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JOUR 328.02: Advanced Photojournalism

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J328 - Advanced Photojournalism section 2

Autumn 2009 ≈ M/W 3:40 p.m. - 5:00p.m. ≈ Classroom DAH 306

Professor Jeremy Lurgio

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Lab Instructors: Cate Oliver, Chris Williams

Course Introduction

Advanced Photojournalism is a required course for juniors and graduate students in the professional program. This course prepares you for future work in the professional world of photojournalism (newspapers, magazines, online and other freelance publications).

This course addresses the three foundations of photojournalism: quality of content, command of technical elements and the ability to meet deadlines. You will learn about “photo” with an emphasis on “journalism.” You will also develop your creative eye and your vision while learning to make creative decisions with your camera.

Assignments are fast-paced and deadline driven. Assignments include features, sports, portraits, news, picture stories and a multimedia project.

This course offers challenges that ultimately provide you with basic lighting fundamentals and creative story telling skills that will serve you in the professional field.

Course Objectives/Outcomes

- To improve your technical skills and your creative story-telling eye.
- To produce assignment work under deadlines.
- To shoot, shoot and shoot some more. This is a shooting class.
- To produce images that will enhance your portfolio.
- To develop your research, reporting and writing skills.
- To develop your understanding of ethics and fairness in photojournalism.
- To develop multimedia skills.

Class Time

This class will feature lectures, presentations, guest lectures, editing sessions and critiques. The majority of the learning in this class will come from shooting and critiquing. Assignments will be discussed and the instructor and the class will critique students' work. See weekly schedule for assignments and respective due dates. Any changes to the schedule will be announced in class.

Students will be expected to participate in class discussions and critiques. If you are absent, you will be expected to learn the material that you missed from a fellow student. Arrive to class on time and be prepared for the day's agenda. Attendance will be taken and points are deducted from the final grade for unexcused absences and repeated tardiness.

Labs, Equipment checkout & Lockers

* For those who took J227 before it was an all-digital class, and graduate students, there will be 3 Photoshop labs available. Those labs will be held the weeks 3, 4 and 5 (Sept 8th, Sept. 15th, and Sept. 22nd.)

Lab for this class will be four Thursday nights.
Nov. 5th, Nov. 12th, Nov. 19th and Dec. 3rd.

* Everybody is required to go to the lab sessions for audio and Final Cut Pro.

Equipment checkout will be closed on Monday, September 7 (Labor Day,) Nov. 11 (Veterans' Day) and during the Thanksgiving Break, from Nov. 25-29. Equipment checkout begins on Sept. 2 and ends on December 10.

There are lockers in the basement if you wish to use one. They are available on a

first-come first-serve basis. You must supply your own lock. Locks must be removed before Dec. 14th or your lock will be removed during the Christmas break by a university locksmith. Your contents will be removed from the locker.

Suggested Texts

Kobre, Kenneth. *Photojournalism: The Professional's Approach*, 6th ed. Boston: Focal Press, 2008.
London, Barbara, Stone, Jim and Upton, John, *Photography*, 9th ed., Upper Saddle River, NJ, Pearson/Prentice Hall, Longman, 2008.

Evening, Martin, *Photoshop CS3 for Photographers*, Burlington, MA, Focal Press, 2007.

Weinmann, Elaine and Lourekas, Peter, *Photoshop CS3 for Windows and Macintosh (Visual QuickStart Guide)*, Berkeley, CA, Peachpit Press, 2007.

Equipment

You are required to have a professional digital camera (DSLR) that has manual exposure control. We strongly recommend that you purchase a Canon or a Nikon. You will also need a **dedicated strobe flash unit** for your digital camera. (Canon 430EXII, Canon 580EXII, Nikon SB-600, Nikon SB-800, NikonSB-900) We'll review specific cameras and flash units in class. For more about equipment see the supply list.

Academic Honesty

IMPORTANT: Nothing that was shot before this semester may be turned in for this class. It is expected that you will turn in new work for each assignment in this class. It is also expected that all work done in this class on photographic exercises, captions, quizzes, etc. will be your own. Any act of academic dishonesty will result in referral to the proper university authorities or disciplinary action. Students must be familiar with the conduct code. The code is online at <http://www.umt.edu/SA/vpsa/index.cfm/page/2585>.

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.

Cell Phones and Text Messaging

If you bring your cell phone to class it must be in the off position. No text messaging allowed in class. If you are discovered text messaging you will receive a zero for that day - that includes any assignment that may be due that day. The same is true if you are on any electronic contact device.

New Building

Please, keep the labs and the entire building in great condition. This is a new building. The last one was built in 1936 so we expect this building to be around

for a while. Take care of it. Clean up after yourself. Be respectful.

Students With Disabilities

If you have a disability that you feel affects your performance in this class, please come see me and we'll create the right work environment for you. See www.umt.edu/dss for details.

Graduate Students

Extra academic work is required of all graduate students. Early in the semester I will meet with graduate students to discuss the nature of this assignment. It will be worth 30 points.

Assignments

Your photographic assignments receive the most weight toward your final grade. Assignments will be discussed in class. You will be required to photograph ten single-photo assignments, three picture stories and one group project. You will also be graded on story updates.

