Participation will be graded.
- Late Assignments will be deducted points depending on the number of days late.

## ONLINE COURSE NETIQUETTE GUIDELINES: BEHIND EVERY NAME, THERE IS A PERSON

- Respect the privacy of your classmates and what they share in class.
- Ask classmates for clarification if you find a discussion posting offensive or difficult to understand.
- Avoid sweeping generalizations. Back up your stated opinions with facts and reliable sources.
- Understand that we may disagree and that exposure to other people's opinions is part of the learning experience.
- Be respectful of each other. We're all in this together. Before posting a comment, ask whether you would be willing to make the same comment to a person's face.
- Remember that everything you write, indeed every click of your mouse, is recorded on the network server. On the Internet, there are no takebacks.

- Keep in mind that you are taking a college class. Something that would be inappropriate in a traditional classroom is also inappropriate in an online classroom.

#### POLICIES ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

- All work must be original, not previously taken, submitted, copied from another source, or created using AI.
- The college states: “The following types of misconduct for which students are subject to disciplinary sanction apply at all times on campus as well as to any off-campus functions sponsored or supervised by the college: cheating, plagiarism or knowingly furnishing false information in the classroom or to a college officer.”

#### ACCOMMODATIONS

De Anza College views disability as an important aspect of diversity and is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students.

Disability Support Services (DSS) is the campus office that collaborates with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations. If you have, or think you have, a disability in any area, such as mental health, attention, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical, please contact DSS to arrange a confidential discussion regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations.

If you are registered with DSS and have accommodations set by a DSS counselor, please be sure that your instructor has received your accommodation letter from Clockwork early in the quarter to review how the accommodations will be applied in the course. Students who need accommodated test proctoring must meet appointment booking deadlines at the Testing Center. a) Midterm exam be booked at least five (5) business days in advance of the instructor approved exam date/time. b) Final exams must be scheduled seven (7) business days/weekdays in advance of the instructor approved exam date/time. Failure to meet appointment booking deadlines will result in the forfeit of testing accommodations and you will be required to take your exam with the class.

<https://www.deanza.edu/dsps/dss/>

#### RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY

This course will serve students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives, and the diversity that students bring to this class will be viewed as a resource, strength, and benefit. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated. Please let me know ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally or for other students or student groups.

#### GENDER INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

This course affirms people of all gender expressions and gender identities. Please let me know if you go by a name that is different from what is on the class roster. It is important that I use your correct gender pronouns, so please inform me of your correct pronouns if I make a mistake. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. For more on personal pronouns, see [www.myprouns.org](http://www.myprouns.org).

The link may be helpful: <https://www.deanza.edu/equityoffice/>

#### STUDENT SUPPORT

De Anza College has multiple options for free academic tutoring so students can make appointments to discuss work in a range of courses:

<https://www.deanza.edu/studentsuccess/>

<https://www.deanza.edu/career-training/our-counselors.html>

#### TITLE IX

De Anza College is committed to creating and sustaining a safe educational and working environment. If you or someone you know at De Anza College has experienced sex-based discrimination, sexual harassment, violence, or retaliation, we want you to know that support is available through the resources at this link:

<https://www.deanza.edu/titleix/>