

**GRA 131 Digital Photography -- Syllabus CRN 11659**  
**Three Rivers Community College, Spring Semester - 2017**  
**Tue/Thu 12:30-1:45pm Room E-114**

**Instructor:** Kevin Amenta  
**Email:** [kamenta@threerivers.edu](mailto:kamenta@threerivers.edu)  
**Office Hours C-136:** Tuesday 4:30-6pm & Wednesday 1:30-3:00pm or by appointment.

**Required Instructional Materials:**

- Textbook: The Beginner's Photography Guide 2nd Edition
- Handouts, information and tutorials posted on Blackboard.
- A flash (aka thumb) drive, that you can devote to the course for the duration of the semester. It must bear your name, on the drive itself, or on a piece of tape affixed to the drive, or on a tag appended to the drive by ribbon, chain, string etc. With this drive you will turn in your photos and the Photoshop exercises we do in class as well as the homework assignments on their respective due dates.
- Always bring your camera, memory card, tripod, transfer cable and instruction manual to every class.

**Catalog Course Description:**

This course is an introduction to digital photography and basic photo-editing features of Adobe Photoshop. Students shoot digital images for specific assignments emphasizing exposure, depth-of-field, composition, and image quality. The introduction of digital photography techniques, editing, and creative approaches will be the focus. Students will read and report on famous photographers and photography literature.

**Each student is required to have a camera in which they can manually control the focus, shutter speed, aperture and ISO.**

**Learning Outcomes:** The course goal is for students to:

1. Learn the basics of camera operation, functionality and uses.
2. Import and export photos to iPhoto and Photoshop and a portable flash drive.
3. Understand depth of field, shutter speed, f/stop, ISO and aperture priority.
4. Edit photos in iPhoto and Photoshop to manipulate tone, color, size, cropping, adding texture and other dynamic effects.
5. Determine the memory and light requirements needed for a photo and demonstrate understanding of the color separation process for printed image.
6. Read and report (using original photography) on famous photographers.
7. Photograph different types of settings and photographic genres such as still life, portraits & candid, macro, nature, action cityscape and night photography.
8. Be able to critique a work of art using an informed visual vocabulary
9. Mastery of technical skills and creative approaches.
10. Understand the legal and ethical concerns when photographing in public or private places.

**Instructional Methods:** Readings, demonstrations and delivering of student projects. Students will observe, critique, and demonstrate learned material. Homework will occur in the context of course assignments, in preparation for classroom discussion and in support of projects. All research and assignments will require the use of personal time and the Mac lab.

## **Evaluation and Grading Policies:**

Students will be evaluated on the basis of weekly projects, discussions, and other assignments. The last assignment will be a capstone project. Points for each assignment are listed with the assignment on Blackboard and are based on a 1000-point system. Students will be expected to work on their assignments at home or in the computer lab every week and to turn them in by the stated deadline. Late work is not accepted. Students should use traditional standards of correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation in all assignments and communications.

### **1000 point grading system breakdown:**

**30% (30 points each) – 10 Photography Assignments**

**20% (20 points each) – 10 quizzes (written and practical)**

**10% (10 points each) – 10 photo competitions**

**10% (10 points each) – 10 Discussion Questions (DQs)**

**10% (100 points) – Channel the Photographer**

**20% (200 points) - Final Project**

Attendance Policy: Late assignments or make-up work is not allowed. There is NO extra-credit work! Arrangements to present projects, turn in assignments or take any tests missed because of an absence must be made with the faculty of record ***in advance*** of the absence. Projects, tutorials, reports and assignments which are not delivered by the posted due date for each will receive a zero for that assignment.

Incompletes: I traditionally do not give Incompletes. They are only assigned when there are extenuating circumstances such as illness that prevent the student from completing the coursework on time. Incompletes *must be approved by the Academic Dean*.

Withdrawal Policy: If you intend to withdraw, you must do so at the Registrar's Office by the college deadline. Non-punitive "W" grades are assigned to withdrawal requests. An instructor's signature is required after the deadline has passed. No withdrawals are permitted after the last class preceding the final exam. Students who do not officially withdraw, but simply stop attending classes, run the risk of receiving an "F" grade for the course.

Class Cancellation Policy: Information about class cancellation due to the weather can be found by Calling (860) 886-0177 or go online to: [www.trcc.commnet.edu](http://www.trcc.commnet.edu). If the instructor has to cancel class a note will be placed on Blackboard on the course home page.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic failing (F) grade on the assignment for the first infraction and, should it occur a second time, an automatic failing (F) grade for the course.