REPORTS – Michel duCille report

SINGLE ASSIGNMENTS – Classmate Portrait, Sports, News, Bounce Flash/Fill Flash, Features/Pictorials, Slow Shutter at Night, Day of the Dead {Slow shutter speed flash}, Fashion Illustration, Public Affairs News, Veterans' Day

STORIES – Event Story, Feature story, Portrait/Personality Story, Sports Story

GROUP PROJECT – the town project story

STORY IDEAS – proposals for each of your stories

You need to wait until we discuss each assignment in class before you photograph that assignment. You must shoot a different subject for each assignment. You may not select photos from a prior assignment for a current assignment. *The same is true of resubmissions.*

Submission of Assignments

All photo assignments will be turned in electronically to the J-School Server.

For the single-picture assignments

1. Always shoot in RAW format.
2. For every assignment you will submit two files – one file will be in the Raw format, the other file will be saved as a TIFF file after you make corrections in Photoshop. The TIFF file will be 10 inches wide if a horizontal, 10 inches deep if a

vertical, at 200 dpi.

Submit each image with the following slug.

Example: First image - Lurgio_portrait.NEF (for Nikon) or Lurgio_portrait.CR2 (for Canon). This means you need to make a copy of the original RAW file and rename that copy.

Second image - Lurgio _portrait.tif

3. Make a Photoshop Contact sheet in PDF format with all of your images from your shoot. (This is taught in the optional Photoshop labs)

4. You will only turn in assignments electronically.

5. You will put the PDF and your final files in a folder slugged with the same name(Lurgio_portrait) Then you will place those in the Professors folder:

>Jeremy Lurgio, >J328 >Assignment Drop Boxes >Portrait.

*** Always back up your work!!! (either on DVDs or an external hard drive or both.) You are required to keep backups - and not on the server.

*** *Story and town project submissions will be addressed later in the semester.*

Deadlines

Assignments must be submitted on the server no later than one hour before class on the due date.

There will be other deadlines, which are specified in the class schedule.

All late assignments must be turned in on time or you will receive a zero.

A late assignment is one that is turned in after the deadline.

Grading

Assignment Grades: Points will be earned for each assignment based on photographic quality, versatility, consistency, human interest, news value, originality, captions, deadline and submission requirements. As with anything in life there are always a number of solutions to each assignment, there is no one right answer.

20 points	Class attendance and participation		GRADING SCALE
20 points	Classmate portrait and Slow shutter(10 pts. each)	A	93 to 100%
180 points	Nine photo assignments (20 pts. each)	A –	90 to 92%
120 points	Three picture stories (40 pts. each)	B+	88 to 89%
30 points	Picture story updates (10 pts. Each)	B –	80 to 82%
50 points	Town Project	C +	78 to 79%
40 points	Four Story Idea proposals	C	73 to 77%
10 points	Michel duCille Report	C –	70 to 72%
		D+	68 to 69%

470 points Possible Total

D 63 to 67%
D- 60 to 62%
F 59% and below

Resubmissions

There are no resubmissions for this class. This class simulates the newsroom environment and some of the assignments are time sensitive (for example: Veteran's Day and Day of the Dead.)

Supply List

MANDATORY

35mm digital SLR camera, with a manual mode or a choice of manual and automatic modes, and a 50mm lens. More lenses are better (a wide angle and a telephoto). We highly recommend the Canon and Nikon camera systems.

Compact Flash cards (we recommend several 4GB or 8GB or 16GB cards)

Compact Discs and DVDs - These are essential for backing up your work.

A portable external hard drive for backing up and storing your work.

Dedicated flash unit for your camera

Nikon - SB-900, SB-800 or SB-600

Canon - 580EXII, or 580 EX and 430EX or 430 EXII

Sync Cord: check compatibility of sync cord connections from flash to camera.

Batteries for your flash unit (we recommend NIMH rechargeable batteries)

Reporter's notebooks

OPTIONAL

4 or 8 or 16 gig jump drives for transporting digital files.

CF card reader

Tripod

Where to purchase

Missoula	The Darkroom, 135 N. Higgins Ave.	549-1070
	Yellowstone Photo, 218 East Front Street	728-7637
	UC Bookstore	243-1234
	Neal's Photo (Stephen Neal), Philipsburg	800-859-3855
	Online B&H (bhphotovideo.com)	1-800-947-7785
	Bozeman Camera Repair	1-800-944-2139
	Calumet (calumetphoto.com)	1-888-888-9083 or
	(Jennifer Lipp, David Grant or education rep)	1-800-225-8638
	Camera World (cameraworld.com)	1-800-226-3721
	FreeStyle (freestylephoto.biz)	1-800-292-6137
	F/11, McNab Enterprises, Bozeman (Terry)	1-800-548-0203
	Glazer's Camera Supply (glazerscamera.com)	1-888-531-3232
	Huppins, Spokane (Shirley)	1-509-747-6486
		1-800-340-4770

