

## **SPECIALIZED JOURNALISTIC PHOTOGRAPHY**

JOU4603 [3cr] Spring Semester 2014

Location: Weimer Hall (G030 and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Newsroom)

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

Instructor: Tommy Thompson

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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. That includes the use of accessory camera flash, the mastery and manipulation of available light, and the successful use of mixed light source techniques. And as 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 (1/10/14)**

Review of basic photography techniques and discussion of available light

#### **Week Two (1/17/14)**

Using reflective light, modifiers and non-flash sources

#### **Week Three (1/24/14)**

The basics of the flash

#### **Week Four (1/31/14)**

The basics of the "accessory" flash and bounce flash

#### **Week Five (2/7/14)**

Mixed light sources

#### **Week Six (2/14/14)**

The basic one-light portrait

#### **Week Seven (2/21/14)**

Advanced portraiture

#### **Week Eight (2/28/14)**

The location portrait

#### **Week Nine (3/7/14,)**

Spring Break, No Class

**Week Ten (3/14/14)**

Product photography

**Week Eleven (3/21/14)**

Food photography

**Week Twelve (3/28/14)**

Food and people

**Week Thirteen (4/4/14)**

Fashion photography

**Week Fourteen (4/11/14)**

Your life as a photographer (business practices, portfolio construction, jobs)

**Week Fifteen (4/18/14)**

Final Project Due/Final Critique

Weekly assignments must be submitted to the instructor at the beginning of each class session, in the form of jpg files on a thumb drive. 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 will supply your own professional or semi-professional digital SLR cameras, cards, lens(es) and dedicated accessory flash. You will find it to your advantage to own your own wireless trigger (Cowboy Studio NPT-04-4 Wireless trigger, \$19.60) and stand/reflector/umbrella kit (Cowboy Studio Single Flash Shoe Swivel Bracket Kit with 1 Mounting Bracket, 1 Umbrella, and 1 Stand, \$37.12), available from Amazon.com. If you don't already own an accessory flash and don't want to invest in one from your camera's manufacturer, consider the YongnuoYN-560II (\$59 for Canon or Nikon) from Amazon.com. It won't take years and years of wear and tear, but will suffice for a class or two!

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.

## **RECOMMENDED BOOKS**

- 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: 2nd absence=-10pts, 3<sup>rd</sup> absence=-20pts, 4th=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/scct/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.