

WINTER 2025 PHTG D007.64Z (JANUARY 6 – MARCH 28)

EXPLORING VISUAL EXPRESSION

Online lectures/tutorials/materials: Uploaded in Canvas

Office Hours (Live Zoom): Mondays 1:00-3:00 by appointment

Instructor: Hiroyo Kaneko

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Hiroyo Kaneko: www.hiroyokaneko.com

Photo Department: www.deanza.edu/photo/

Library website: www.deanza.fhda.edu/depts/library/index

Student Success Center: <https://www.deanza.edu/studentsuccess/>

Tips and Updates for Spring Quarter: <https://www.deanza.edu/quarter-guide/>

*This syllabus is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes made will be notified promptly.

This is a fully asynchronous online course. No in-person or live online meetings are required. However, there will be a few Zoom sessions, which will be announced on Canvas. Students must have internet access. If you do NOT have it at home, you will need to find alternate means of accessing the internet, such as the library and places like internet cafes. Students will not be able to succeed by ONLY using their smartphones for this class. A computer/laptop is necessary to adequately view, engage, and work with the visual components of this course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course emphasizes the practices and principles shared by all photographic media but working with digital camera devices. You will learn camera operations, including proper exposure, depth of field, motion blur, and the use of lenses. We will also explore the principles of perception, light, color, composition, and visual awareness and how these elements are used to create a successful image. The foundation of photography is accomplished by a productive work routine of shooting and looking at other photographers' work.

Essential concepts and history will be discussed through lectures and presentations while students continue shooting based on assigned and your own theme, followed by reviews. You are encouraged to employ your aesthetic, intellectual, and emotional concerns as a basis for your photographic expressions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Evaluate and interpret photographic imagery based on objective and subjective observations and descriptions, and question preconceptions regarding what makes a good photograph.
- Formulate an awareness, and develop an ability to analyze the elements of good composition; including light, shadow, shape, form, scale, line, perspective, color, texture and framing.
- Demonstrate camera operations including proper exposure, depth of field, and the use of lenses, filters, flash, and other photographic accessories.
- Compare and contrast art works, styles and movements within the photographic medium, and interpret visual communication from culturally and socially diverse groups.
- Critique classmates work in order to develop and refine ideas regarding personal expression and visual literacy.
- Assemble a broad foundation of visual concepts to determine individual perception through the photographic medium.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will interpret and utilize the photographic medium as a means of communication.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This course requires approximately 3 hours per week on online materials for 11 weeks and a minimum of 6 hours of outside work per week.

TEXTBOOK

Required Text

[The Short Story of Photography: A Pocket Guide to Key Genres, Works, Themes & Techniques](#)[Links to an external site.](#)

Suggested Text

[Digital Photography: A Basic Manual](#), [Links to an external site.](#) Henry Horenstein

MATERIALS

- Camera: A Digital SLR, A Mirrorless, or a Smartphone
- Tripod (optional)

ASSIGNMENTS

QUIZZES

- Introduction to Camera Operation
- Depth of Field and Moving Subjects/Equivalent Exposures
- Focal length lens, Color Theory, White Balance
- How Photography Was Born

READING, WRITING, AND RESEARCH

- The Short Story of Photography Readings
- Group Project - Research and Presentation of a Photographer
- Exhibition Review

PHOTO ASSIGNMENTS

- What and Where is That? - Understanding Aperture and Shutter Speed
- Midterm: Light and Composition
- Final Project: Creating a visual story

***All shooting assignments must be NEW work, specifically with the assignment in mind.**

GRADING POLICY

Grading will be based on assignments, the final presentation, and participation in class activities, as follows:

10%—Participation

10%—Quizzes

10%—Midterm

10%— Photo Assignment

10%— Reading Assignment

10%— Research and Presentation

10%— Writing Assignment

20%— Final Project

98–100	94–97	90–93	87–89	84–86	80–83	76–79	70–75	60–69	59-below
A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F

IMPORTANT DATES/DROP POLICY

Last day to drop with a refund w/o a "W"	Jan 19
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Last day to add class	Jan 20
Last day to drop with a "W"	Feb 28

Drop Policy

It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw from the class if unable to complete the course. Review and learn all important academic calendar dates via your portal.