Keeble & Shuchat, (ksphoto.com)	1-650-327-8511
Penn Camera (Jeff Snyder) (penncamera.com)	1-800-347-5770
Pitman Photo (pitmanphotosupply.com)	1-800-252-3008
Pro Photo Supply (prophotosupply.com)	1-800-835-3314

Web sites

News:

Associated Press

www.ap.org

Los Angeles Times

www.latimes.com

New York Times

www.nytimes.com

The Spokesman Review

www.spokesmanreview.com

BBC World

www.bbcworld.com

MSNBC.com

www.msnbc.msn.com

Reuters

www.reuters.com

WashingtonPost.com

www.washingtonpost.com

Organizations:

National Press Photographers Association

www.nppa.org

American Society of Media Photographers

www.asmp.org

World Press Photo

www.worldpressphoto.org

Resources:

Digital Journalist

www.digitaljournalist.org

SportsShooter.com

www.sportsshooter.com

Strobist

www.strobist.com

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS, ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES, AND LABS

NOTE: The following is subject to change with notice. We will review in October.

Week	Class topics	Assignment	Lab
1.			
<i>Aug. 31</i>	Introduction Review syllabus Photograph classmates Town project Digital Workflow Strobe list Event Story		
<i>Sept. 2</i>	Narrative Storytelling: Picture Story & Photo Essay Event Picture Story	<i>Classmate portraits</i> <i>Event Story ideas</i>	
<i>Sept. 3</i>	Michel duCille	<i>3:40-5 pm Gallagher Business</i> <i>8 pm Montana Theater</i>	
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2.			
<i>Sept. 7</i>	no class - Labor Day		
<i>Sept. 9</i>	Sports & Sports Story	<i>Michel duCille report</i>	
<i>Sept. 9</i> <i>Sept. 10</i>	<i>Mary Virginia Swanson Lecture</i> <i>Mary Virginia Swanson Lecture</i>	<i>7 pm UC Theater</i> <i>1:30 - 4:30 pm UC Theater</i>	
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3.			
<i>Sept. 14</i>	Importance of News and Ethics News assignment with Public Affairs Class		

Sept. 16 Features & Pictorials

Week	Class topics	Assignment
4.		
Sept. 21	Stories: weekend at the town	<i>Town Story ideas</i>
Sept. 21	<i>David Leeson/Pulitzer Lecture</i>	<i>7 pm UC Theater</i>
Sept. 23	Critique Feature 1 Photo Fashion	Feature 1 Photo
5.		
Sept. 28	Critique Event Story: STORY 1	<i>Event Story</i>
Sept. 30	TBA	
Oct 2-4	Class spends weekend in our town: Story & Feature <i>Reserve these three days for this project – required attendance</i>	
6.		
Oct. 5	Edit Town photographs	<i>Rough edit Town project</i>
Oct. 7	Critique Sports	Sports
7.		
Oct. 12	Portable Strobes 1 Direct, fill flash, bounce	<i>Story 2 ideas due by the 12th</i>

Oct. 14	Critique Fill Flash Critique Bounce	<i>Fill-Flash</i> <i>Bounce flash</i>
Oct. 14	<i>Cyma Rubin, Pulitzer lecture</i>	<i>7 pm UC Theater</i>

Week	Class topics	Assignment	Lab
8.			
Oct. 19	Portable Strobes 2 Off-camera , white balance, gels Slow shutter speed with flash		
Oct. 21	Critique News Public Affairs issue photo reminder	<i>News</i>	
9.			
Oct. 26	Story 3 idea (portrait/personality) Slow shutter at night critique	<i>Story 3 ideas</i> <i>Slow shutter at night</i>	
Oct. 28	Critique Feature 2 & Pictorials	<i>Feature 2 & Pictorial</i>	
10.			
Nov. 2	Progress Report: STORY 2	<i>STORY 2</i> <i>contact sheets</i>	
Nov. 2 @ 5 pm	Photograph Day of the Dead (Group project) <i>Assignment due @ 10 pm, Monday night!</i>		
Nov. 4	Critique Day of Dead/slow shutter	<i>Day of Dead/slow shutter</i>	

Nov. 5 Lab Audio

11.

Nov. 9 Critique STORY 2 *Story 2 Final*

Nov. 11 *No class; but Veterans' Day assignment* **Veterans' Day**
due 8 pm, Nov. 11

Nov. 12 Lab FCP 1

Week **Class topics** **Assignment**

12.

Nov. 16 Critique Fashion *Fashion Illustration*

Nov. 18 Town project progress critique *Town project progress*

Nov. 19 Lab FCP 2

13.

Nov. 23 Progress Report: STORY 3 *STORY 3: contact sheet*

Nov. 25 Happy Thanksgiving - no class

14.

Nov. 30 Critique Public Affairs Issue News & Veterans' Day *Public Affairs News Veterans' Day*

Dec. 2 Critique Town Project **Town Project**

Dec. 3 Lab Open FCP Lab

15.

- Dec. 7* Evaluations and feedback
Critique Story 3 (Portrait/Personality) **STORY 3**
- Dec. 9* Critique Story 3 (Portrait/Personality)
- Dec. 10* **ALL EQUIPMENT DUE ON THURS. DEC. 10!!!**