

9-2009

# JOUR 418.01: Studio and Location Lighting

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## Recommended Citation

Lurgio, Jeremy J., "JOUR 418.01: Studio and Location Lighting" (2009). *Syllabi*. 1234.  
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# J418 Studio & Location Lighting section 1

Autumn 2009 • Classroom: DAH 303

Time: 3:40 – 6:00 p.m. Tuesday

Professor Jeremy Lurgio

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Graduate studio manager: Cate Oliver

Office: DAH 437

Undergraduate teaching assistant: Shane McMillan, Eric Connolly

## Course Introduction

This is an elective course for seniors and graduate students. The course prepares you for future work in the professional world of photojournalism (newspapers, magazines, online and the freelance market).

This course introduces you to the concepts of studio and location lighting techniques. Assignments will range from editorial portraiture to fashion and food illustrations.

Lectures, studio and field demonstrations, guest presentations and class critiques will form the foundation for learning in this fast-paced photojournalism course.

The course offers challenges that ultimately provide you with basic lighting fundamentals and creative story telling skills to serve you in the profession.

## Course Objectives

- \* To provide an understanding of natural versus artificial lighting in color photography.
- \* To improve your understanding of the tools and technology of studio and location photography.
- \* To demonstrate an understanding diversity by photographing minority subjects.
- \* To synthesize creative techniques and subject matter while producing assignments on deadline.
- \* To produce images that will enhance your portfolio
- \* To learn the basics of video lighting.

## **Class Time**

Demonstrations, lectures, presentations of contemporary work as well as guest lectures from working professionals will provide the information for this class. Assignments will be discussed and the instructor and the group 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.

## **Studio**

Two-and-a-half hour time slots can be reserved in advance on a sign-up space on the board outside of the studio (DAH 303). Please be respectful and courteous towards your colleagues and leave the studio on time and in a clean and orderly condition.

If you need to cancel studio time, please contact another student so the studio can be fully utilized. Be careful with expensive lighting and computer equipment. Immediately report any damaged equipment. WE HAVE AMAZING NEW EQUIPMENT THIS YEAR, PLEASE TAKE CARE OF IT.

## **Suggested Texts**

McNally, Joe, *The Hot Shoe Diaries*, New Riders Press, 2009.

ASMP, *Professional Business Practices in Photography*, Allworth Press, 2008.

Neubart, Jack, *Location Lighting Solutions: Expert Professional Techniques for Artistic and Commercial Success*, Amphoto Books, 2006.

Weisgrau, Richard, *The Real Business of Photography*, Allworth Press, 2004.

Weisgraa, Richard, *The Photographer's Guide to Negotiating*, Allworth Press, 2005.

Poehner, Donna, *The Photographer's Market 2009*, F + W publications, 2008.

Heron, Michal, *Pricing Photography*, Allworth Press, 2002.

Lilley, Edward R., *The Business of Studio Photography*, Allworth Press, 2002.

## **Equipment**

We strongly recommend that you purchase a Canon or a Nikon. You will also need a *dedicated strobe flash unit* for your digital camera. We'll review specific cameras 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>.

## **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.

## **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.  
[www.umt.edu/dss](http://www.umt.edu/dss)

## **Graduate Students**

Extra academic work is required of any graduate students. Early in the semester I will meet with graduate students to discuss the nature of this assignment and its weight in your grade.

## **Assignments**

Your photographic assignments receive the most weight toward your final grade. Assignments will be discussed in class. There are ten photo assignments and three written reports.

You need to wait until we discuss the assignment in class before you photograph for 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 three studio assignments (first classmate portrait, Fashion Illustration and Food Illustration) must be shot with the studio lighting kits in the studio.

## **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, >J418 >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.

## **Deadlines**

Assignments must be submitted on the server no later than an hour before class on the due date. A Late assignment will receive one letter grade lower for each day it is late.

(Example: If you receive a 19 on the assignment (out of 20) but it is one day late, your grade will be a 17). Deadlines are not flexible in photojournalism or in this class.

*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. Attendance: your attendance and class participation will be graded.

A total of 400 points – see last page of syllabus for details.

**If you are not present for a critique you will lose a letter grade on that assignment or assignments!!!**

### GRADING SCALE

A	93 to 100%
A –	90 to 92%
B+	88 to 89%
B	83 to 87%
B –	80 to 82%
C +	78 to 79%
C	73 to 77%
C –	70 to 72%
D+	68 to 69%
D	63 to 67%
D –	60 to 62%
F	59% and below

## Websites

National Press Photographers Association

[www.nppa.org](http://www.nppa.org)

American Society of Media Photographers  
[www.asmp.org](http://www.asmp.org)

Digital Journalist  
[www.digitaljournalist.org](http://www.digitaljournalist.org)

SportsShooter.com  
[www.sportsshooter.com](http://www.sportsshooter.com)

Strobist  
[www.strobist.com](http://www.strobist.com)

Hearst Journalism Awards  
[www.hearstfdn.org/hearst\\_journalism/index.php](http://www.hearstfdn.org/hearst_journalism/index.php)

