

**JOU4603 Section 3119 Thompson Spring 16  
SPECIALIZED JOURNALISTIC PHOTOGRAPHY**

JOU4603 [3cr] Spring Semester 2016

Location: Weimer Hall (G030)

Hours: 12:50PM-3:50PM Fridays

Instructor: Tommy Thompson

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Cell: (352) 284-1763

Consulting Hours: One hour before or one hour after class, by appointment

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

To develop a thorough understanding of the lighting techniques the student will need in a career as a photojournalist, an art director, or someone who uses photography professionally. That includes the use of accessory camera flash, the mastery and manipulation of available light, and the successful use of mixed light source techniques. If you're a photojournalist, you're likely to have assignments outside the realm of "breaking" or "spot" news, and this course will equip you with the skills necessary for portraiture and feature photography. For those students not on a photojournalism course track, you will find this class valuable, as it takes the use of light well beyond the basics.

**TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE (each class includes peer critique of previous week's assignment)**

Week One (1/8/16)

Review of basic photography techniques and discussion of available light

Week Two (1/15/16)

Using reflective light, modifiers and non-flash sources

Week Three (1/22/16)

The basics of the flash

Week Four (1/29/16)

The basics of the "accessory" flash and bounce flash

Week Five (2/5/16)

Mixed light sources

Week Six (2/12/16)

The basic one-light portrait

Week Seven (2/19/16)

Advanced portraiture

Week Eight (2/26/16)

The location portrait

Week Nine (3/4/16)

Spring Break, No Class

Week Ten (3/11/16)

Product photography

Week Eleven (3/18/16)  
Food photography

Week Twelve (3/25/16)  
Food and people

Week Thirteen (4/1/16)  
Fashion photography

Week Fourteen (4/8/16)  
Your life as a photographer (business practices, portfolio construction, jobs)

Week Fifteen (4/15/16)  
Final Project Due/Final Critique

Weekly assignments must be submitted to the instructor by email by 5PM the evening before the class. Images MUST be 9-inches, longest dimension, at 72dpi. Depending on the individual assignment, three to six final images per week will be required. Images must be named using the following convention:

Thompson\_assign2-1.jpg

Thompson\_assign2-2.jpg

Thompson\_assign2-3.jpg

## **EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS**

You must supply your own professional or semi-professional digital SLR cameras, cards, lens(es) and dedicated accessory flash (system). Canon or Nikon cameras are recommended. The “kit” 18-55mm lens is adequate for the course. Professor Witzel has done some research and the fall 2015 JOU4603 class had good luck with the following flash gear.. It’s relatively “cheap” gear (less than a couple of textbooks!) and will probably last you longer than your stay at UF. Of course, if you don’t want to keep the gear, you can likely recycle it by selling it to a student taking the course next year.

**Yongnuo Yn560 IV Master Radio Flash Speedlite + RF-603 II Flash Trigger (\$105.00)**

[http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00XJF5CYW?psc=1&redirect=true&ref=oh\\_aui\\_detailpage\\_o03\\_s00](http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00XJF5CYW?psc=1&redirect=true&ref=oh_aui_detailpage_o03_s00)

**Photography Photo Studio Flash Mount Umbrellas Kit Three Umbrellas By Fancierstudio Fan UB1 (\$31.99)**

[http://www.amazon.com/Photography-Studio-Umbrellas-Fancierstudio-UB1/dp/B004HR0M4Q/ref=sr\\_1\\_4?ie=UTF8&qid=1441375912&sr=8-4&keywords=flash+umbrella+kit](http://www.amazon.com/Photography-Studio-Umbrellas-Fancierstudio-UB1/dp/B004HR0M4Q/ref=sr_1_4?ie=UTF8&qid=1441375912&sr=8-4&keywords=flash+umbrella+kit)

**Optional, but very handy:**

**Neewer® 24"x24"/60cmx60cm Professional Portable Foldable Off-Camera Flash Photography Studio, Portrait Soft Box with L-shaped bracket & flash Ring, Outer Diffuser and Carrying Case (\$31.49)**

