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JRNL 257A.01: Beginning Video and Photojournalism

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JRNL 257 • Beginning Photo & Video Journalism

MW – 11am to 12:20 pm

Syllabus. Spring 2022

revised Jan. 14, 2022

(subject to change)

Instructor

Keith Graham, Professor, and Head, Photojournalism/Multimedia

Don Anderson Hall 430

keith.graham@umontana.edu

Office hours: M,W 1 to 2 pm, and by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Richard Forbes

Don Anderson Hall 408

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Office hours: TBA

Course Objectives

This course will introduce you to the theory of visual storytelling and the tools to produce quality still photo and video narratives. You will learn how to handle a digital SLR camera and create a workflow in the digital darkroom. You will learn to shoot video, record audio and edit both still and video images. The course will also focus on the ethical issues of visual journalism.

Class Meets

Mondays and Wednesdays, from 11 am to 12:20 in Don Anderson Hall, room 306.

There are weekly online labs for Adobe Lightroom and Adobe Premiere, the two programs you will be using this semester. Our graduate teaching assistant has office hours where you may stop by if you need follow up to those online labs.

Learning Outcomes

Successful JRNL 257 students will demonstrate an understanding of:

- Visual literacy skills
- Critical and creative thinking
- The use of appropriate tools and technology
- An introduction to journalism ethics including the importance of truth, accuracy and fairness

Learning goals

- To develop the technical and intellectual skills to express stories through photography.
- To understand what photojournalism is and how to excel in the field.
- To understand diversity issues and building diverse voices in the newsroom
- To know what makes a good photograph based on composition, lighting, content and technical quality
- To build visual storytelling abilities with both still images and video
- To write accurate and efficient photo captions

- To produce publishable images
- To shoot and record steady, well-framed, properly exposed video
- To record clear, understandable audio
- To edit video, audio, natural sound and voice narration in Adobe Premiere Pro CC and digital still images in Adobe Lightroom CC.
- To edit video using sequences to compress time
- To export video from Adobe Premiere Pro CC and to understand the program's file structure

Expressive arts learning goals

Students will

- Express themselves in the making of an original work or creative performance
- Understand the genres and/or forms that have shaped the medium.

Critique the quality of their own work and that of others.

Graded Assignments

65% of final grade

1. Classmate portrait
2. Depth of Field
3. Caption exercise
4. Quality of Light
5. Composition
6. Interaction
7. Walk across campus
8. Team sequence
9. Team interview
10. Gibson package

Final Project

20% of final grade

1. Final Portrait package
2. Video (Soundbite) package

Lab Attendance

You are required to watch the lab tutorials on digital workflow in Adobe Lightroom and Premiere.

5% of final grade

Class Attendance & Participation

15% of final grade

There is no extra credit in this class

Grading Scale:

A 93-100
A- 90-92

B+87-89
B 83-86
B- 80-82
C+77-79
C 73-76
C- 70-72
D 60-70
F Below 60

Attendance and Participation

Pre-registered students who fail to attend the first meeting of the class may be dropped. You are expected to attend every class. You can't succeed if you miss critique sessions, lectures and diligently review online labs. Attendance will be a component of your grade. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class and lab section. If you come in late, you are responsible to let the instructor know. If you are late you will only receive half the attendance points for that day. If you are absent, you need to check on Moodle and view the presentation we showed in class and review any deadlines for upcoming assignments.

Moodle

I will use Moodle for this course. Your grades will be available there, along with some handouts and resources. There are video tutorials you will need to watch.



Deadlines and Professionalism

Professionals are under constant pressure to produce high-quality work in a short time. A great story is of little value if it's finished too late for publication or broadcast. Therefore, deadlines in this class will be strictly enforced.

Unless you have an acceptable reason and make prior arrangements, an assignment submitted after the deadline will lose 10% of its grade for each day it is late.

NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED LATER THAN ONE WEEK AFTER THE DEADLINE.

If you can't meet a deadline due to illness or some other emergency, you must let me know before the deadline and make up the work within a week of the scheduled due date (or other time as agreed upon by the instructor)

All assignments are due at midnight the day before we will critique in class.

(Exception: Final Video Project)

You have two weeks after a grade has been posted to contest it. After that time, the grade will stand as posted.

Camera Equipment

Digital SLR cameras and essential equipment will be checked out to students for the semester.

You will need:

1. A portable hard drive of at least one terabyte (1TB) to store your digital photos and videos. You will also use this drive for future journalism classes.
2. A 16 GB or 32GB SDHC memory card class 10 with a read speed of 80MB/s or higher.
3. Optional- an SD card reader

Building Access *(This may change. Please pay attention to any notices given during class)*

For after-hours access to Don Anderson Hall, you will be able to enter the building using the Griz Card swipe at the front door. You will also be given a key code for the door to DAH 306. Codes will remain active until the last day of the semester.

