

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2025	Instructor Name:	Jorge Estrada
Course Title & #:	Art 170 Photography Beginning	Email:	jorge.estrada@imperial.edu
CRN #:	10215	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:	3700	Office #:	3700
Class Dates:	August 11 - December 06, 2025	Office Hours:	Tuesday & Thursday: 7:00 am – 7:30 am 12:45 pm - 1:45 pm
Class Days:	Tuesdays & Thursdays	Phone #:	(760) 234 – 4219
Class Times:	10:15 am – 12:45 pm	Emergency Contact:	Call or E-mail instructor
Units:	3.00	Class Format/Modality:	

Course Description

Introduction to the processes, principles, and tools of photography. Topics include the development of technical and aesthetic skills, elements of design and composition, camera technology, materials and equipment, and contemporary trends in photography. Additional Materials fee applies. (CSU)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

None.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

- 1) Development portfolio of photographs, properly mounted and presented (ILO1, ILO2, ILO5)*
- 2) Present, discuss, and critique photographs. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO5)*
- 3) Demonstrate understanding of composition lens choice and other procedures using a manual or digital camera (ILO2, ILO3, ILO4)*

Course Objectives

- 1) *Apply the elements and principles of design and finished photographs.*
- 2) *Create a portfolio of work demonstrating formal, conceptual, and technical development.*
- 3) *Produce photographs skillfully utilizing photography tools, materials, and processes, including camera controls, image processing, printing, and presentation.*
- 4) *Examine and describe historical and contemporary trends, language, aesthetics and emerging media in photography.*
- 5) *Analyze and describe the role of photography in contemporary culture and media.*
- 6) *Safely handle and maintain photographic equipment and materials.*
- 7) *Evaluate and critique photographic images utilizing relevant terminology and concepts.*

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

London, Barbara and Jim Stone (2019). A Short Course in Photography: Film and Digital. 10th Pearson. ISBN: 13:978-0134638850.

London, Stone, and Upton. (2018). A short course in Digital Photography. 4th Pearson. ISBN: 13:978-0134525815.

Hirsch, Robert (2018). Light and Lens: Photography in the Digital Age. 3rd Routedge. ISBN:13:978-1138944398.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Lecture Online:

1. *Elements and principles of design as they relate to photography.*
2. *Concept development and project-based approaches to photography.*
3. *Photographic tools, materials, and processes, including camera controls, image exposure, image manipulation, processing and printing.*
4. *Safe handling, maintenance, and appropriate using a photography equipment and materials.*
5. *Historical and contemporary trends, language, aesthetics, and emerging media as they relate to analog and/or digital photography.*

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6. *Group and individual critiques of photographic images utilizing relevant terminology and concepts.*

Lab Outline:

1. *Wet-lab film development and darkroom print making and/or digital management, editing, software, and printing techniques.*
2. *Assignment covering photography tools, materials and processes, compositional techniques and principles, camera controls, and image exposure.*

Group and individual critiques.

Method of Evaluation:

Skill demonstration.

Portfolio of completed work. Group and individual critiques in oral or written formats.

Written Assignment:

Written assignments, which may include quizzes, essays, exams, or reports.

Instructional Methodology:

Audiovisual, demonstration, discussion, individual assistance, lab activity, lecture, and distance learning.

Assignments:

Students are going to have 13 photography assignments to build a portfolio, a quiz, a midterm, two gallery or museum reports, and research 30 photographers to work during the semester.

Out-of-class Assignments:

Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short-term classes. Varies according to instructor. Gallery visitations and reports may be required. A minimum of three hours per week of outside work on the assigned projects will be required.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grades are based in the following:

<i>Attendance and Participation</i>	<i>25%</i>
<i>First Quiz</i>	<i>10%</i>
<i>Research 30 Photographers</i>	<i>10%</i>
<i>Two Art Exhibitions Report</i>	<i>05%</i>
<i>Midterm</i>	<i>10%</i>
<i>Portfolio</i>	<i>40%</i>

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

Course Policies

[Describe other policies such as attendance, academic honesty, netiquette, expected classroom behavior, etc.]

Other Course Information

Required Information: *Describe your policies regarding classroom conduct. The below is suggested language and may be modified for your course.*

- *Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.*
- *Food and drinks are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.*

Disruptive students: Student who disrupts or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic			Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1 August 11 th -15 th	Syllabus & Introduction Lectures in camera, film, lenses and filters.			Pages 3-51
Week 2 August 18 th – 22 nd	Lecture camera and lens. Start Chapter 1-2			Chapter 1,2 Pages 3-51
Week 3 August 25 th – 29 th	Lecture shutter speed and aperture.			Chapter 3,4 Pages 52-89
Week 4 September 2 nd – 5 th	Watch movie Ansel Adams.			Chapter 3-4
Week 5 September 8 th – 12 th	Lecture: Demonstration. How to take long time exposures using a flashlight. Lecture in night photography.			Chapter 8 pg. 134
Week 6 September 15 th – 19 th	Quiz #1: + Study guide	Chapter 8		pg.134

*****Subject to change without prior notice*****