

## Digital Photography Course Syllabus

**Instructor:** Mrs. Jones

**Email:** [mjones@phasd.us](mailto:mjones@phasd.us)

**Room:** LAB 139

**Material Fee:** \$2.00 (to be used towards printing costs) This fee can be paid to the teacher by cash or check made payable : **Port Huron High School**

**Any prints requested after four will be .50 a print.**

This course introduces the fundamentals of Digital Photography.

**Five areas of instruction will be emphasized:**

1. Elements of Art
2. Camera basics, (cell phone, point and shoot and DSLR cameras)
3. Photo manipulation software (Adobe Photoshop)
4. Preparing an online portfolio (Weebly)

An important part of this course will be the regular opportunities for you to receive feedback on your work and provide constructive feedback for others. You are expected to be active participants in the learning process by contributing to group and individual discussions, complete and turn in design assignments as well as working outside of class to practice your photography skills.

The daily activities of this course can be found on our class site: [www.phhsart.weebly.com](http://www.phhsart.weebly.com) under the 'Photo 1' tab. This is particularly useful for those times when being absent cannot be avoided. Students are expected to use this site, either at home or in school, to complete any missed work or review any missed videos or slideshows.

Assignments will be submitted using a shared Google Drive classroom folder or via email to [mjones@phasd.us](mailto:mjones@phasd.us)

**By the end of this course you should be able to:**

- Use various features on a camera to have creative control over your images
- Understand how to use a variety of photo editing tools to improve the overall appearance of a photograph
- Communicate a story or message through photographs.
- Demonstrate a clear understanding of a variety of photography styles through photographs and artist statements.

**Class Procedures:**

- Handle all class equipment, including computers, cameras, lenses with care
- Avoid shooting photos in or near classrooms without permission from the teacher to avoid being a disruption
- Adhere to the time limits and behavior expectations given for shooting on campus during the class hour. Returning on time with shots to share and upload will allow you the opportunity to keep this privilege.
- You do not have permission to leave campus to shoot photos during the school day
- Class lab time is expected to be spent working on assignments
- You are expected to shoot your photos and begin editing them in a timely manner. Do not wait for the perfect time and place! You can find a good shot anywhere if you know where and how to look.

**Homework:**

Homework is a crucial part of Digital Photography. Due to the nature of the class, you should expect to spend time taking photos at home and outside of the classroom, as well as during class. This gives us time in class to edit, submit work online through Google Drive as well as critiquing our work.

**Grading:**

Grades will be based on a total point system using scores from class participation, assignments, projects, and tests.

Students will be issued an initial point total for assignments and projects. Students wishing to improve on the point total assigned for a particular assignment or project may continue to work on it. It is the responsibility of the student to take the initiative to do this. All work will be handed in for final grading at least 5 school days before the end of each marking period.

**Supplies to consider.** While purchasing is not necessary, you may want to borrow a few items to make your digital work easier.

- A Digital camera with the ability to change aperture and shutter speed. (The class has four cameras to use during school or to check out for use outside of class. However, there are 33 students in the class to share four cameras. If you have a digital camera or can borrow one, you'll have easier access to fulfill the assignments.)
- Headphones for listening to video tutorials in class.
- Download Photoshop from the Adobe site ( you can do this for free, without needing a credit card for a seven day trial) when absolutely necessary. If you fall in love with Photoshop, it is available through subscription for \$10.00 from the Adobe site.

## **Extras** (nice, but not needed)

- Internet access at home. While this is not always possible, it makes keeping up with your assignments much easier. If internet is not available at home, identifying a separate location, outside of school hours is greatly encouraged. (Locations with free Wifi, the library, friends/family, etc.)

## **A Breakdown of Grade Categories**

**Assignments:** Assignments are created in order to learn content and practice new techniques. Credit is given according to the accuracy of the techniques in question. Following directions is a key skill here. Demonstrating understanding for the new content is the ultimate goal. **Daily Journal assignments/bellworks entries will become a glossary/resource and study guide for the final exam.**

**Projects** will be graded according to key concepts of design or techniques found in a rubric specific to each project. Creativity and Craftsmanship are a factor in each rubric as well.

## **Cell phones & electronic devices**

Please use your device responsibly and productively. If a device is being used inappropriately and/or has become a distraction it will be collected and given to your assistant principal. Additionally, please refrain from wearing headphones and earbuds while your instructor is talking.

**Weekly or bi-weekly progress reports will be sent on Friday afternoons. If an assignment is missing or marked zero, the assignment can be made up at any time before grades are due for the report card of that marking period. There is no penalty for missing work/late work, however, completing assignments in a timely manner while the information is still fresh is a key to success.**