

# THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Spring 2009 Syllabus

## Introduction to Digital Photography

Time: Fridays 9 am- 11:45 am

Instructor: Rebecca Brine: office hours, as needed

Email: rebeccabrine@att.net

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is basic Introduction to Digital Photography. We will be using Adobe Photoshop and IPhoto software for image editing. We'll be using a Mac platform. If you own a Mac laptop you can bring it in. Please do not bring in a PC laptop to work on. Basic photography techniques for capturing images in digital format will be covered. Images will be digitally processed, edited and output.

NO food or drink in the lab, a regular break will be given, No cell phones or pager use, during lab time. Come to class prepared and don't socialize (including instant messaging) during class time. Be on time, 20 minutes late to class or leaving 20 minutes early will be marked as an absence. Extra hours outside of class may be required to learn the software. Plan on spending time working outside of class. You should plan to spend a minimum of two hours on your work outside of class for each hour spent in class (6 hours per week). You will be required to shoot at least five or more original photographs each week for each class.

### COURSE GOALS

Recognize transformational and editing tools of Adobe Photoshop software  
Understand how to output images using the laser and ink jet printers  
Create digital photography for graphic design projects  
Work with traditional photography themes: portrait, landscape and still life  
Critique projects using a visual art vocabulary  
Choose a topic relevant to digital photography, write a final report and present it to the class

### REQUIRED TEXT

Digital Photography Quick Steps 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition by Doug Sahlin  
Magazine Publications: Digital Photographer, Digital Photography etc.

### OPTIONAL MATERIALS

Digital camera, or regular camera, photographs, stock images.

### STORAGE MEDIA

CD's for backing up work, and or flash drive also called a "jump" or thumbnail" drive which are external storage for your work.

### PROJECTS

Emphasis will be on the creative completion of assigned projects using the digital technology covered. There will be class exercises, student participation, discussions, demonstrations and lectures. Class projects will be given at the end of each class. Collaboration, personal expression and content development are required along with learning Photoshop. In addition to class projects and assignments, you will be required to give a final class presentation. The presentation will be also written as a final paper. Projects and assignments must be submitted in both hard copy and digital format at the end of the semester. Label all work with your name, date, project, title and course title.

### EVALUATION

Projects are evaluated on how carefully and originally you complete the assignments. Creative use of the software and craftsmanship affect the outcome of the finished project. You are responsible for understanding the assignments and exercises. Please ask questions if you don't understand something. Each project upon completion will be evaluated using the University grade scale of (A-F).

### DUE DATES

All work is expected to be completed by the due dates given. Unless specified, plan on the work being due at the beginning of the class period. If work is handed in late, the grade will be lowered by half a letter grade per each class it's late. If you have problems meeting a deadline, please let me know in advance.

Basic workstation maintenance (computer and peripheral devices) is considered your responsibility. Please work at the SAME computer station during the class. Keep assignments and projects well organized in a folder in Student Work. Back up copies of your work on CD's or other storage media. Do NOT keep files on the computer desktop, they may be removed.

### ATTENDANCE

A sign-in sheet will be available. It is each student's responsibility to locate it and sign in. Attendance to all class meetings, is required. There will be something new taught every class. After two unexcused absences, each absence will lower your grade by one-half grade. Students are responsible for making up all missed assignments. Makeup work (from missed classes only) must be submitted by the first class after the absence or it will be considered a missed project.

### GRADING

Grading will be on Projects, quizzes, class exercises, notes, participation and a final digital photography class presentation and be weighted as follows:

Projects 30%  
Quizzes 30%  
Class presentation 20%  
Class exercises 10%  
Participation, Attendance 10%

Completion of all assignments is required. No student may receive a passing grade for this class without completing all the assignments given. Four unexcused absences will result in failure of the class.

## THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE Spring 2009

### Course Overview: Introduction to Digital Photography

Assignments are subject to change according to the interest, needs and technical skill level of the class. Individuals may suggest areas of study that they are interested in pursuing.

01/23

Introduction, syllabus, expectations, assignment  
Mac Computer basics, General Questions.

(5) Self Portraits graded assignment, QuickTime movie  
iPhoto software for organizing digital photographs.  
Know your camera: Read your Manual

01/30

(5) Landscapes graded assignment  
Webpages in iPhoto software  
Digital Photography Quick Steps Chapter 1-4

02/06

(5) Composite images graded assignment, Photoshop Tools  
Introduction to Photoshop, Rapidly moving subjects  
Digital Photography Quick Steps Chapter 5

02/13

(5) digital images, Still life: Depth of Field graded assignment  
Digital Photography Quick Steps Chapter 6

02/20

(5) digital images Editing images in Photoshop. Resolution  
(2) Narrative images graded assignment. Print out hard copies  
Digital Photography Quick Steps Chapter 7

02/27

(5) Portraits digital images graded assignments, Creating three  
vignettes. Digital Photography Quick Steps Chapter 8  
Quiz on iPhoto

03/06

(5) digital images Panorama  
Contact sheet graded assignment. Print out hard copies  
Digital Photography Quick Steps Chapter 9

03/13

(5) Machinery digital images  
Digital Photography Quick Steps Chapter 10

03/20 Spring Break

03/27

(5) digital images emphasis on Color and Asymmetrical balance  
Study of Art elements and principles of design  
Critique

04/03

(5) digital images Abstract images  
Art elements and principles of design  
Line and contrast  
Critique

04/10

Spring Recess

04/17

(5) digital images, TBD topic presentation  
Art elements and principles of design  
Shape/space proportion  
Critique

04/24

(5) digital images, TBD topic presentations

05/01

(5) digital images TBD, topic presentations  
Shooting outside bring in camera

05/08

Topic presentations, Final exam review  
Adobe Photoshop, Digital Photography Quick Steps,  
iPhoto and class notes.

05/15 Last Class

Topic presentations, Final exam  
All images and assignments handed in on CD including  
paper and presentation due

PLEASE NOTE;

The information contained in this syllabus is subject to revision at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be notified of any changes made.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of inclement weather, students should call the college's main number at 860-886-0177. There will be a recorded message indicating whether or not classes are being held.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

If you have a hidden or visible disability which may require classroom or test-taking modifications, please see me as soon as possible. Students with learning disabilities should contact Chris Scarborough at the Student development office. Students with physical disabilities should contact should contact Judy Hilburge.

COLLEGE WITHDRAWAL POLICY

A student who finds it necessary to discontinue a course once class has met must provide written notice to the Registrar. Withdrawal forms are available at the Registrars on all campuses. Nonpunitive "W" grades are assigned to any withdrawal requested before the various unrestricted withdrawal deadlines listed in the calendars published in front of each session's course listings. Withdrawal requests received after these deadlines must bear instructor signatures. No withdrawals are permitted after the last class preceding the final exam. Students who do not obtain an official withdrawal, but simply stop attending classes, run the risk of receiving an "F" grade for the course.