

Photojournalism Syllabus

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The Big Question:

“How can I communicate through photography?”

In Photojournalism, students will learn advanced digital photography techniques. Students will be provided professional quality camera equipment and taught how to properly use it. Students will gain valuable experience in event photography and photojournalism. Students will be granted additional creative freedom over the projects, but held to high standards.

Projects may include:

Using a DSLR Camera

Understanding Adobe Lightroom

Event Photography

And more...

Classroom Expectations:

Photojournalism provides students with a great deal of personal and creative freedom; however, such freedom will require an environment of mutual trust and adherence to classroom expectations. Students who fail to uphold these standards may get dropped from the class.

Students must participate in class activities, they may not choose to work on other homework during class; this includes studying for upcoming tests. Homework and additional books will be taken and returned at the end of the school day.

Students will need to bring a folder and notebook to class for course handouts and daily journaling assignments.

Cell Phones are required to be stored in the cell phone hub at the start of class. Cell phones will then be allowed for photo taking and editing only on designated days at my discretion. Any student caught using their cell phone for games or texting will be subject to disciplinary actions.

Computers are only to be used when instructed. Use of the Internet during class is not allowed. Use of computers for other class work is also not allowed.

The door will close as soon as the bell rings. Students who arrive without passes will need to go to the main office for a tardy pass.

No food or drinks are allowed by the computers in the classroom. If you need a snack or drink during computer work-time, you must go to the designated table to consume it and clean up. Any offenders eating by a computer will have their food taken away for the class period. Repeat offenders will serve after school detentions and or given a referral.

Students with excused absences will be given additional time during lunch or after school to make-up any lost work.

Photo Taking Expectations:

When students are given photo taking time during class they will be held to a high standard. Students are to remain quiet and respect other classes while walking the hallways. When we travel to various places inside and outside of the school, students are expected to take only photos and leave only footprints. Running, yelling, climbing, and horseplay will not be tolerated. Any damages will be charged to the student and/or their guardians. Students are also required to stay inside the designated photographing areas of the day. If a student leaves the area without permission, they will automatically receive a referral, regardless of the duration of their absence.

Capturing school events is a major component of this class. Most of these sports and events take place after school. A list of events and a calendar of events will be posted at school and also on the school's website. You must sign up for at least one event per month. Sign up early and plan out various activities around it. If you sign up, you are expected and required to attend; if you fail to do so, you will be docked an entire grade level for this project. If you need to miss practice to photograph an event please tell your coach it is for my class and have them contact me if they have an issue. The ability to secure transportation is essential to success. Tell your parents and plan ahead.

A majority of class projects will be completed outside of class. These projects will have firm deadlines. Consistent failure to meet these deadlines will result in loss of project points, a call home and possibly dismissal from the class.

All equipment necessary for your shoot must be checked out and picked up after school; and then promptly returned before school starts. Consistent failure to do so will result in a loss of equipment checkout privileges.

Grading Policies:

Projects will be submitted on deadlines and will be assessed summatively according to the lesson objectives and rubrics. The final exam will be worth ten percent of the semester grade.

The grading policy allows students to resubmit all Projects for credit However, this course will require students to meet specific deadlines, and missing these major deadlines can result in a loss of points.

Specific projects will be given a due date. At this point students are expected to have the project completed and ready to be turned in either physically or electronically.

Short-Term Virtual Learning Information

If Nicolet shifts to a virtual learning day because of weather or other short-term reason, we will continue our learning on Canvas. All the information that you will need for this class on a virtual learning day will be found in the announcement that will appear in our Canvas course. You must submit the work assigned for this day by 11:59 to verify your attendance, but we encourage you to begin your work early enough so that you can use the designated office hour time during the school day for any questions that you might have.

Artificial Intelligence Syllabus Statement

Learning is an active process that engages students in the development of new skills and knowledge, therefore students may use AI only when they have been given permission by their teachers and use AI to support active learning. This permission is given with the expectation that students will use Artificial Intelligence effectively and responsibly and that it will be used to augment learning and not replace it. Copying and pasting of Artificial Intelligence output and presenting it as original work is considered plagiarism and constitutes a violation of the Nicolet District Academic Integrity policy. Teachers who give permission for the use of AI may require citation or other documentation and may provide additional expectations of what approved use of AI looks like in their course.