

Digital Photography

Course Syllabus, 2025-26



Instructor: Prof. Sherrie Styx, styxriverart@yahoo.com

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: one semester (2nd semester)

Credit: 1/2 credit

Prerequisites: none

Description:

In this introductory course, students will learn the basic principles of digital photography and photography techniques to create works of art using a digital camera or phone camera.

Course Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Students will value art as a freedom of expression, a gift from God, recognizing life applications as a holistic medium and as such:
2. Students will be able to develop ideas to use in their personal artwork.
3. Students will be familiar with art vocabulary along with vocabulary for each weekly assignment.
4. Students will develop a broader understanding of expression.
5. Students will become familiar with 5 historical photographers and 5 contemporary photographers.
6. Students will visit one art gallery and write a one page report reflecting aesthetics.
7. Students will identify art in their personal surroundings.
8. Students will submit one photograph for representation/display/online gallery.

Course Outline:

Week 1: Syllabus, Intro, Handouts

Week 2: History of Photography

Week 3: Real People taking Real Photos

Week 4: Rule of Thirds

Week 5: Intro to Light

Week 6: Portraiture, Online Galleries-Report

Week 7: Shadows, review of terms

Week 8: Reflections, quiz

Week 9: Nature

Week 10: Comic Relief

Week 11: Selfies
 Week 12: Online Photo Contest
 Week 13: Spring Break
 Week 14: Night Moves
 Week 15: Motion
 Week 16: Still Life
 Week 17: Final Exam Project

Course Materials

Students will need a digital camera/cell phone to take photos of projects to post online.

Evaluation & Grading Scale:

Assignments:

Each graded assignment in the course is assigned by points. The course percentage grade will be determined by comparing the points earned out of points possible and then converting to a letter grade based on the grading scale above. Late assignments will be loose points for being late. A student's current grade in the course will be available through Moodle.

Honesty Policy:

Cheating or plagiarizing will absolutely not be tolerated. Any student found cheating or plagiarizing material in any manner will receive a failing grade on their project.

Grading Scale:

Grades are calculated on weighted categories for assignments: **Final 20%, Research assignments/written reports 20%, tests 10%, Reflections 10%, Assignments 40%**

Highest	Lowest	Letter
100.00%	98.00%	A+
97.99%	93.00%	A
92.99%	90.00%	A-
89.99%	87.00%	B+
86.99%	83.00%	B
82.99%	80.00%	B-
79.99%	77.00%	C+
76.99%	73.00%	C
72.99%	70.00%	C-
69.99%	67.00%	D+
66.99%	63.00%	D
62.99%	60.00%	D-
59.99%	0.00%	F

Instructor Policies:

Expected of Students:

1. Check in on the course on a daily basis, Monday through Friday. Generally, students have been scheduled by their school to work on this course at a specific time each school day. Be faithful in using this time to work on this course. If you will be absent from class on a particular day, or if you miss class because of illness, you will still access your course from home.
2. Expectations for this course are high, but reasonable. Everyone is very busy with their other courses, activities, and responsibilities, yet you are expected to complete all work on time. If you need an extension of time, please make the request via private **email prior** to the due date.
3. Communicate! If you have questions or concerns on a particular assignment or activity, please send me a private email. Good two-way communication is very important to having a successful experience!
4. Assignments are normally due on FRIDAY night at midnight.

AGVA Policies:

AGVA policies are listed in the ***Student Handbook***, available on the AmazingGraceVA.org website under [Resources, Handbooks](#). This includes policies on non-discrimination, anti-harassment, student expectations, attendance, academic honesty, student discipline, student grades, course add/drop, etc.

Please note the policy on **attendance** that states in part:

“Even if a student’s local school does not have school on a particular day (snow day, teacher’s conference, quarter break, choral fest, class trip, etc.) AGVA courses will continue to meet and students are expected to complete required work on time.”

If students are not full-time students at AGVA, they also fall under the policies of the school where they attend as a full-time student. When applicable, that school’s policies will also be applied to enrollment in AGVA courses.