[http://www.amazon.com/60cmx60cm-Professional-Off-Camera-Photography-Neewer/dp/B004XY65WQ/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1441376148&sr=8-1&keywords=speedlight+softbox](http://www.amazon.com/60cmx60cm-Professional-Off-Camera-Photography-Neewer/dp/B004XY65WQ/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1441376148&sr=8-1&keywords=speedlight+softbox)

Camera, lens, card and flash are required. Point-and-shoot cameras are not acceptable for this class, and you will not be allowed to use the pop-up flash on your DSLR camera for any assignment. However, I many decide to do a “smartphone” photo lesson!

### **RECOMMENDED BOOKS (Especially if you plan to take your photography beyond this class)**

- Photo Journalism by Kenneth Kobre
- Shooting in Sh\*tty Light by Adler and Valind
- Commercial Photographer’s Master Lighting Guide by Robert Morrissey
- National Geographic Photography Field Guide by Burian and Caputo

### **RECOMMENDED PERIODICALS**

- “Photo District News” (New York)
- “Digital Photo Pro” (New York)

### **GRADING OPPORTUNITIES**

Students will have a variety of grading opportunities with weekly projects done outside of class. Students will be evaluated on participation in class and critiques, attitude, progress, idea development, execution of ideas, craftsmanship and presentation.

50% Assignments

25% Final Project \*

25% In-Class Participation Grade (participation in class and critiques, attitude, work ethic)

- You must be present for the final critique in order to receive credit for your final project

### **GRADING STANDARDS**

A = 90-100 Outstanding- Shows amazing effort and determination with consistent success.

B = 80-89 Good- Shows effort, occasional success and advances in technical skill.

C = 70-79 Adequate- Average skill, fulfilled the requirements of class.

D = 60-69 Deficient- Difficulties in skill, understanding and or following requirements of class

F = <60 Unacceptable/Failure to complete- Problematic, failure to follow requirements

\* A plus and minus system will be used within 3 points of either end of the spectrum, ie:

87-89 = B+, 80-82 = B For grade point system information, go to:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

As we meet only once a week, only 1 absence is permitted, excused or unexcused, before your grade is adversely affected.

- After the 1<sup>st</sup> absence, final grades will drop accordingly: 2<sup>nd</sup> absence=-10pts, 3<sup>rd</sup> absence=-20pts, 4<sup>th</sup>=failure
- If you miss class for any reason it is up to you to contact your peers for class or project information.
- Three late arrivals over 5 minutes = an absence
- Unprepared for class = an absence

## **ADDITIONAL CLASS POLICIES:**

### **• Late Work:**

1. All late work will be lowered one full letter grade each day it is late.
2. Late work will be accepted for a grade for only one week after the due date.
3. All assignments must be completed regardless of grade/point off in order to pass this class
4. All work presented late for a critique will not take part in critique.

**• Professional behavior is expected. Inappropriate behavior could permit me to ask you to leave the classroom, which may result in an absence.**

**• Unless otherwise required for the class, all cell phones and computers should be turned OFF during class. The classroom is a focused environment. Therefore, cell phone and computer use is highly distracting to your classmates and instructor. If a student is found to be using a cell phone or computer, there will be consequences, grade-wise.**

## **ACCOMODATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Students requesting classroom accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students office. The Dean of Students will provide documentation to the student who will then provide this to the instructor when requesting accommodation. The ADA office ([www.ada.ufl.edu](http://www.ada.ufl.edu)) is located in room 232 Stadium (phone 392-7056 TDD 846-1046)

## **ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY**

This class will follow the University's honesty policy found online at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>

## **ONLINE COURSE EVALUATION PROCESS**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>  
Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>

## **STUDENT HELP**

The University Counseling Center is located in P301 Peabody Hall. The major goal of the Center is to provide counseling and student development services to students. Individual, couples, and group counseling are available to help students with a wide variety of personal, academic, and career concerns. All

counseling is confidential.

Please call 392-1171 for an appointment. For 24-hour urgent care, an answering service will connect you with a counselor when the service is closed.