COURSE SCHEDULE

W1 1/6-

1/9 Orientation on Zoom (optional)

Lecture and Quiz #01: Basic Camera Operation – Aperture and Shutter Speed

Discussion Board: Introduce Yourself

W2 1/13-

Lecture and Quiz #02: Camera operation – Depth of Field and Moving Subjects/Equivalent Exposures

Lecture and Quiz #03: Invention of Photography

Introducing assignments:

- Photo assignment: What and Where is that? (Due 2/9)
- Writing assignment: Exhibition (or Film) Review (Due 3/16)

W3 1/20-

Lecture and Quiz #04: Camera operation – Lens Focal Length/Color Theory

Reading assignment: The Short Story of Photography Reading -01

Introducing Group Project - Research and Presentation on a photographer (Due 2/23)

W4 1/27-

Reading assignment: The Short Story of Photography Reading -02

W5 2/3-

Photo assignment Due

Reading assignment: The Short Story of Photography Reading -03

W6 2/10-

Photo assignment Critique

Reading assignment: The Short Story of Photography Reading -04

W7 2/17-

Research Presentation Due

Introducing the Midterm (Due 3/2):

- The Short Story of Photography Reading - Your Choice
- Light and Composition - Composition Practice

W8 2/24-

Research Presentation Peer Reviews

Introducing the Final Project

W9 3/3-

Working on your final

W10 3/10-

Working on your final

Exhibition Review Due

W11 3/17-

Final Project Due

Final Week

TBA

ATTENDANCE AND CLASSROOM DECORUM

Attendance is mandatory. Attendance means submitting assignments/quizzes on time and actively participating in Discussions and Peer Reviews.

- It is the responsibility of every student to be punctual and to be aware of the program dates and requirements.
- Students must do all the required reading and assignments and participate in class activities and reviews. Participation will be graded.
- Late Assignments will be deducted points depending on the number of days late.

Online Course Netiquette Guidelines: Behind Every Name, There Is a Person

- Respect the privacy of your classmates and what they share in class.
- Ask classmates for clarification if you find a discussion posting offensive or difficult to understand.
- Avoid sweeping generalizations. Back up your stated opinions with facts and reliable sources.
- Understand that we may disagree and that exposure to other people's opinions is part of the learning experience.
- Be respectful of each other. We're all in this together. Before posting a comment, ask whether you would be willing to make the same comment to a person's face.
- Remember that everything you write, indeed every click of your mouse, is recorded on the network server. On the Internet, there are no takebacks.
- Keep in mind that you are taking a college class. Something that would be inappropriate in a traditional classroom is also inappropriate in an online classroom.

POLICIES ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

- All work must be original, not previously taken, submitted, copied from another source, or created using AI.
- The college states: "The following types of misconduct for which students are subject to disciplinary sanction apply at all times on campus as well as to any off-campus functions sponsored or supervised by the college: cheating, plagiarism or knowingly furnishing false information in the classroom or to a college officer."

ACCOMMODATIONS

De Anza College views disability as an important aspect of diversity and is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students.

Disability Support Services (DSS) is the campus office that collaborates with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations. If you have, or think you have, a disability in any area, such as mental health, attention, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical, please contact DSS to arrange a confidential discussion regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations.

If you are registered with DSS and have accommodations set by a DSS counselor, please be sure that your instructor has received your accommodation letter from Clockwork early in the quarter to review how the accommodations will be applied in the course. Students who need accommodated test proctoring must meet appointment booking deadlines at the Testing Center. a) Midterm exam be booked at least five (5) business days in advance of the instructor approved exam date/time. b) Final exams must be scheduled seven (7) business days/weekdays in advance of the instructor approved exam date/time. Failure to meet appointment booking deadlines will result in the forfeit of testing accommodations and you will be required to take your exam with the class.

<https://www.deanza.edu/dsps/dss/>

RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY

This course will serve students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives, and the diversity that students bring to this class will be viewed as a resource, strength, and benefit. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated. Please let me know ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally or for other students or student groups.

GENDER INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

This course affirms people of all gender expressions and gender identities. Please let me know if you go by a name that is different from what is on the class roster. It is important that I use your correct gender pronouns, so please inform me of your correct pronouns if I make a mistake. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. For more on personal pronouns, see www.mypronouns.org.

The link may be helpful: <https://www.deanza.edu/equityoffice/>

STUDENT SUPPORT

De Anza College has multiple options for free academic tutoring so students can make appointments to discuss work in a range of courses:

<https://www.deanza.edu/studentsuccess/>

<https://www.deanza.edu/career-training/our-counselors.html>

TITLE IX

De Anza College is committed to creating and sustaining a safe educational and working environment. If you or someone you know at De Anza College has experienced sex-based discrimination, sexual harassment, violence, or retaliation, we want you to know that support is available through the resources at this link:

<https://www.deanza.edu/titleix/>