### Digication:

All students are required to maintain an online learning portfolio in Digication that uses the college template. Through this electronic tool students will have the opportunity to monitor their own growth in college-wide learning. The student will keep his/her learning portfolio and may continue to use the Digication account after graduation. A Three Rivers General Education Assessment Team will select and review random works to improve the college experience for all. Student work reviewed for assessment purposes will not include names and all student work will remain private and anonymous for college improvement purposes. Students will have the ability to integrate learning from the classroom, college, and life in general, which will provide additional learning opportunities. If desired, students will have the option to create multiple portfolios

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS, Photo Competitions and Weekly DQs must be completed every WEDNESDAY BEFORE 11:59PM ON THE DUE DATE**

\*Note: Quizzes #3-10 will be given during class time.

ASSIGNMENT	DUE DATE
Quiz #1	Wednesday January 25
Quiz #2, DQ, Photo Competition & <i>Things you like</i>	Wednesday February 1
DQ, Photo Competition & <i>Still life</i>	Wednesday February 8
DQ, Photo Competition & <i>Angles/Lines/Textures/Patterns</i>	Wednesday February 15
DQ, Photo Competition & <i>Black &amp; White</i>	Wednesday February 22
DQ, Photo Competition & <i>Portraits &amp; Candid</i>	Wednesday March 1
DQ, Photo Competition & <i>Macro &amp; You</i>	Wednesday March 8
<b>**SPRING BREAK**</b>	Wednesday March 15
DQ, Photo Competition & <i>Nature</i>	Wednesday March 22
DQ, Photo Competition & <i>Action</i>	Wednesday March 29
DQ, Photo Competition & <i>Cityscape &amp; Architecture</i>	Wednesday April 5
DQ, Photo Competition & <i>Night</i>	Wednesday April 12
Channel the Photographer	Wednesday April 19
<b>FINAL PROJECT</b>	<b>Wednesday May 3</b>

\*\* The instructor may change the syllabus, the order of topics and/or the content of the assignments to meet the needs of the class at any point in time.

**BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHTER EDUCATION AND CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES POLICY REGARDING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT REPORTING, SUPPORT SERVICES AND PROCESSES POLICY**

**Statement of Policy for Public Act No. 14-11: An Act Concerning Sexual Assault, Stalking and Intimate Partner Violence on Campus:**

“The Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) in conjunction with the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) is committed to insuring that each member of every BOR governed college and university community has the opportunity to participate fully in the process of education free from acts of sexual misconduct, intimate partner violence and stalking. It is the intent of the BOR and each of its colleges or universities to provide safety, privacy and support to victims of sexual misconduct and intimate partner violence.”

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS TITLE IX STATEMENT OF POLICY:**

“Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) prohibits discrimination based on sex in education programs and activities in federally funded schools at all levels. If any part of a school district or college receives any Federal funds for any purpose, all of the operations of the district or college are covered by Title IX.

Title IX protects students, employees, applicants for admission and employment, and other persons from all forms of sex discrimination, including discrimination based on gender identity or failure to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity. All students (as well as other persons) at recipient institutions are protected by Title IX – regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, part-or full-time status, disability, race, or national origin-in all aspects of a recipient’s educational programs and activities.”

If any student experiences sexual misconduct or harassment, and/or racial or ethnic discrimination on Three Rivers Community College Campus, or fears for their safety from a threat while on campus, please contact Edward A. Derr, the Diversity Officer and Title IX Coordinator:

Edward A. Derr  
 Title IX Coordinator and Diversity Officer  
 Admissions Welcome Center \* Office A116  
 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich CT 06360  
 860.215.9255 \* [EDerr@trcc.commnet.edu](mailto:EDerr@trcc.commnet.edu)

Students with Disabilities: If you have a disability that may affect your progress in this course, please meet with a TRCC Disability Service Provider (DSP) in Room A-119 as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations cannot be provided until you provide written authorization from a DSP.

Matt Liscum, Counselor Room A113 (860) 215-9265	Learning Disabilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ADD/ADHD</li> <li>• Autism Spectrum</li> <li>• Mental Health Disabilities</li> </ul>
Elizabeth Willcox, Advisor Room A113 (860) 215-9289	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical Disabilities</li> <li>• Mobility Disabilities</li> <li>• Sensory Disability</li> </ul>

Use of Support Services: The Writing Center/TASC is located in Room C117 (next to the Library). TRWritingcenter@trcc.commnet.edu. Online tutoring: <http://www.etutoring.org/>