CPOY  
[www.cpoyn.org](http://www.cpoyn.org)

## **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.

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

Light meter: Minolta IV and Sekonic are nice models for both ambient and artificial light. Approx. - \$100-\$400

Light stand and bracket for flash and umbrella. Approx. - \$100

Soft box with mounting brackets: diffuses flash for softer light. Approx. - \$60

*Where to purchase*

Missoula	The Darkroom, 135 N. Higgins Ave.	549-1070
	Yellowstone Photo, 218 East Front Street	728-7637
	Spotlight Photo (Laura Capron), Hamilton	961-3440
	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	



## SCHEDULE OF TOPICS, ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES

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

<b>Week</b>	<b>Class topics</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
<b>1.</b>		
<i>Sept. 1</i>	Introduction Sign equipment forms & email list Syllabus review Pulitzer photo review  Studio lighting introduction Studio portraiture Photograph classmates (assigned)	
<i>Sept. 3</i>	3:40 – 5 pm Class with Michel duCille 8 pm Michel duCille Presidential lecture	
<b>2.</b>		
<i>Sept. 8</i>	Basic Video Lighting	<b>duCille Report</b>
<i>Sept. 9</i>	Mary Virginia Swanson, 7 pm, University Theatre	
<i>Sept. 10</i>	Mary Virginia Swanson, 1:30–4:30 pm, University Theatre	
<b>3.</b>		
<i>Sept. 15</i>	Critique classmate portraits Fashion discussion Travel Package Landscape panoramas Swanson Discussion	<b>Studio Portrait</b> <b>Swanson Report</b> <b>Bring in Fashion photos</b> <b>from magazines</b> <b>Bring in Travel packages</b> <b>from a 2008 or 2009</b> <b>magazine.</b>

#### 4.

Sept. 21 *David Leeson, Pulitzer lecture* 7 p.m. UC Theater

Sept. 22 *PHOTO SHOOT: portraiture on location*

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

#### 5.

Sept.29                      Critique location portraiture                      **Leeson Report**  
Adventure sports location photography  
-look at work, talk about concepts, talk about type of assignment  
Editorial on-location  
Techniques:  
    Using three or more lights  
    Reflectors  
    Light panels  
    Negative light  
Leeson Discussion

#### 6.

Oct. 6                      *PHOTO SHOOT: adventure sports portraits on location*

#### 7.

Oct. 13                      *PHOTO SHOOT: Rodeo team portraits on location*

Oct. 14                      *Cyma Rubin, Pulitzer lecture*                      7 pm UC Theater

#### 8.

**Oct. 19                      KELLY GORHAM - Guest Lecture**  
**Food Photography**  
**We are joining Keith's Class for this Lecture!**  
**You will have to miss any other classes you have.**

Oct. 20                      NO CLASS

## 9.

Oct. 27 Critique Adventure and Rodeo portrait assignments  
  
Portable Strobes Review  
Direct, fill, off-camera, bounce, slow shutter,  
Gels, white balance, multiple strobes, paint with light

## 10.

Nov. 3 Portable Strobe  
Strobe Accessories - stands, umbrellas, soft boxes, etc.  
Multiple strobes on location.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Class topics</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
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## 11.

Nov. 10 *PHOTO SHOOT*  
Sunset portrait with flash & Paint with light  
*Class time will be from about 3:40 to 7 or 7:30 pm*

Nov. 11 no equipment checkout – holiday – Veterans Day  
*can checkout Tuesday & return on Thursday*

## 12.

Nov. 17	Critique Editorial Portrait Freelance Photography I - Business & marketing - Contracts, rates, usage, copyright, model releases	<b>Editorial Portrait</b>
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## 13.

Nov. 24	Critique Painting with light Critique Sunset Portrait Freelance Photography II	<b>Paint with light</b> <b>Sunset Portrait</b>
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Nov. 25-29 Happy Thanksgiving – no equipment checkout

**14.**

*Dec. 1*

Critique Food Project

**Food Project**  
**Landscape Panorama**

**15.**

*Dec. 8*

Evaluations and feedback  
Critique Travel Project  
Critique Fashion Project

**Travel Project**  
**Fashion Project**

**FINALS**

*Dec. 16*

3:20 – 5:20 pm

**J418 Assignment List and Grade Summary**

Score	Assignment	Deadline	Points
_____	Attendance	Every Class	20
_____	DuCille Report	Sept. 8	20
_____	Classmate Portrait	Sept 15	20
_____	Swanson Report	Sept. 15	20
_____	Fashion and Travel clips	Sept. 15	10
_____	Leeson Report	Sept. 29	20
_____	Adventure Sports Portrait	Oct. 27	25
_____	Rodeo Team Portrait	Oct. 27	25
_____	Editorial Portrait	Nov. 17	25
_____	Sunset Portrait	Nov. 24	25
_____	Painting with Light	Nov. 24	25
_____	Landscape Panorama	Dec. 1	25
_____	Food Illustration	Dec. 1	40
_____	Fashion Illustration	Dec. 8	40
_____	Travel Project	Dec. 8	60
_____	Total		400