

## **PGY 3610 - Survey of Photojournalism - Fall 2020**

Fridays, 10:40 a.m. to 1:40 p.m.

September 11, 18, 25 / October 9, 16, 23, 30 / November 6

8 classes

### **Instructor**

Charlotte Kesl / [www.charlottekesl.com](http://www.charlottekesl.com)

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### **Virtual Office Hours**

Office hours are Fridays just after our class. I'm also available other times during the week, please just email me to set up a time to Zoom. As a working freelance photojournalist, sometimes I get last minute assignments, so please understand if I need to reschedule. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions or concerns about the course or in general - this is a unique and challenging time in our history. I look forward to getting to know each of you this semester!

### **Course Description & Goals**

This course is an introduction to the practice and principles of photojournalism. You will learn how to use your camera's manual settings (aperture/shutter speed/ISO), techniques for composition, how to see and utilize available light in your work, and how to intentionally craft images to tell stories. Discussions will include the history of photojournalism, ethics, the evolving role of media and photography, and photojournalism in the age of social media. We will explore how meaning is created through single images and photo story packages. We will also discuss the important role photography has played in our collective history. We will spend a lot of time looking at pictures during our time together for insight and inspiration.

### **Required Equipment**

Students do not need any prior knowledge of photography or cameras, but they will need consistent access to a *fully manual-capable digital single lens reflex camera* (DSLR) as well as access to a computer and software necessary to capture, caption and file the images. All assignments will be graded from digital files.

- DSLR manual camera (cameras are available to check out on campus)
- CF or SD memory card
- Hard drive to store your work
- Adobe Lightroom (any version) or other freeware like [darktable](http://darktable.org), Apple Photos or Google Photos
- PhotoMechanic - free 90-day trial, please start the trial by our first meeting class: <https://store.camerabits.com/downloads> (*if you're interested, please ask me about how to get a discount after the trial*)

## Required reading

- *Understanding Photojournalism* by Jennifer Good & Paul Lowe (Bloomsbury)
- Daily newspaper (such as *The New York Times* or *The Wall Street Journal* — free subscription info [here](#)) — for the purpose of this class you'll mainly be looking at photographs and their captions
- *AP Stylebook and Manual* (either online version or print)
- Other reading links will be assigned in Canvas

## Grading your work (1,000 points)

Almost half of your grade will be based on the quality of your submitted photographs. Photos will be evaluated for content, quality and whether the learning objectives for the particular assignment were met. I'll be looking at subject matter, the quality of your photograph (is it in focus? properly exposed?) and composition (if relevant for that assignment). Accuracy and content of your caption information will also be evaluated. No late work is accepted. Your work is due by 7pm on the day before class.

## Class projects

Assignment 1	50 points
Assignment 2	50 points
Assignment 3	50 points
Assignment 4	50 points
Assignment 5	50 points
Assignment 6	50 points
Presentation	200 points
Final project	200 points

## Weekly discussions 150 points (25 points each)

From your daily newspaper reading, you will choose a photograph or photo story to write about and share on Canvas. You'll be expected to provide comments related to your peers' posts, as well. This is to encourage you to get in the habit of looking at and analyzing photographs.

## Class participation 150 points

Typically we would be together in a classroom for all of our classes. Zoom fatigue is real, but I hope to make online classes as interactive and fun as possible. Your education is your choice so I encourage you to really make an effort and take the necessary steps to focus during our class-time (it's a conscious decision)! At the beginning of class, turn off your notifications, put your phone on airplane mode and be fully present so you can stay in the zone and get the most out of our time together. Since we're a small class, I would really encourage you to use your video camera since we'll have a lot of discussions. You can also use the chat feature in Zoom — ask questions, give people feedback, actively listen & engage. Participation points will include being an active participant in discussions with relevant comments, being prepared for discussions, attentiveness & ability to meet all deadlines.

## **Final grading**

A	925-1000 points	C	725-774 points
A-	900-924 points	C-	700-724 points
B+	875-899 points	D+	675-699 points
B	825-874 points	D	625-674 points
B-	800-824 points	D-	600-624 points
C+	775-799 points	F	623 and below

## **Class Policies & Logistics**

### *Diversity and Inclusion*

First and foremost, I am committed to creating an inclusive environment in which all students are respected and valued. Disrespectful language or behavior on the basis of age, ability, color/ethnicity/race, gender identity/expression, marital/parental status, military/veteran's status, national origin, political affiliation, religious/spiritual beliefs, sex, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status or other visible or non-visible differences will not be tolerated. I would like students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well-served by this course, that students' learning needs be addressed both in and out of class and that the diversity that the students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit.

It is my intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity. 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.

I will attempt to foster an environment in which each class member is able to hear and respect each other. It is critical that each class member show respect for all world views expressed in class. It is expected that some of the material in this course may evoke strong emotions — please be respectful of others' emotions and be mindful of your own. Please let me know if something said or done in the classroom, by either myself or other students, is particularly troubling or causes discomfort or offense. While our intention may not be to cause discomfort or offense, the impact of what happens throughout the course is not to be ignored and is something that I consider to be very important and deserving of attention. If and when this occurs, there are several ways to alleviate some of the discomfort or hurt you may experience:

- Discuss the situation privately with me. I am always open to listening to students' experiences and want to work with students to find acceptable ways to process and address the issue.
- Discuss the situation with the class. Chances are there is at least one other student in the class who had a similar response to the material. Discussion enhances the ability for all class participants to have a fuller understanding of context and impact of course material and class discussions.

