

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE
SYLLABUS

JRN 135 INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOJOURNALISM

Credit Hours: 3 Lec 2 Lab 2

PREREQUISITE: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction to procedures, objectives, and skills of the modern photojournalist. Photojournalism is the skill of visually communicating using the still image to convey the human condition--primarily concentrating on news, sports, features, portraits, documentaries, and photo illustration.

1. COURSE GOAL

By providing a detailed, technical and aesthetic study of photojournalism as a profession, learners will prepare themselves for the rigors of taking pictures for editorial content and for the use of still images as a form of communication.

2. OUTCOMES

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 2.1 discuss the history of photojournalism and apply this understanding of past practices to current work.
- 2.2 identify and discuss legal issues related to photojournalism.
- 2.3 identify and discuss the ethical dimensions of photojournalism.
- 2.4 choose appropriate equipment for a variety of standard and unique photojournalistic situations.
- 2.5 operate still image cameras.
- 2.6 identify and apply the rules of composition necessary for capturing dynamic news images.
- 2.7 set the camera's aperture to control the depth of field and exposure for impact.
- 2.8 set the camera's shutter speed to control motion rendering and exposure for impact.
- 2.9 select optimal sensor sensitivity for lighting situation for quality.
- 2.10 crop images for impact.
- 2.11 digitize analogue images using appropriate hardware.
- 2.12 write effective and concise photo captions.
- 2.13 correct photographs using industry standard hardware and software.
- 2.14 make prints from digital files.
- 2.15 choose appropriate media for storing, archiving, and retrieving images.
- 2.16 explain the role of the photojournalist in the broader media arts profession.
- 2.17 identify, contrast, and compare various career tracks available to one trained in photojournalism.
- 2.18 explain the importance of meeting deadlines in journalism.
- 2.19 transmit news photographs electronically.

3. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- 3.1 Lecture-based discussion
- 3.2 Textbook reading assignments
- 3.3 Survey of television and print media's use of still and moving images
- 3.4 Self-generated and instructor-generated photo assignments
- 3.5 Instructional videos
- 3.6 Guest lecturers: local photojournalists
- 3.7 Regular discussion of student work
- 3.8 Assignment display using AWC Photo Archive
- 3.9 Hands-on instruction in traditional darkroom and digital darkroom
- 3.10 Hands-on instruction in camera technique
- 3.11 PowerPoint and video presentations

4. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 4.1 Instructor and student critiques of student work
- 4.2 Individual photographic projects
- 4.3 Research assignments of newspaper and magazine photo usage
- 4.4 Field shooting assignments, including news, sports, and feature assignments
- 4.5 Studio assignments for portraiture and photo illustration
- 4.6 Researching on-line photojournalism examples of newspaper sites and individual photographer Web sites
- 4.7 Digital darkroom assignments
- 4.8 Traditional darkroom assignments

5. EVALUATION

- 5.1 Class Participation
- 5.2 Homework Assignments
- 5.3 Quizzes
- 5.4 Final Exam

6. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 Under AWC Policy, students are expected to attend every session of class in which they are enrolled.
- 6.2 If a student is unable to attend the course or must drop the course for any reason, it will be the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Students who are not attending as of the 45th day of the course may be withdrawn by the instructor. If the student does not withdraw from the course and fails to complete the requirements of the course, the student will receive a failing grade.
- 6.3 Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations: Arizona Western College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities through AccessABILITY Resource Services (ARS). ARS provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students who have documented disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to make the ARS Coordinator aware of the need for accommodations in the classroom prior to the beginning of the semester. Students should follow up with their instructors once the semester begins. To make an appointment call the ARS front desk at (928) 344-7674 or ARS Coordinator at (928) 344-7629, in the College Community Center (3C) building, next to Advising.
- 6.4 Academic Integrity: Any student participating in acts of academic dishonesty—including, but not limited to, copying the work of other students, using unauthorized “crib notes”, plagiarism, stealing tests, or forging an instructor’s signature—will be subject to the procedures and consequences outlined in AWC’s Student Code of Conduct.
- 6.5 Texts and Notebooks: Students are required to obtain the class materials for the course.
- 6.6 Arizona Western College students are expected to attend every class session in which they are enrolled. To comply with Federal Financial Aid regulations (34 CFR 668.21), Arizona Western College (AWC) has established an Attendance Verification process for “No Show” reporting during the first 10 days of each semester.
Students who have enrolled but have never attended class may be issued a “No Show” (NS) grade by the professor or instructor and receive a final grade of “NS” on their official academic record. An NS grade may result in a student losing their federal financial aid.
For online classes, *student attendance in an online class is defined as the following* (FSA Handbook, 2012, 5-90):
 - Submitting an academic assignment
 - Taking an exam, an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction
 - Attending a study group that is assigned by the school
 - Participating in an online discussion about academic matters
 - Initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course