Academic Honesty

I expect your honesty in presenting your own work for this course. Academic misconduct at The University of Montana is subject to an academic penalty ranging from failing the assignment to expulsion from the university. Students need to be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#). The URL is <https://www.umt.edu/safety/policies/default.php>

Plagiarism

As defined by “The University of Montana Student Conduct Code” plagiarism is: “Representing another person's words, ideas, data, or materials as one's own.” This is strictly prohibited in this class and any case of plagiarism in this course will be subject to the penalties outlined in the student code of conduct.

Double-dipping

You may not submit for this course any assignment that has previously, or will be concurrently, submitted for another class, unless you receive prior approval from the professor for this course. To do so without permission will result in an F for the assignment and could result in an F for the course.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

This course is accessible to and usable by otherwise qualified students with disabilities. To request reasonable program modifications, please consult with the instructor. The Office for Disability Equity will assist the instructor and student in the accommodation process. For more information, visit the [ODE Website](#)

Assignments we photograph during class

There will be several assignments we photograph during class time. Your attendance is mandatory for each class, but if you are absent those days there is no way you can redo those assignments. They are team assignments so be sure to review the syllabus and be sure you are in class on those days.

Week	Date	Class. Spring 2022	Assignment Due	ONLINE LABS & other
1	1/17	Martin Luther King Jr. Day- No class		
	1/19	Introduction – Syllabus Discuss Hard Drives, SD cards, Adobe software Still vs. Video Exposure: Shutter Speed and Aperture Digital SLR Cameras I	Hand out camera kits	Need to purchase SD card & External Hard Drive by class on Jan. 24

Week	Date	Class. Spring 2022	Assignment Due	ONLINE LABS & other
2	1/24	<i>Assign Classmate Portrait</i> Digital SLR Cameras II	BRING Camera To Class Practice exposure	
	1/26	Lenses & Depth of Field Photograph classmate portrait assignment	BRING Camera and SD Card to Class	Lightroom tutorials 1 and 2 Digital Workflow
3	1/31	Format External Hard Drives Lightroom set up	Bring hard drive and SD card with classmate portraits to class	
	2/2	Captions Critique Classmate Portrait	Classmate Portrait due	Lightroom tutorial 3 Develop Module
4	2/7	Composition Introduce Final Portrait- pitch due 2/23		
	2/9	Critique Depth of field Technical follow up- Develop module	Depth of Field due	Lightroom tutorials 4 and 5 Advanced features
5	2/14	Review/Ask Questions: Lightroom, Digital cameras. Exposure Discuss Quality of Light		
	2/16	Critique Composition	Composition assignment due	
6	2/21	Presidents Day- No class		
	2/23	The Art of Portraiture in Journalism Portrait Project Pitch due. Present to class Project due- 3/14		
7	2/28	Critique Quality of Light Written critique of one photo	Quality of Light due	
	3/2	Ethics of Still and Video Photojournalism Understanding Diversity		
8	3/7	Video 1 Types of shots for Video shooting What is editing? Sequences		Premiere Tutorials 1,2,3, Exporting Intro to Premiere
	3/9	Adobe Premiere Pro Introduction	Walk across campus edit	
9	3/14	Critique Final Portrait package Final video project examples NOTE: First edit for final video project due 4/25	Final Portrait Project due	

Week	Date	Class. Spring 2022	Assignment Due	ONLINE LABS & other
	3/16	Critique Walk Across Hand out tripods & microphone kits Setting up camera light and microphone for interviews. Practice and troubleshooting.	Walk Across campus due	
10	3\21	Spring Break- No class		
	3/23	Spring Break- No class		
11	3/28	Photograph Video Interviews in class (team assignment)	Bring camera, tripod, mic kit to class	Premiere tutorial 4, 5 Premiere Tools
	3/30	Critique Video interviews Breakdown shooting a sequence	Interview Due	
12	4/4	Photograph Video sequence in class (team assignment)	Bring camera, tripod & mic kit to class	
	4/6	Gibson scripts. Discuss Gibson project Discuss final projects - show examples Critique video sequences	Sequence Due	Hand out Gibson scripts
13	4/11	Photograph Gibson Package in class (team assignment) (Sequence people coming in and out of doors)	Bring camera, tripod to class	
	4/13	Three-point editing-Cutting pictures to words Adjusting audio levels- audio transitions	Gibson Audio Track and video due	
14	4/18	Editing Assessment		
	4/20	Critique Gibson package Choosing, Working & Editing sound bites and adding b-roll. In Class Exercises. Sign up for appts. For editing video projects	Gibson package due	
15	4/25	Appointments for individual edit review	First cut of soundbite package due	
	4/27	Appointments for individual edit review	First cut of soundbite package due	
16	5/2	Edit lab for soundbite package		
	5/4	Edit lab for soundbite package ALL SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM GEAR MUST BE RETURNED IN CLASS	Equipment return	
16 Final	Mon 5/9	Final Video Projects (Soundbite Packages) are due at noon on Monday, May 9	Final Soundbite Package due	