

Photography & Digital Media 1 Course Outline



**REVELSTOKE
SECONDARY
SCHOOL**

Room: 316

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www.photographyrss.weebly.com

Course Overview

This is an introductory course for students interested in exploring the world of digital media, focusing on image editing and manipulation, as well as photography and camera basics. This course is designed to expose students to a variety of photographing experiences to help build the foundation for visual literacy and creative expression. From a technical point of view, students will learn about the various types of cameras from cell phones to point-and-shoot to DSLR's. Students will also learn about the various camera settings like aperture, shutter speed, ISO, etc... taking them beyond Auto Mode to offer greater creative and technical control. With this background under their belt, students will learn about the elements and principles of photography such as exposure, composition, and perspective as well as many creative and styles and techniques. Students will also learn to examine images critically through regular critiques. Digital processing techniques will be introduced using programs like Adobe Photoshop and Luminar.

Course Requirements

- Students must to have an SD19 account with internet access.
- Students must have agreed to a media consent.
- Students must have a digital image capture device.
- Students must have a digital storage device (SD card & USB).

Cameras & Equipment:

There will be a variety of cameras and other equipment available to students, though quantity is still limited. Students who own or have access to a digital camera are encouraged to bring this to every class (ideally a DSLR, MILC, or an advanced point-and-shoot). Mobile devices will work on occasions, but be aware these devices have very limited feature sets and controls).

****If you are interested in purchasing any photographic equipment (new or used), please consult with instructor to discuss options. We can also get preferential educational pricing on many items.****

Media Storage:

Students will be responsible for storing and managing their images and course work. Students will need to have an SD memory card to be used in the cameras (I strongly recommended SanDisk and Lexar memory cards with a capacity of at least 16 GB). Students should also have a high capacity USB drive (16 – 64 GB) to

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store and backup their images. **Note:** cloud based storage will be provided through the school district network.

Borrowing & Using School Gear:

The items you will be using in this course are expensive and fragile. It is expected you treat all gear with the utmost respect and follow the proper handling and maintenance of the equipment as instructed. Failure to comply with this with result in the loss of such privileges. Students as well as parents/guardians will also need to sign a waiver prior to being allowed to use the equipment.

While the majority of course work can be completed during normal school hours, there will be occasions where you may need to do work after school hours. To accommodate students, cameras and select equipment can be signed out overnight through the library.

Course Structure

Based upon the limited number of cameras and equipment, much of this course will be broken down into modules and groups rotating through “stations” to ensure equal access to the resources. Specific stations, include but are not limited to: Theory, Image Editing, and Camera Challenges & Studio. It is my hope that we will also do some class based activities and excursions. As part of this process we will also be doing periodic peer photo feedback of each other's work. A variety of Theme Days are also planned, such as Movie Monday's, Theory Tuesday's and Feedback Friday's

Assessment:

I understand every student will have varying skill sets and creative visions. Students are encouraged to express themselves through their work. As a result, one of the primary areas of assessment will be on student growth and ability. In addition, you will be assessed through a variety of mediums; however, participation and engagement will be a significant factor in having success in this course. Some ways your will be accessed include, but are not limited to:

- Observation
- Assignments (Theory, Image Editing, Reflections etc...)
- Photography Challenges
- Photo Submission & Critiques
- Self-Assessments & Reflections
- Student Portfolio*

*At the end of this course students will submit a portfolio of their greatest work from the semester. Specific details coming later.

Attendance:

As with any class, regular attendance is a critical factor to student achievement. This course is no exception. This is a very hands-on course and requires access to specific resources and will make getting caught up after very difficult on your

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own time. It is your responsibility to stay current and up to date, almost everything you need is available on the course website.

Work Ethic & Missing Work:

It is expected that students not only come to class prepared, but also that they engage in the day's activity whether it be working on their project, assignments, etc.... Students who are not up to date with their course work will lose certain privileges such as being permitted to go on excursions or access to photographic equipment.

Open Class, Extra Help & Excursions:

Pretty much all the resources for this class can be found online or accessible through the library (laptops, cameras, equipment, etc...) so you access everything you need when you need it.

If you need extra help, I will try and make myself available whenever possible; however, lunchtimes I am readily available. Alternatively, students can set up appointments with me on an as-needed basis.

I realize that some the best time to take photographs falls outside of normal school hours. If students are interested in excursions outside of school hours I will gladly join and offer any assistance.

Expectations & Behaviour

Everyone is responsible and expected to adhere to the RSS Code of Conduct at all times. **R**espect **S**afety **S**uccess

- Students are expected to conduct themselves in a **safe, mature, and responsible** manner at all times. No photography is worth risking your life over!
- Students are expected to **co-operate, help, and share** with others whenever possible.
- Students need to **respectful** to everyone's **feelings, beliefs, and personal boundaries**.
- **No food or drink** is permitted when operating laptops or photographic equipment. Drinks must be in a sealed container.
- **Vandalism** of student or school property is strictly prohibited.