- Notify me of the issue through another source such as your academic adviser, a trusted faculty member or a peer. If for any reason you do not feel comfortable discussing the issue directly with me, I encourage you to seek out another, more comfortable avenue to address the issue.
- If you prefer to speak with someone outside of the course, Joanna Hernandez, CJC Director of Inclusion and Diversity, is an excellent resource. You can email her at [jhernandez@jou.ufl.edu](mailto:jhernandez@jou.ufl.edu).

#### *Zoom & Privacy:*

- You are expected to have your camera on during Zoom sessions. Please note that lectures may be recorded for educational purposes. If you have extenuating circumstances or concerns about Zoom attendance and privacy, please get in touch with me before our first class.
- Please be mindful of maintaining a professional appearance and conduct via our remote lecture meetings. Consider your wardrobe and hygiene just as you would were we all in the same room, as well as your audio and visual backgrounds.
- You are encouraged to use virtual backgrounds for Zoom if you want to protect the privacy of your environment or surroundings.
- Be mindful of your privacy for tools used in this course. You can read them [here](#).

#### *Attendance:*

- Attendance is mandatory. However, if you have a personal illness or family emergency, please contact me prior to class.

#### *Turning in your photo assignments:*

- This is a journalism class and deadlines are strictly enforced. Your Photo Assignments are due by 7pm on the day before class. We met on Fridays - this means that work is to be turned in by 7pm on Thursday evening. This is when I will download the assignments from your folder and grade them in advance of the next day's session.
- Every photo submitted for this class must have embedded metadata containing captions.
- Every photo taken in the class must be taken with manual settings.
- Staging photographs (other than portraits) to appear as documentary news will result in a failing grade for that assignment and potentially for the course. Plagiarizing someone's else work will also result in a failing grade. You are expected to abide by the **UF Honor Code**.

#### *File management:*

- You will need an external hard drive for this class to store all your digital files. Always keep an archive of your work, we'll go over how to organize each week and each assignment, but please keep files even after you submit them.

- Keep the original untuned version of your photographs. I may ask to see the original file if it looks like the toned version has been manipulated beyond ethical bounds.

*Course evaluations:*

- Please provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing an online evaluations [www.evaluations.ufl.edu](http://www.evaluations.ufl.edu).

***UF Resources, Policies & Support***

- The University of Florida's College of Journalism and Communications Department of Journalism embraces a commitment toward an intellectual community enriched and enhanced by diversity along a number of dimensions, including race, ethnicity and national origins, gender and gender identity, sexuality, class and religion. We expect each of our journalism courses to help foster an understanding of the diversity of peoples and cultures and of the significance and impact of mass communications in a global society.
- Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. Visit [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)
- Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.
- University Counseling Center - [www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc)
- Student Mental Health, Student Health Care Center [www.shcc.ufl.edu/](http://www.shcc.ufl.edu/)
- Career Resource Center [www.crc.ufl.edu/](http://www.crc.ufl.edu/)
- IT Help Desk (available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week) <https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>

## Schedule

*Learning Materials will be listed on Canvas. All learning materials should be completed/read/watched by the start of that class where it's listed. Assignment deadlines are noted below.*

### **Week 1** (September 11) Camera Basics (Technical Week)

#### • **Assignments**

- Participate in all Discussion Board topics for Week 1
- **Assignment 1:** Exposure reciprocity exercise (files due by 7pm on September 17)
- Complete all readings and watch all videos for Week 2

### **Week 2** (September 18) Composition

#### • **Assignments**

- Participate in all Discussion Board topics for Week 2
- **Assignment 2:** Depth of Field & Motion (files due by 7pm on September 24)
- **Presentation:** due October 8 at 7pm, presentations in class on October 9
- Complete all readings and watch all videos for Week 3

### **Week 3** (September 25) Moments and Assignments

#### • **Assignments**

- Participate in all Discussion Board topics for Week 3
- **Assignment 3:** Perspective and Moments (files due by 7pm on October 8)
- **Presentation:** Your slides are due by 7pm on October 8 so your peers will have access to them while you present in Week 4
- **Final Project:** Feature Profile Story due by 7pm on November 5
  - Submit 3 story ideas/pitches by **12pm on Monday, October 5 for approval**
- Complete all readings and watch all videos for Week 4

### **No class October 2 (Homecoming)**

### **Story ideas due Monday, October 5 by 12pm**

### **Week 4** (October 9) History of Photojournalism - Presentations

#### • **Assignments**

- Participate in all Discussion Board topics for Week 4
- **Assignment 4:** Find good light (files due by 7pm on October 15)
- **Final Project:** Feature Profile Story due by 7pm on November 5
- Complete all readings and watch all videos for Week 5

### **Week 5** (October 16) Narrative, The Photo Story & Portraits

#### • **Assignments**

- Participate in all Discussion Board topics for Week 5
- **Assignment 5:** Environmental portrait (files due by 7pm on October 22)
- **Final Project:** Feature Profile Story due by 7pm on November 5
- Complete all readings and watch all videos for Week 6

**Week 6** (October 23) Ethics & Representation

• **Assignments**

- Participate in all Discussion Board topics for Week 6
- **Assignment 6:** Work the scene (files due by 7pm on October 29)
- **Final Project:** Feature Profile Story due by 7pm November 5
- Complete all readings and watch all videos for Week 7

**Week 7** (October 30) Photojournalism Today

• **Assignments**

- Participate in all Discussion Board topics for Week 7
- **Final Project:** Feature Profile Story due by 7pm on November 5
- Complete all readings and watch all videos for Week 8

**Week 8** (November 6) Your Work & Wrapping it Up

***Final slideshows!***