Start of Class:

- Show up to class on time, prepared, and organized.
- Be seated quietly and ready for the lesson/instructions/activity

End of Class:

- Clean up your work space
- Neatly put away any equipment properly and in designated location
- Laptops to be but away in the correct locations and plugged in for charging.
- Be seated awaiting instructions and dismissal

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Electronics:

In accordance with RSS Electronic Device Policy...***ALL electronics must be turned off and put away prior to the start of the class and remain there for the entirety of the class.*** Electronics may be permitted at select times, however, this will be on teacher discretion only. Failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the device being handed over to the teacher and given to the office. Listening to music is a privilege not a right...and this privilege must be earned!

Code of Conduct

In accordance with RSS Code of Conduct, the following steps will be taken should there be a **violation of the classroom guidelines** and **expectations** .

1. **Verbal warning** (or go to #2 below for unsafe actions)
2. **Removal** from the shop environment
3. **Referral** to Principal

Note: Any action that endangers others, seriously interferes with the learning process, or is significantly disrespectful to staff or students may result in **immediate removal** from the classroom and/or direct referral to an administrator, thus bypassing above consequences.

Copywriting & Intellectually Property

It is important that you follow and abide by all copyright and intellectually property laws. Simply put claiming someone else's work as your own is a felony in the eyes of the law. If you are caught using other people's work in this course you will automatically receive a grade of zero with no chance being able to redo the work for credit.

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Parent & Student Consent & Waiver

Dear Parents and Guardians:

You are receiving this letter because your son or daughter is currently enrolled in the Photography program here at RSS. It is an exciting opportunity for your child to be able to learn new skills, be creative, as well as express themselves through the medium of photography. Because of the unique nature of this course, I would like to take this opportunity to make you aware of a few items specific to related to this program.

- Students will be photographing a wide arrange of genres including portraiture. As part of this process students will be taking photographs of themselves as well as each other on a regular basis. These photographs may potentially be published in some fashion. As a result, parents must sign off on the media consent form for their child. If there is any issue with this please contact me directly.
- The primary focus of this course will revolve around digital photography; as a result, students will need regular access to digital image capture device.
- It is not imperative that you purchase your child a camera for this course; however, if they have one they can bring from home that would serve well. Ideally students should have a digital camera with manual controls such as a DSLR, Mirrorless (MILC) or and advanced Point-And-Shoot. Note: cell phones, iPads, etc...will generally be insufficient for many situations.
****If you are interested in purchasing any photographic equipment (new or used), please consult with instructor to discuss options. You can also get preferential educational pricing on many items.****
- Not all students will have the means to access the technology. The school does have a limited number of cameras available for use. Camera and other photography related equipment will also be made available for overnight loan through the RSS Library.

I also, would like you to be aware that the equipment provided by the school is very pricey and provides a great opportunity for students to access some high-end professionally level photography gear as part of their learning. However, it is imperative that students treat this equipment with a degree of care and diligence. If equipment does become damaged through improper use, inadequate care or negligence the student may be held liable for any repair or replacement cost.

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All students will need to have some sort of digital storage device to house, store and backup their work. All students should have a Secure Digital (SD card) with a capacity of 16 GB or higher (recommend Sandisk or Lexar) as well as USB storage device with a capacity of 16 GB or higher. These can be purchased at any electronics or camera store or readily online. If for any reason, you are unable to purchase these items please contact me directly. Students will also need to have access to the School District network, as they can access the course content, required programs, and cloud based storage. Students will also be sharing their work through the school network and internet on their own website.

Lastly, because of limited resources and equipment this course will be structured using modules. As a result, students will be working at a variety of stations at given time. Because students have a great amount of freedom in this course, they also have a great amount of responsibility and accountability for their learning. Due to the nature of the course work, I do expect that students will be spending a considerable amount of time outside the physical school building on assignment. As such, students will be trusted to be on task and safe at all times. Based upon student interest and demand I am also exploring the option of the specific photoshoots outside the school timetable.

I am very excited for the inaugural launch of the digital photography course at RSS, which was primarily driven by student request and interest. I am looking forward to the creative journey and exploring the individual expression process. I expect there will be a few field trips throughout the year, we already have a few guest presenters lined up, and new equipment enroute. Thank you for your time. If you can take a few moments to fill out the waiver form below and to confirm you have reviewed the contents of this letter that would be greatly appreciated. Please remove the lower portion of the letter and have your child return it to me ASAP.

Professionally,



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Parent & Student Consent & Waiver

I give my permission for my child, _____ (print student name) to participate in the RSS Photography program. By signing below, you acknowledge that you have reviewed and understand the provided documentation. Please complete and initial the items below.

	Parent/Guardian Initials	Child Initials
I understand that my child will be photographed and that their image(s) may be published.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I understand that my child may be held financially responsible for any loss or damages incurred to photographic equipment while in their possession.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I understand that my child will on occasions be off school grounds as part of the course.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date Signed: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date Signed: _____